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Stanley-Whitman House Receives Two 2023 NEMA Publication Awards

New England Museum Association Awards Museum First and Second Place Recognition for Book and Journal.

FARMINGTON, CT (October 19, 2023) – Stanley-Whitman House, a ca. 1720 National Historic Landmark located in the historic village of Farmington, was recently given the distinction of receiving two 2023 New England Museum Association (NEMA) Publication Awards: a First Place Award in the Book category (for museums with budgets under \$500K) for *Memento Mori, Farmington, Connecticut – Remember Death*, and a Second Place Award in the Newsletters & Magazines category (for museums with budgets under \$500K) for *The Journal of Farmington History*.

“We are thrilled to announce these awards, especially coming on the heels of the two Awards of Merit the museum received from the Connecticut League of History Organizations last April, one of which was for *Memento Mori*,” commented Andres A. Verzosa, Executive Director and Curator of Stanley-Whitman House. “The recognition speaks volumes about our unwavering commitment to history and community and is a testament to our team’s dedication and the caliber of our offerings.”

Memento Mori, Farmington, Connecticut – Remember Death is the Museum’s first book and publication about this ancient burial ground. Authored by Kate Linsley-Rodgers with research by Betty Coykendall, Paul Kramer (1942-2019), and Sherra Palmer, and designed by Cindie Cagenello, the book considers twenty-two individuals – early settlers, farmers, silversmiths, tavern keepers, teachers, and soldiers who fought in the French and Indian War (1754-1763) and the American Revolutionary War (1775-1783) – who illustrate the challenges of life in colonial New England.

The Journal of Farmington History contains works of journalism with accompanying photographs on subjects ranging from local figures and artifacts to nationally known pioneers in a variety of fields. Contributors to this first volume include Betty Coykendall, Paul Kramer (1942-2019), Marie Lavendier, Susan McAdoo, Sherra Palmer, and Kate Linsley Rodgers, with design by Cindie Cagenello. Both publications will be exhibited at the 103rd Annual NEMA Conference in November.

NEMA’s Publication Awards Competition recognizes excellence in design, production, and effective communication. Entries are judged by a panel of museum-related professionals

experienced in publication and design. This year the competition included 203 submissions from 60 museums, spanning the years 2020-2023. “These awards celebrate the often-unacknowledged design skills, marketing, and outreach initiatives that museums do regularly. Overall, the winning submissions from eleven categories impressed the judges with their sophisticated simplicity, vibrant colors, and clever design,” explained Kayla G. Coleman, Executive Director of NEMA.

The **New England Museum Association**’s mission is to connect a community engaged in learning, collaboration, and action, to cultivate a better museum world. Formed over 100 years ago by Delia Isabel Griffin, founding director of the Boston Children’s Museum, for people who couldn’t make it to the national meetings of the American Association of Museums, NEMA held its first “New England Conference” in 1919, with 40 attendees. In 2018, NEMA celebrated the centennial of its founding. Learn more by visiting <https://nemanet.org/>.

Stanley-Whitman House, a National Historic Landmark, is a living history center and Museum that teaches through the collection, preservation, research, and dynamic interpretation of the history and culture of 17th- to 19th-Century Farmington, Connecticut. Visitors of all ages are encouraged to immerse themselves in history by doing, acting, questioning, and engaging in colonial life and the ideas that formed the foundation of that culture. The Museum facility is centered on a ca. 1720 house furnished with period antiques. Surrounding the house are period-raised bed gardens, an apple orchard, and heritage stone walls. The Museum manages Memento Mori, Farmington’s ancient burial ground on Main Street, Scott Swamp Cemetery on Route 6, and the Village Green, at the intersection of Routes 4 and 10. Stanley-Whitman House is partly supported by the Farmington Village Green and Library Association. Hours of operation are Wednesday through Saturday, 12:00 to 4:00 p.m., and by appointment. The last tour leaves at 3:00 p.m. For more information, visit <https://s-wh.org/>.

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