

# Preservation Leadership Forum Blog

Insights and Information for Preservation Professionals



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## Spring 2014 Forum Journal: Imagining a More Inclusive Preservation Program

Posted on: April 25th, 2014 by Preservation Leadership Forum Staff

Generations of African Americans have rejoiced in the stirring anthem “Lift Every Voice and Sing.” The beloved song started as a poem written by renowned author, educator and social activist James Weldon Johnson in 1900, and was set to music by his brother five years later. Today this song, so integral to the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960s, is often referred to as the Black National Anthem.

America boasts countless such expressions of cultural identity and pride. And the entire preservation movement is vastly enriched when we recognize and celebrate this diverse national legacy.

The [spring issue of the Forum Journal](#), we hope, captures the spirit of the song title “Lift Every Voice and Sing.” It presents new voices, new stories, new perspectives—and, yes, these Forum contributors really do “sing.” With passion and conviction, they encourage us to take a fresh look at how preservation acknowledges diversity, to rethink some of our existing preservation practices, and to embrace and enjoy a broader, more inclusive history.

You will hear from former Secretary of the Interior Kenneth Salazar among others, who reminds us that Plymouth Rock and Jamestown are iconic symbols of America. But so, too, are Nuestra Senora Reina de la Paz, Ebenezer Baptist Church, Angel Island, Seneca Falls, and the Stonewall Inn.

You will also hear from a thoughtful group of diversity scholars who shared their insights and experiences with Forum staff at the National Preservation Conference in Indianapolis. Their videotaped interviews will inspire and help you to imagine a more inclusive preservation program that lets every voice rise up and sing.

*This issue is available for Preservation Leadership Forum members only. If you are a Forum member, you should have received an e-mail from us about accessing the journal. If you download this issue of the Forum Journal to your Kindle, Nook, Android or Apple device, the enhanced features are best viewed using the Adobe reader app.*

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