



Hemingway-Pfeiffer Museum Receives Accreditation

On July 1, the museum received national accreditation from the American Alliance of Museums. Accreditation signifies excellence to the museum community, to governments, funders, outside agencies, and to the museum-going public. We are the first A-State Heritage Site to become accredited by this organization.

Alliance Accreditation brings national recognition to a museum for its commitment to excellence, accountability, high professional standards and continued institutional improvement. Developed and sustained by museum professionals for over 45 years, the Alliance's museum accreditation program is the field's primary vehicle for quality assurance, self-regulation and public accountability. It strengthens the museum profession by promoting practices that enable leaders to make informed decisions, allocate resources wisely, and remain financially and ethically accountable in order to provide the best possible service to the public.

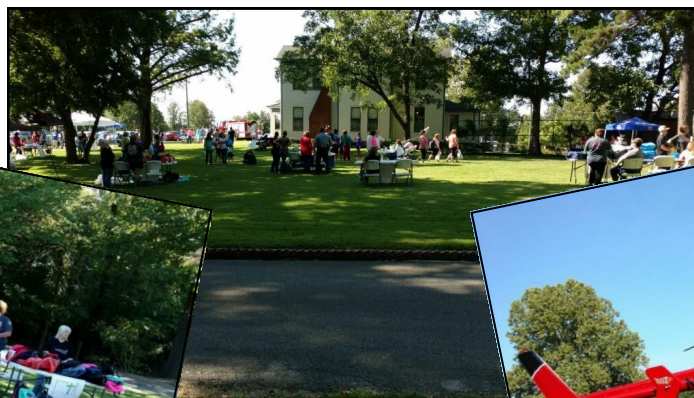
Accreditation is a very rigorous but highly rewarding process that examines all aspects of a museum's operations. To earn accreditation a museum first must conduct a year of self-study, and then undergo a site visit by a team of peer reviewers. The Alliance's Accreditation Commission, an independent and autonomous body of museum professionals, considers the self-study and visiting committee report to determine whether a museum should receive accreditation. The next self-study period for HPMEC is in 2026.

The peer review team representing AAM visited the site in March and noted that the educational role the museum plays is a model for all museums and is the very epitome of the role museums should hold—especially in small communities. Using the house museum as a launch for hands-on learning and creative expression, the staff has, in the team's opinion, developed and conducted educational initiatives that are outstanding and which serve a majority of demographics.

The team also recognized in its report, "it is important to note that the museum has become a significant player in the educational, cultural, and economic life of its immediate community and is rapidly showing impact in the regional heritage and geotourism industries. Further, the museum is a destination for national and international literature tourism and serves as a training environment for heritage preservation and as a focal point for scholarly literature research."

"Accredited museum are a community of institutions that have chosen to hold themselves publicly accountable to excellence," said Laura L. Lott, Alliance president and CEO. "Accreditation is clearly a significant achievement, of which both the institutions and the communities they serve can be extremely proud."

We are very proud of what the museum has accomplished, and we are especially proud that the reviewers highlighted the strength of our ties to the community through our advisory committee, through our volunteers, and through other partnerships. We have long known the strength of these ties, and we are pleased to see that they stand out even in comparison with some of the greatest museums in the country. The staff would like to thank all of you for helping to make accreditation possible.



Some photos of the
Piggott Backpack
Bash.

Writing Retreat for Military Veterans

Upcoming Events

2016:

- Sept. 13—Advisory Committee Meeting
Sept. 15-17 — Writing Retreat for Military Veterans (Rob Lamm, mentor)
Oct. 21— Museum closed for Johnny Cash Heritage Festival
Nov. 6-10 — Fall Writers' Retreat (Pat Carr, mentor)

2017:

- Jan. 27 — Advisory Committee Meeting
Feb. 17 — Papa's Upland Bird Hunt

Visit us online:

hemingway.astate.edu

In 1928, Ernest Hemingway penned portions of one of the most enduring war novels in American literature, *A Farewell to Arms*, at the home of his second wife Pauline Pfeiffer in Piggott. Hemingway's studio is now the site of an all-expense-paid weekend writing retreat for military veterans which will be held on September 15-17. Applications are being accepted now until August 25. The retreat offers veterans from or living in Arkansas the opportunity to work on personal creative writing, share their work, receive feedback, and interact with others interested in writing. Not all writers come with something in mind to write, but many do. The retreat is structured to be interactive, a time when friendships are formed, craft is honed, and creativity is enhanced.

Dr. Rob Lamm, of Jonesboro, AR, will serve as mentor for the retreat. Rob serves as Director of English Education at Arkansas State University. Highlights of his career include serving as a visiting professor at the University of Notre Dame, directing the NEA Writing Project, editing the literary magazine *Arkansas Anthology*, and mentoring writers' retreats at the Hemingway-Pfeiffer Educational Center, including two previous retreats for veterans. He presents on many subjects, including "Visual Arguments," "Humor Writing," "Writing Poetry," and other forms of creative writing. The second edition of his college-level textbook *Dynamic Argument* was published by Wadsworth Publishers, Cengage Learning.

This retreat is held in partnership with the Arkansas Humanities Council and the National Endowment for the Humanities. For more information or to receive an application, contact the museum



Arkansas Welcome Center

Topics for November Writers' Retreat



In addition to the retreat for military veterans, the museum will hold a writing retreat for the general public November 6-10. Pat Carr of Fayetteville will serve as mentor. Pat has mentored several of our retreats, and her full bio is available on our website. Pat has worked to develop several

discussion topics that will help writers explore the writing of Hemingway and his contemporaries to enrich their own writing. The topics are as follows:

- Monday—Hemingway's Paris Circle and the Dramatic Point of View
Tuesday—Hemingway, Fitzgerald, and the Observer in *The Great Gatsby*
Wednesday—Hemingway, Joyce, and Beginnings/Endings
Thursday—The Hemingway Hero and Hidden Tragedy
Friday—Scenes, Symbols, and Motifs

For more information on the retreat, contact the museum.

The Arkansas Welcome Center at Corning has generously agreed to host an exhibit about the museum to help drive traffic to Piggott. So far, it has been a great success. If you haven't been to the Welcome Center in a while, stop by and have a look.

