



THE BATTLE OF HOMESTEAD FOUNDATION

Receives Funds For A Study to Create A Center for the History and Future Evolution of Work

PITTSBURGH, PA (April 9, 2018): The Battle Of Homestead Foundation (BHF) received a \$20,000 DCNR grant to conduct a feasibility study that will look into creating a Center in Homestead / Munhall, PA where labor's past will be honored and the future of work explored. Following a review of highly qualified candidates, BHF signed on Southside based Springboard Design, a team of planners, designers and architects led by Architect Paul Rosenblatt that will help the organization facilitate the study. Springboard also brings on University of Pittsburgh English professor Nicholas Coles, author of numerous books, articles and online blogs about working-class culture, to assist in the process.

BHF Board President John Haer explains: *"The Battle of Homestead Foundation recognizes the need for such a facility in the Pittsburgh region, which has a rich history of industry, innovation and labor / management relations. Pittsburgh is also a center for emerging technologies, including artificial intelligence, that will profoundly affect new generations."*

The Center is expected to house critical archives as well as provide a resource facility for students, scholars, historians, entrepreneurs, union members and all others interested in understanding labor's dramatic past as well as the challenges for the workforce in the future.

Historian and BHF President Emeritus, Charles McColleston adds: *"A Center dedicated to the history and evolution of work provides a pivotal place to reflect on both past and future. Radical technological change in steelmaking in 1892 reduced worker engagement in production while increasing inequality and class struggle. Our society needs to carefully consider the impact of emerging technologies on the future of work, community and global sustainability."*

The feasibility study will help determine the mission and goals of this Center, its physical location and amenities, and will also identify concrete means of funding it sustainably.

The BHF is a non-profit charitable organization of citizens, workers, educators, and historians who come together to interpret, preserve and promote labor and people's histories, and to provide a forum for speakers and events at the historic Pump House, the site of the Battle of Homestead in 1892. The mission of the BHF is to both memorialize the tragic events of the 1892 lockout and strike and to clarify the consequences that remain with us today.

Visit battleofhomestead.org for details on this study and the history of the Battle of Homestead and its significance. Or contact: Lynne Squilla battleofhomestead@earthlink.net