



Orange County Government
Office of County Executive Steven M. Neuhaus
NEWS RELEASE

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Orange County Historian's Office wins Award of Merit from American Association for State and Local History

County receives recognition for Historic Tavern Trail series, which featured local history discussions in a historic restaurant

Goshen, N.Y. – Orange County Executive Steven M. Neuhaus announced that the County's Historian's Office has been recognized by the American Association for State and Local History (AASLH) with an Award of Merit for last year's Historic Tavern Trail series.

"I'm proud of the contributions that our Historian, Johanna Yaun, has made to the economic vitality of Orange County," Neuhaus said. "The Tavern Trail series promoted the County's rich history and some of its diverse eateries. I commend Johanna on being recognized by her peers for this innovative initiative."

A cross-promotion between the Orange County historian, tourism and economic development, the Tavern Trail events included a cocktail hour, a dinner featuring local food, and friendly discussions of local history in a historic restaurant or tavern. The Tavern Trail series was held last April through October at seven locations: North Plank Road Tavern in Newburgh, The Erie Hotel and Trackside Manor in Port Jervis, Warwick's Iron Forge Inn, Painter's Restaurant in Cornwall, Chateau Hathorn in Warwick Schlesinger's Steak House in New Windsor and Ward's Bridge Inn in Montgomery.

The AASLH will present 48 national awards this year, honoring people, projects, exhibits, and publications. The winners represent the best in the field and provide leadership for the future of state and local history. Presentation of the awards will

be made at a banquet during the 2017 AASLH Annual Meeting on September 8th in Austin, Texas.

The AASLH awards program was initiated in 1945 to establish and encourage standards of excellence in the collection, preservation, and interpretation of state and local history throughout the U.S. The AASLH Leadership in History Awards not only honor significant achievement in the fields of state and local history, but also bring public recognition of the opportunities for small and large organizations, institutions, and programs to make contributions in this arena.

“The Tavern Trail received a wonderful response from our hosts and attendees,” Orange County Historian Johanna Yaun said. “It provided each establishment with exposure while highlighting Orange County’s rich history in a friendly setting. We are certainly proud of this recognition and enjoyed collaborating with Matt Kierstead and Milestone Heritage Consulting on the events.”

For more information, contact Justin Rodriguez, Assistant to the County Executive for Communications and Media Relations at 845.291.3255 or jrodriguez@orangecountygov.com.

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(From left to right) Orange County Legislator Tom Faggione, Historian Johanna Yaun, Matt Kierstead of Milestone Heritage Consulting and Orange County Executive Steven M. Neuhaus at The Erie Hotel and Trackside Manor in Port Jervis on July 20th, 2017. The Erie hosted a Tavern Trail series event last year.