



Society of American Travel Writers

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The Society of American Travel Writers Names Pamplin Historical Park Recipient of Its Phoenix Award

RICHMOND, Va. – Pamplin Historical Park and National Museum of the Civil War Soldier today received the Society of American Travel Writers' 2005 Phoenix Award at the news conference held by Travel South Showcase at the Greater Richmond Convention Center. SATW announced the award at its annual convention last fall in Las Vegas; but the award is traditionally presented during a significant tourism-industry event in the winner's state.

The award is given annually to no more than 10 organizations, individuals or communities worldwide that have contributed to a quality travel experience through conservation, preservation, beautification or environmental efforts. Nominees must be nominated by a member of the Society.

Pamplin was nominated by California-based freelance travel journalist and photographer Nancy Hoyt Belcher, who has made several trips to Virginia and published multiple articles with photographs. She said from her home in Alameda, Calif., "I was impressed with the dedication to keep the land for the sole goal of preservation and education. I was also so impressed with the Museum of the Civil War Soldier, when I walked through the interactive portion, that tears came to my eyes."

A. Wilson Greene, executive director of Pamplin Park, accepted the award on behalf of Dr. Robert B. Pamplin, Jr., chairman of the Pamplin Foundation, and said, "We are very grateful to the Society of American Travel Writers for recognizing Pamplin Historical Park with this prestigious award. We take great pride protecting the irreplaceable historic resources that comprise the Park and making those historic places available to our visitors for their inspiration and education."

Alisa Bailey, president and CEO of the Virginia Tourism Corporation, said, "We are so proud of Pamplin Park and of the fact that Virginia has received a total of 17 SATW Phoenix Awards since the awards' inception in 1969. That's more than any other state in the nation, which is a testimonial to the quality of the Commonwealth's tourism industry."

For 2005 a total of four Phoenix Awards were designated, the others being Old Las Vegas Mormon Fort State Historic Park; the Knapp Block Rehabilitation in California's Columbia State Historic Park; and, in Bern, Switzerland, the Jungfrauoch – Top of Europe, Jungfrau Railways Corporation.

SATW President Ed Malone has said, "The Phoenix Awards are SATW's way of encouraging our members to recognize the conservation and preservation efforts of individuals and organizations. We want to encourage everyone to learn more about the Society of American Travel Writers and its Phoenix Awards at www.satw.org."

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