

3 Flags Festival

March 10-14, 2004 - St. Louis, Missouri

THE LOUISIANA PURCHASE BICENTENNIAL



c/o University of Missouri - St. Louis
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BIOGRAPHIES

BLANCHE TOUHILL, PH.D.

**CO-CHAIR, NATIONAL LOUISIANA PURCHASE BICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE
CHANCELLOR EMERITUS, UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI - ST. LOUIS**

Blanche Touhill, Ph.D., boasts a distinguished career at the University of Missouri-St. Louis (UMSL). She joined the faculty in 1965, just two years after the university was founded, moving through the academic ranks to eventually become interim chancellor. She was named chancellor in 1991 and served in that role until 2003. She now serves as chancellor emeritus. Her commitment to the arts has been recognized with the construction of a 128,000-square-foot performing arts center -- The Blanche M. Touhill Performing Arts Center.

Touhill is, or has been, a member of more than 33 professional and community associations and boards. Her commitment to collaboration and diversity has earned her recognition from a number of organizations representing both ethnic and religious diversity. In 1997, she became the first woman to receive the St. Louis Citizen of the Year Award.

Touhill's areas of academic expertise include 19th century Irish and Australian history, social studies education, higher education administration, and St. Louis history. She has written four books and numerous articles and essays. In addition to teaching at UMSL, she taught British history at both Fairleigh Dickinson University in Teaneck, N.J., and Queens College, City University of New York. Touhill earned a bachelor's in history, a master's in geography and a doctoral in history, all from Saint Louis University.

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ELIZABETH GENTRY SAYAD
CO-CHAIR, NATIONAL LOUISIANA PURCHASE BICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE
CHAIRMAN EMERITUS, LES AMIS

An author, scholar and educator, Elizabeth Gentry Sayad has presented slide lectures on the Louisiana Purchase in the United States and abroad over the past two years. She is on the Missouri Humanities Council's Speakers Roster and has appeared across the state. Sayad has written articles for a number of publications, many of which were showcased in *A Scarlet Thread—Collected Writings on Culture and the Arts* (Patrice Press, St. Louis and Tucson, 1991).

Sayad has received numerous accolades for her contributions to the arts. She received Washington University's "Distinguished Alumna Award" in 2000 and the Missouri Arts Award at the state capitol in 1991. Following her chairmanship of the 1976 Bicentennial Horizons of American Music and the Performing Arts (BHAM), Senator John Warner presented her with the American Revolution Bicentennial Commission's "Distinguished Service Award;" New Orleans Mayor Moon Landrieu made her "Honorary Citizen of New Orleans;" St. Louis Mayor John Poelker gave her the "Key to St. Louis;" the *St. Louis Argus* proclaimed her "First Lady of Culture;" and the *St. Louis Globe-Democrat* hailed her as "Woman of Achievement."

She was a founding member of the Missouri Arts Council and of the St. Louis Arts and Humanities Commission (now the Regional Arts Commission). She has chaired the grand openings of many nationally significant arts venues. She also was Missouri's representative for the Gala Opening of Kennedy Center, Washington, D.C.

Sayad holds a master's in music from Northwestern University and a master's in American Culture Studies from Washington University in St. Louis, where she received her bachelor's degree. A sixth-generation Missourian, she descends from a long line of early Virginian planters who came to the St. Louis region in 1795 on a Spanish land grant.

WENDELL SMITH, PH.D.
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL LOUISIANA PURCHASE BICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE

Wendell Smith, Ph.D., Executive Director of the National Louisiana Purchase Bicentennial Committee and nationally recognized educational administrator, served as dean of continuing education at the University of Missouri-St. Louis for more than 20 years. He also was director of telecommunications and vice chancellor for university relations. Officially retired from the university, he continues to act in a part-time capacity as special assistant to the chancellor.

Smith also is director of the Des Lee collaboration, which includes 35 endowed professors who work half-time as traditional faculty members and half-time with the community's major cultural and educational institutions.

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Smith has served as President of the International University Continuing Education Association and the Adult Education Association of the USA. He was inducted into the International Adult and Continuing Education Hall of Fame in 1996. Today, he serves as the Hall of Fame's president.

A native of Oklahoma, Smith received his bachelor's and master's degrees from Oklahoma State University and his Ph.D. from Ohio State University.

**ROBERT MOORE, JR.
HISTORIAN, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE**

Robert Moore, Jr. is a public historian with a background in art and film. Moore has been the historian for the National Park Service at Jefferson National Expansion Memorial in St. Louis since 1991. He has written articles for national magazines on Lewis and Clark, westward expansion and Dred Scott. He is the author of five books, ranging from the history of the Jefferson National Expansion Memorial to the clothing and equipment used in early American history. Moore is lending his expertise to many components of the Louisiana Purchase Three Flags Festival, including organizing an academic symposia and special exhibits at The Gateway Arch.

Moore holds a bachelor's degree from Syracuse University and a master's and doctoral degrees in history from Washington University in St. Louis. His dissertation focused on British influences on Theodore Roosevelt prior to Roosevelt's presidency.