

replaces Jennifer Behr, who was with us for a short stint and could not turn down an opportunity to work in costume design, her first love. As is usually the case at this time of the year, the staff and I are very involved with the arrangements for the annual meeting. We look forward to meeting and greeting you in San Diego.

Creative America & the Millennium Initiative

John Brademas, chair of the President's Committee on the Arts and Humanities announced the committee's report *Creative America* at a recent press conference held at the Library of Congress. *Creative America* recommends a series of measures to revitalize American philanthropy and cultural life in the 21st century, including a new "Millennium Initiative" and a plan to protect our cultural legacy. The report specifically calls for a national initiative to renew American philanthropy for the arts and the humanities and for other charitable purposes; **an assessment of the nation's preservation needs and a plan to protect our cultural legacy**; a public-private partnership to digitize cultural materials to make them available through new technologies; a series of measures to strengthen education in the arts and the humanities; an investment in national leadership through gradual increases in funding for the grant-making cultural agencies to reach a level of spending equal to \$2 per person by the year 2000; and a White House forum on enhancing knowledge of other countries and cultures including international cultural and educational exchanges.

First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton, the committee's honorary chair, spoke eloquently and forcefully on behalf of support for the arts and humanities at the press conference. For a copy of *Creative America*, contact the President's Committee on the Arts and Humanities, [REDACTED] NW, Washington, D.C. 20506; [REDACTED]

Health & Safety News

The Health and Safety Committee hopes you will be enticed to participate in the committee activities at this year's annual meeting in San Diego. Your responses have told us you want practical information about limiting exposure to hazardous chemicals and other health and safety risks. Kathryn Makos, MPH, CIH, senior industrial hygienist with the Smithsonian's Office of Environmental Management and Safety, will provide details on selection and use criteria for gloves, lab coats and clothing, eye goggles and face shields, and ear muffs and plugs in this year's Health and Safety Luncheon Lecture. "Line of Defense: Proper Selection of Gloves and Other Personal Protective Equipment" is scheduled for Wednesday, June 11, 12:30-2:00 p.m. (You need not buy a lunch to attend!) Kathy's presentation will include demonstrations on proper care and use of equipment. Participants will have an opportunity to handle and examine sample equipment and evaluate its appropriateness for specific conservation purposes.

Our surveys indicate that while conservators believe respiratory protection is very important, they are reluctant to pay for fit-testing. Members of the Health and Safety Committee will fit-test AIC members who already own a respirator or use sample respirators donated to the committee by industrial hygienist David Jacobi. This free event will be held on Wednesday afternoon, June 11, and Thursday afternoon, June 12. Sign up at the meeting registration desk. In order to be fit-tested, you must then verify in writing that you have no health problems that would preclude you from safely wearing a negative pressure respirator. It is highly recommended that you bring a physician's statement attesting to your medical fitness. (Negative pressure respirators are typical respirators used by conservators that cover nose and mouth and are fitted with external cartridges.)

The Health and Safety Committee will also hold a Health and Safety Fair in the conference exhibit hall. Includ-

ed in this display will be various types of personal protective equipment, technical resource material on health and safety issues in conservation, and recommended health and safety publications.—Hilary Kaplan, Chair, Health and Safety Committee, Georgia Dept. of Archives and History, 330 Capitol Ave. SE, Atlanta, GA 30334; (404) 656-3554; fax: (404) 651-8471.

Outreach Update

ANGELS UPDATE: Many thanks to all our members who signed up to work on a proposed Angels project at the San Diego meeting. We also thank Tony Rajer for his efforts in gathering a list of volunteers and trying to arrange a project in Mexico. Due to the complexity of arranging a project in another country, we were not able to complete arrangements in time this year. We all regret that there will be no Angels project for the San Diego meeting.

Michele Pagan has agreed to serve in the position of Angels coordinator for AIC. She will work on a national level to ease the job of the Local Arrangements Committee and local Angels project manager. As Angels coordinator, Michele will provide continuity from year to year. Meghan Mackey has also volunteered to assist with the Angels project. The difficulties we encountered in arranging a 1997 Angels project highlight the amazing efforts carried out by past Angels volunteers and the founder of the Angels project, Lisa Mibach.

OUTREACH TO ALLIED PROFESSIONS: Gary McGowan has agreed to work on outreach projects, thus strengthening ties between AIC and related organizations of allied professionals. Gary is a member of the Society of Historical Archaeology, the Council for North Eastern Historical Archaeology, and the Professional Archaeologists of New York City.

BOB, WE HAVE A WINNER! In the last *AIC News*, we sponsored a contest asking for lists of recent fictional books, movies, plays, etc., in which conservation played some part. Little did we know that two AIC mem-