

National History Club Awarded Major Seed Grant from Argosy Foundation

Boston, Massachusetts October 4, 2006. The National History Club, Inc. (NHC) announced today that it has received a significant seed and planning grant from the Argosy Foundation. Newly elected NHC President Niki Lefebvre says the grant will be used to develop and launch a strategy for greatly expanding the reach and scope of NHC programs.

The NHC helps and inspires secondary school students to organize history-related programs that build the reading, synthesis, writing and other skills they need to become competent citizens and leaders. It has more than 225 chapters at secondary schools in 40 states. Over 6,000 individual students currently participate in its programs.

The National History Club was founded in 2002 by William Fitzhugh, the Founder and Editor of *The Concord Review*, which is the first and only quarterly review of exemplary history essays written by secondary students. The NHC was recently organized as an independent affiliate of The Concord Review, Inc., with Lefebvre as President and Robert Nasson as Executive Director. Both are former senior staff members at The Concord Review, Inc. The NHC has established independent offices at 153 Milk Street in Boston.

Upcoming plans include NHC-sponsored tours at museums and historical sites, and a traveling-speaker program aimed at connecting students with fascinating people and their stories. “A great speaker can really excite students,” Lefebvre says, but the NHC program won’t stop there. “We hope to help chapters create great NHC experiences that will motivate students to read, write, and think more.”

Nasson will continue to recruit new chapters at schools in the United States and all over the world. Nasson will also continue to write and design the NHC biannual newsletter, which he expects to expand significantly this spring. The newsletter has featured letters and articles from notables including former U.S. President Bill Clinton, former Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich, and renowned American historian David Hackett-Fischer.

Lefebvre and Nasson plan to collaborate regularly on new ideas with William Fitzhugh and *The Concord Review*. *The Wall Street Journal* has called *The Concord Review* “a starburst of intelligence.” A quarterly journal, it has earned the endorsement of many top colleges and universities including Harvard, Princeton, and Yale. Students in 44 states and 33 other countries have been published in the *Review*, which is nearing its twentieth anniversary as an international publication.

The board of directors of NHC, Inc. includes: John Abele, co-founder of Boston Scientific, Carter Bacon, Jr., a partner at Nixon Peabody LLP, Gregory Boyle of Credit Suisse Securities, Richard Berenson, Managing Director of Venzyme Accelerator, LLC, William Craft, a partner in the Eaton Cummings Group, Robert W. Ebling, III, President of Isotron, Inc., William Fitzhugh of The Concord Review, Inc., and John S. Herbert, Brooklyn, New York.

The Argosy Foundation is a private family foundation founded in 1997 by John Abele. The foundation is based in Milwaukee and is primarily interested in a due-diligence approach to making strategic, leveraged investments. John Abele is the Chairman and Chris Abele is the President and CEO.

CONTACT: Robert Nasson at RNasson@nationalhistoryclub.org for information about setting up a NHC chapter at your school.
Niki Lefebvre at NLefebvre@nationalhistoryclub.org to be a part of building NHC programs, or to learn more.
William Fitzhugh at Fitzhugh@tcr.org to purchase a subscription or submit an essay to *The Concord Review*.

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