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Media Contact: James Burns, Executive Director (jburns@azhs.gov) or 480-387-5366
Tawn Downs, Vice President, Marketing, Communications and Revenue Enhancement
(tdowns@azhs.gov) or 480-387-5368

Arizona Historical Society Presents 2019 AI Merito Awards
*Janeen Trevillyan and Desert Caballeros Western Museum honored for their
contributions to Arizona's history*

PRESCOTT, AZ (April 16, 2019) — The Arizona Historical Society is proud to announce the winners of the 2019 AI Merito Awards, Janeen Trevillyan and the Desert Caballeros Western Museum. Both AI Merito Awards were presented during the AI Merito Awards Luncheon at the Arizona History Convention in Prescott, Arizona on Friday, April 12, 2019.

Janeen Trevillyan was recognized for her contributions as a volunteer curator, grant writer, educator, author, historic preservationist, and ambassador for the Sedona Historical Society and Sedona Heritage Center. For over 20 years, Janeen's leadership has enriched Arizona through her efforts to document its history. Her nomination letter noted Janeen's talent for helping audiences "make connections to Sedona's rich and unique history by helping them find common ground or similarities from their own backgrounds."

The Desert Caballeros Western Museum was recognized for their excellence in exhibitions, programs, and collections that inspire an appreciation of the arts and history of the American West. The award highlighted Desert Caballeros for preserving the West's cultural legacy and championing the work of women artists of the West through *Cowgirl Up! Art from the Other Half of the West*. Daniel Finley, Executive Director of the Desert Caballeros Western Museum accepted the award on behalf of the museum. Located in Wickenburg, the museum is celebrating fifty years of service to the community. For more information, visit <https://westernmuseum.org>.

Dr. James Burns, Executive Director of the Arizona Historical Society shared, "Congratulations to Janeen Trevillyan and Desert Caballeros Western Museum. Both Janeen and Desert Caballeros have made outstanding and long lasting contributions to Arizona's history and enriching the cultural vibrancy of our state. They go above and beyond to create new ways to connect people with Arizona's history."

The Arizona Historical Society established the AI Merito Award in 1973 to recognize individuals and organizations from every corner of the state who have made outstanding contributions and serve as role models for preserving Arizona's rich history. Named for the nineteenth-century award bestowed by a newly independent government of Mexico for meritorious service to the Republic,

almerito literally translates *for merit*. Today, the Arizona Historical Society's highest honor acknowledges meritorious service for those who preserve and celebrate Arizona history.



From left to right: Dr. James Burns (Executive Director, Arizona Historical Society), Janeen Trevillyan (Historian, Sedona Historical Society), Daniel Finley (Executive Director Desert Caballeros Western Museum), and Dr. Voie Coy (Board President, Arizona Historical Society)

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About Arizona Historical Society

Mission: Connecting people through the power of Arizona's history.

Founded in 1864, the Arizona Historical Society (AHS) is the state's oldest and most prestigious historical organization, dedicated to collecting, preserving and sharing Arizona's rich history. The stories of the people, places and events that have shaped Arizona – are told through museum exhibits, programs, events and outreach. The Arizona Historical Society is proud to serve as the steward of Arizona's history. Our collections, housed in AHS museum facilities throughout the state, number in excess of three million objects. Our artifact and manuscript holdings offer opportunities for public programming, educational outreach, and exhibitions, as well as academic and community-based research. AHS is a proud sponsor of National History Day in Arizona, a year-long academic program focused on historical research, interpretation and creative expression for middle school and high school students.

For additional information, visit www.arizonahistoricalsociety.org