

# 2009 Award Recipients

The Benton H. Box Award - Stephen R. Kellert

The William C. Everhart Award - Dayton R. Duncan

The Dwight A. Holder Award - not awarded this year

The Walter T. Cox Award - Will LaPage

Fran P. Mainella Award - Margaret "Peggy" O'Dell

The Robert G. Stanton Award - awarded every other year

## **The Benton H. Box Award**

The Award is named in appreciation of Dr. Box's distinguished career as an educator/administrator, especially as Dean of the College of Forest and Recreation Resources at Clemson University, which he led to national and international recognition for academic excellence and for leadership in fostering private innovation in resource management. The Award recognizes the teacher who by precept and example inspires in students the quest for knowledge; or the administrator who fosters a learning environment and encourages curriculum innovation to inculcate an "environmental ethic" as the rule of conduct involving resource management, development and utilization; or the private practitioner whose management over a sustained period demonstrates leadership in preserving, enhancing, renewing and restoring a livable environment.

**The Benton H. Box Award was presented to Stephen R. Kellert for recognition as a teacher who by precept and example inspires in students the quest for knowledge and encourages curriculum innovation to inculcate an "environmental ethic" as the rule of conduct.**

**Stephen R. Kellert** is the Tweedy Ordway Professor of Social Ecology at the Yale University School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, Executive Chair of Bio-Logical Capital, a sustainable land investment and management firm, and a founding Partner and now consultant, Environment Capital Partners, a private equity firm that invests in the environmental industry.



Dr. Benton H. Box, Stephen R. Kellert, Helen Hartzog, Dr. Lawrence Allen, Dean of the College of Health, Education, and Human Development

Kellert's work focuses on understanding the connection between human and natural systems with a particular interest in the conservation of nature and sustainable design of the human built environment.

His awards include the 2008 American Publishers Professional and Scholarly Best Book of Year Award in Architecture and Urban Planning for the book "*Biophilic Design*," the Outstanding Research Award for contributions to theory and science (2005, North American Association for Environmental Education); the National Conservation Achievement Award (1997, National Wildlife Federation); the Distinguished Individual Achievement Award (1990, Society for Conservation Biology); the Best Publication of Year Award (1985, International Foundation for Environmental Conservation); Special Achievement Award (NWF, 1983); and listed in "American Environmental Leaders: From Colonial Times to the Present."

He has served on committees of the National Academy of Sciences, and has been a member of the board of directors of many organizations. He has authored more than 150 publications, including the following books: *The Coming Transformation: Values to Sustain Human and Natural Communities* (co-editor, G. Speth, Yale FES); *Biophilic Design: The Theory, Science, and Practice of Bringing Buildings to Life* (co-editors, J. Heerwagen, M. Mador,

John Wiley, 2008), *Building for Life: Designing and Understanding the Human-Nature Connection* (Island Press 2005); *Kinship to Mastery: Biophilia in Human Evolution and Development* (Island Press, 1997); *The Value of Life: Biological Diversity and Human Society* (Island Press, 1996); *The Biophilia Hypothesis* (edited with E.O. Wilson, Island Press, 1993); *The Good in Nature and Humanity: Connecting Science, Religion, and Spirituality with the Natural World* (edited with T. Farnham, Island Press, 2002); *Children and Nature: Psychological, Sociocultural, and Evolutionary Foundations* (with P. Kahn, Jr., MIT Press, 2002); *Ecology, Economics, Ethics: The Broken Circle* (edited with F.H. Bormann, Yale University Press, 1991).

## **The William C. Everhart Award**

The Award is named in appreciation of the distinguished career of Bill Everhart as field interpreter, researcher, administrator, author, and creator of the National Park Service's Harpers Ferry Center for creative design and communication, which has received national and international recognition for excellence. The Award recognizes sustained achievements during a career or in a specific episode that illuminate, provide creative insights to, and that foster an appreciation of our natural and cultural heritage.

**The William C. Everhart Award was presented to Dayton R. Duncan for sustained achievements in interpretation that have illuminated, created insights to, and fostered an appreciation of our cultural and historic heritage.**

**Dayton Duncan** is an award-winning writer and documentary filmmaker.

He is the author of ten books. *Out West: A Journey through Lewis & Clark's America* chronicles his retracing of the Lewis and Clark trail; it was a Book-of-the-Month Club alternate selection and finalist for the Western Writers of America's Spur Award. *Grass Roots: One Year in the Life of the New Hampshire Presidential Primary* is a unique look at presidential politics through the experiences of grass roots volunteers. *Miles from Nowhere: In*

*Search of the American Frontier* examines the current conditions, history, and people of the most sparsely settled counties in the United States. *Lewis & Clark: The Journey of the Corps of Discovery*, published in November 1997; *Mark Twain*, published in November 2001; and *Horatio's Drive*, 2003, and *The National Parks: America's Best Idea*, are companion books to documentary films he wrote and produced. *Scenes of Visionary Enchantment: Reflections on Lewis & Clark* is a collection of essays released in conjunction with the Lewis and Clark bicentennial.



Dayton Duncan, Helen Hartzog, and Dr. Lawrence Allen, Dean of the College of Health, Education, and Human Development.

Two books for young readers were published in the fall of 1996: *People of the West*, named a Notable Children's Trade Book for 1996 by the National Council of Social Studies and the Children's Book Council, and *The West: An Illustrated History for Children*, which was selected by *The New Yorker* magazine for its "short list" of the 16 best children's books of 1996 and won a Western Heritage award from the National Cowboy Hall of Fame.

Articles of his have appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Boston Globe*, *American Heritage* magazine, *The Old Farmer's Almanac*, and many other publications.

Duncan has also been involved for many years with the work of documentary filmmaker Ken Burns. He was a consultant on Burns' award-winning series for public television, *The Civil War*, *Baseball* and *Jazz*. For a 12-hour series about the history of the American West, broadcast in 1996, Duncan was the co-writer and consulting producer. It won the Erik Barnouw Award from the

## Organization of American Historians.

He is the writer and producer of *Lewis & Clark: The Journey of the Corps of Discovery*, a four-hour documentary broadcast in November 1997. The film attained the second-highest ratings (following *The Civil War*) in the history of PBS, and won a Western Heritage award from the National Cowboy Hall of Fame, a Spur Award from the Western Writers of America, and a CINE Golden Eagle, as well as many other honors. He is the co-writer and producer of *Mark Twain*, a four-hour film biography of the great American humorist which was broadcast on PBS in 2002. *Horatio's Drive*, about the first transcontinental automobile trip, which he wrote and produced, won a Christopher Award. His most recent film with Burns is *The National Parks: America's Best Idea*, which he wrote and produced.

In politics, Duncan served as chief of staff to New Hampshire Gov. Hugh Gallen; deputy national press secretary for Walter Mondale's presidential campaign in 1984; and national press secretary for Michael Dukakis' 1988 presidential campaign. President Clinton appointed him chair of the American Heritage Rivers Advisory Committee and Secretary of Interior Bruce Babbitt appointed him as a director of the National Park Foundation. In the spring of 2009, along with Burns, the director of the National Park Service named Duncan as an Honorary Park Ranger, an honor bestowed on fewer than 50 people in history.

Born and raised in Indianola, Iowa, Duncan graduated from the University of Pennsylvania in 1971 with a degree in German literature, and was also a fellow at Harvard's Shorenstein Center for Press, Politics and Public Policy. He holds honorary doctorates from Franklin Pierce University, Keene State College and Drake University. For the last thirty-eight years, he has lived New Hampshire, where he makes his home in the small town of Walpole with his wife, Dianne, and their two children.

## **The Dwight A. Holder Award**

The Award is named in honor of Mr. Holder's illustrious career as an entrepreneur and public servant. As Chairman of the South Carolina Parks, Recreation and Tourism Commission he led South Carolina's parks into a new era of service to the people of South Carolina and the nation. The Award recognizes outstanding work by doctoral candidates in the Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism Management; a member of the Department faculty for original research, scholarly writing, and innovative and inspired teaching; the faculty adviser and graduate student as a team, for initiatives that foster understanding of and provide new insights into the promotion, management, wise use and enjoyment of South Carolina's natural and cultural heritage in perpetuity; and distinguished academic leadership by a member of the Department faculty. (Mr. Holder passed away in Spring 2006).

**The Dwight A. Holder Award is awarded for outstanding work as a doctoral student in PRTM and sustained achievement after graduation, management, wise use, and conservation of natural and cultural resources.**

This was not awarded this year.

### **The Walter T. Cox Award**

The Award is so named in appreciation of Dr. Cox's distinguished career in education and public service, especially his tenure as President of Clemson University and as the Director of the Santee-Cooper Authority. The Award recognizes sustained achievement in public service on the firing line, where the public interest meets the private interest in public policy formulation and administration; distinguished leadership and support of innovation in conflict resolution of policy initiatives that enhance the quality of life; personal achievements during a career or in a specific episode that provides inspiration and leadership to others in serving the above purposes.

**The Walter T. Cox Award was presented to Will LaPage for sustained**

## **achievement in public service providing leadership in administration of public lands and for policy formation affecting our natural and cultural resources.**

**Will LaPage** is a rare individual in park leadership that has combined a high level of academic and park management achievement in his life and career, as well as national and international policy work to support the long-term health of our parks. This combination makes him committed to research grounded in the needs of park management, as well as visionary approaches to protect parks nationally and internationally. He has made a lasting impact on people he has engaged in this vision from prisoners building trails in New Hampshire and later taking their children to walk on these trails, to park managers in Croatia managing lands with land-mines, graduate students needing inspiration and leadership, elementary students he has led poetry workshops for, and people who have read Parks for Life.

Will La Page's interest in parks dates from his high school and college days working for the New Hampshire state park system, eventually becoming the fifth director of New Hampshire state parks. During his tenure (1984-94), with the help of uncounted volunteers and a dedicated staff, New Hampshire's became the first state park system in America to be wholly self-funded and litter-free.

Prior to serving as director of parks, Will was a research program leader with the U. S. Forest Service (1962-1983), monitoring national trends in outdoor recreation participation and private sector investment, and publishing national market surveys for camping, down-hill skiing, and commercial



Will LaPage, Helen Hartzog, and Dr. Lawrence Allen, Dean of the College of Health, Education, and Human Development.

campground growth. In 1980, he launched the first National Outdoor Recreation Trends Conference, a symposium of researchers and managers subsequently meeting every five years.

A member of President Reagan's Commission on Americans Outdoors (1985-87), Will's preamble to the commission's report redefines and expands the roles of parks with the challenge that "the outdoors is a statement of the American condition." Will has also served as a New Hampshire Fish and Game Commissioner, local conservation commission chairman, local school board chairman, and on numerous professional committees and study groups.

As a parks financial consultant, Will has worked with: the Jamaican Biodiversity Team (1995-96), El Salvador Protected Areas and Tourism Team (2003), the Bulgarian Biodiversity Team (1993); as a parks partnership builder for Croatian National Parks Directors (1997); a marketing specialist for Jurgens International Caravan Parks, South Africa; as a park expert on several development projects and court cases; and as a temporary director of the Wolf Education and Research Center (1997).

Will holds a joint doctorate in public administration and natural resource policy (1975), and studied social research methodology at the University of Michigan's Institute for Social Research. Dr. La Page is an NAI certified interpretive guide and trainer, and has taught environmental interpretation at the Universities of New Hampshire, Wyoming, Maine, and Colorado State.

Will has written extensively on the inspirational values of public parks, and is the author of Parks for Life, Partnerships for Parks, A Park is a Poem on the Land, Voices from the Park, Along the Buffalo, and has just completed a text on The Ecology of Belief and the Paradox of Public Parks. He has served as a poet-in-residence at Rocky Mountain National Park, Acadia National Park, and the Buffalo National River.



# The Fran P. Mainella Award

The Award is named in appreciation of the dynamic career of Fran Mainella as the first woman Director of the National Park Service. As Director, she focused some of her many efforts on creating systems of connected parks and developing innovative partnerships to expand services. Director Mainella was previously the Director of the Florida State Park Service and the Executive Director of the Florida Recreation and Park Association. The Award recognized sustained and innovative achievement by a woman in the management of North America's natural, historic or cultural heritage.

**The Fran P. Mainella Award was presented to Margaret "Peggy" O'Dell for sustained and innovative achievement by a woman in the management of North America's natural, historical, or cultural heritage.**

**Margaret "Peggy" O'Dell** began her career with the National Park Service as a seasonal interpreter at Jefferson National Expansion Memorial (Gateway Arch) while attending college at the University of Missouri - St. Louis where she earned a B.A. in History.

Upon graduation she was selected as an intake ranger with the Corps of Engineers in Southern Illinois to serve as the Chief of Interpretation at Rend Lake. She returned to Jefferson National Expansion Memorial to complete her intake training as the supervisory park ranger managing the interpretive and education operation at the Gateway Arch.

In 1982, she resigned from the NPS to follow her husband, Ben, to Olympic National Park and to raise their children. They transferred to Ozark National



Fran Mainella, Visiting Scholar and former National Park Service Director, Margaret O'Dell, Helen Hartzog, and Dr. Lawrence Allen, Dean of the College of Health, Education, and Human Development.

Scenic Riverways in 1985 and Peggy returned to the National Park Service to manage the interpretation and education programs.

While completing a Mid-Level Management Development program, she accepted the Management Assistant position at Ozark with major responsibilities in concessions and project management. She participated in the planning and operation of the Scenic Rivers Watershed Partnership which brought together local, state, and federal agency representatives with the private sector to collaborate on conservation and development.

She transferred to Custer, South Dakota and spent two years as Superintendent of Jewel Cave National Monument. A three and a half year assignment at Harpers Ferry Center, the media design center for the NPS in Harpers Ferry West Virginia followed where she served as the Deputy Manager.

Ms. O'Dell served as Superintendent of Jefferson National Expansion Memorial from 2004 to 2007, where her efforts focused on strengthening the working relationship with community organizations. Under her leadership, outreach efforts within the tourism community resulted in exciting programs for visitors to St. Louis.

Ms. O'Dell graduated from the Department of the Interior's Senior Executive Service Candidate Development Program in May of 2006. As part of her training, she served a six month detail to the Washington DC-based Council on Environmental Quality to coordinate the first-ever White House Conference on Cooperative Conservation held in 2005. She was recognized by the St. Louis Convention and Visitor Commission for bringing this prestigious conference to St. Louis.

She received the Secretary of the Interior's 2004 Four-C's Award, Communication, Consultation and Cooperation all in the service of

Conservation for her work on the Joint Ventures: Partners in Stewardship Conference. She was recently honored by the University of Missouri-St. Louis with the Distinguished Alumni Award.

Ms. O'Dell became Superintendent of the National Mall and Memorial Parks in Washington, DC in October, 2007 where she led a large park staff and many partner organizations who served twenty-five million visitors a year. While at the National Mall, she was influential in the advancement of the National Mall Plan and a partnership with the Trust for the National Mall.

She currently serves as the Regional Director, National Capital Region where she was the senior executive responsible for the National Park Service role in the inauguration of President Barack Obama. She provides oversight to the 15 national parks of the Greater Washington DC area.

She and her husband Ben have three children, Katherine, 27 and her husband Shreyas Ananthan; Anne, 25 and her husband Steve Guthrie; and Timothy, 23.

## **The Robert G. Stanton Award**

The Award is named in appreciation of the remarkable career of Robert Stanton as the first African-American Director of the National Park Service. Among the many accomplishments of Director Stanton was expansion of the interpretation of diverse cultural meanings inherent in National Parks and increased participation by racial and ethnic minorities as both visitors and employees. The Award recognized sustained and innovative achievement by a member of a racial or ethnic minority in the management of North America's natural, historic and cultural heritage.

**The Robert G. Stanton Award was presented for sustained and innovative achievement in the management of North America's natural, historic and cultural heritage.**

This is awarded every other year.

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