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## **National Civil War Museum, Dauphin County Win Excellence in Programming Award for 2015**

National Civil War Museum Board of Directors Chairman Burt Snyder (L) and Dauphin County Commissioner Jeff Haste share the 2015 Excellence in Programming Award for the special educational lecture series, Lost Story: African Americans in the American Civil War, recently presented by the Hershey Harrisburg Regional Visitors Bureau.

(Harrisburg) — Dauphin County and the National Civil War Museum were honored by the Hershey Harrisburg Regional Visitors Bureau with an “Excellence in Programming Award” for their role in producing the Lost Story Lecture Series: African Americans in the Civil War. Dauphin County Commissioner Jeff Haste and the National Civil War Museum Board Chairman Burt Snyder received the award at the bureau’s recent 4th Annual Partner In Tourism Awards event.

“Everyone involved in the project is very proud to have received this award,” Snyder said during his acceptance speech. “We thank Commissioner Haste and Dauphin County staff for their support and contributions that made this program possible. And we want to thank museum staff and the visiting public for their continued commitment to the museum and our historic programming.”

Snyder said the museum will continue to play a major role in regional tourism and diverse event programming.

Mary Smith, President and CEO of the Hershey Harrisburg Regional Visitors Bureau said the series of four free lectures initiated by Dauphin County during the month of October was a grand success that was worthy of this high honor.

“The series exemplifies the region’s diversity and rich cultural history while significantly contributing to the growth of the region’s tourism industry,” Smith said.

Lost Story Lecture Series: African Americans in the Civil War, available on CSPAN, tells the inspiring and often overlooked story of the efforts of Americans of African descent to abolish slavery and gain their rights as citizens. The series was presented at the National Civil War Museum by Washington D.C. African American historian Hari Jones, who has also appeared on CSPAN, the History Channel, PBS’s History Detectives, Fox News, and Henry Louis Gates’ series The African American: Many Rivers to Cross.

“We’re proud to have brought the Lost Story lectures to the local public and the National Civil War Museum, located right here in Harrisburg,” said Commissioner Haste. “The museum is the perfect venue for these educational programs that aim to enrich and inform residents and visitors alike about our diverse and deep regional history.”

The lectures were fully attended and the County looks forward to more enriching and innovative historical programming in the future, according to Haste. To view Commissioner Haste’s video comments, [click here](#).

#### ***About The National Civil War Museum***

*Opened in February 2001, The National Civil War Museum, a member of the Smithsonian Institution Affiliations Program, is a non-profit private educational institution dedicated solely to the American Civil War. It is one of the largest museums in the world which interprets the entire American Civil War from a military and civilian perspective. The Museum preserves and exhibits some of the nation's treasures, including General Robert E. Lee's personal Bible, and more than 24,000 artifacts, documents and photos. Admission to the Museum is \$11.00 for adults, \$10.00 for seniors, and \$9.00 for students with reduced rates for children and families. The Museum offers complimentary ample parking. For more information, please call 717.260.1861, or visit the Museum's website at [www.nationalcivilwarmuseum.org](http://www.nationalcivilwarmuseum.org). **Connect with us!** [Facebook.com/TheNationalCivilWarMuseum](https://www.facebook.com/TheNationalCivilWarMuseum); [Twitter.com/NCWM](https://twitter.com/NCWM); and [FourSquare.com/NationalCivilWarMuseum](https://www.foursquare.com/NationalCivilWarMuseum)*

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Presented by Dauphin County & The National Civil War Museum [www.dauphinc.org/comm/Lost-Story-Jeff-Haste.mp4](http://www.dauphinc.org/comm/Lost-Story-Jeff-Haste.mp4)

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