

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Flagstaff, Ariz.—The Kaibab Vermilion Cliffs Heritage Alliance has received statewide recognition as part of the Governor's Heritage Preservation Honor Awards. The awards recognize people, organizations, and projects that represent outstanding achievements in preserving Arizona's cultural resources. The Alliance received the private/nonprofit entity award in public archaeology. In addition, the Kaibab National Forest, an Alliance partner, received the government agency award in public archaeology for its heritage program.

The Kaibab Vermilion Cliffs Heritage Alliance was founded in 2006 in large part from the efforts of Coconino County Supervisor Carl Taylor. Along with Coconino County, other Alliance partners include the Grand Canyon Trust, Kaibab National Forest, North District; Bureau of Land Management Arizona Strip District; Grand Canyon National Park; Museum of Northern Arizona; Northern Arizona University; and Native tribes.

The mission of the Alliance is to help protect and preserve cultural resources on the eastern Arizona Strip. Through hundreds of hours of volunteer time, it has coordinated archaeological survey projects. It has also sponsored a summer field school, college internships, tribal projects, and public education programs, and has established an online library for researchers.

Michael O'Hara, director of the Alliance field school and an Arizona State University doctoral candidate, accepted the award for the Alliance at a luncheon in Phoenix on February 19.

Since 1982, the Arizona Preservation Foundation and Arizona State Historic Preservation Office/Arizona State Parks have collaborated to present the Governor's Heritage Preservation Honor Awards. The award winners are introduced each year at the annual Arizona Statewide Historic Preservation Conference.

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