



Buffalo Bull Heartland Region Newsletter

Spring 2021
Volume 33, Number 1

Not-A-Conference *Interpretive Practice in a Pandemic*

Friday, March 26, 2021
12:30-5:00 pm (CST)
Virtual Event

Meet and hear from Heartland
Leadership

Network with fellow interpreters in
breakout sessions

Participate in some good old-
fashioned Heartland Region fun
with Suzy Lyttle's Magnificent Mask
Contest

Get a sneak peak at the next full
regional conference in March of
2022

NAI Members
Free
Registration opens February 19

Non-Members
\$10.00
Registration opens March 5

All registration closes March 24

Contact Bob Carter
Not-A-Conference
Chair

More Information

Heartland Region Award Recipients

Congratulations to the 2021 NAI Heartland Region award winners!

Recipients will be honored virtually at the Heartland Region “Not-A-Conference” on March 26, 2021. In 2022, an official awards presentation and dinner will held in Peoria, Illinois, to honor both the 2021 & 2022 award winners.

Leslie James Quinn Master Interpretive Manager

Transportation Manager of Training and Standards
Xanterra Parks and Resorts, Wyoming

The Master Interpreter Manager Award is presented to a Heartland Region member who has worked for five or more years in the profession and whose current duties are at least 60 percent supervisory and administrative. The recipient must demonstrate a mastery of interpretive technique, site or program and staff management, and a respected ability to pass these skills on to others.



In the words of Leslie's nominator:

My first guide training with Leslie was nearly 25 years ago. The breadth of the information he gave me just that first week nearly blew me away. But I stuck with it, working under him for the next 15 years, learning constantly under his tutelage. I give credit to Leslie for introducing me to the world of guiding and interpretation, and more importantly, for honing my craft [as an interpreter].

Brett Peto Excellence in Interpretive Support

Environmental Communications Specialist
Lake County Forest Preserve District,
Illinois

The Excellence in Interpretive Support Awards is presented to an individual member or nonmember, governing body, official, administrator, business, agency, or organization that has shown recognition of the value of interpretation through exceptional and sustained support. This support may be broad-based financial, administrative, or executive (or a combination of these), and serves as a respected model for other interpretive venues and contributors.



In the words of the Lake County Forest Preserve District Environmental Education team:

Brett offers a compassionate ear and willingness to help in whatever ways he can to make us and our message successful.

Limited Funds Remain for Financial Assistance for

Certification Courses

Heartland Region members can now receive financial assistance for in-person or virtual certification courses offered by NAI.

Two of our members have benefits from receiving this financial assistance. There is still money available, *but it needs to be applied before the end of the fiscal year on June 30, 2021.*

If you are thinking about attending a course, don't delay in applying. The financial assistance often covers the cost of the course! Don't let this limited-offer opportunity slip by. Apply today!

Applications will be reviewed in the order they are received and the recipient and Heartland Treasurer notified. The National Office will be notified and will register the participant. Recipients must pay any outstanding balance *within one week of being registered* or the scholarship is forfeited.

Upon course completion, recipients are expected to submit to the *Buffalo Bull* editor a photo/bio and a brief written summary of their certification experience and how it will benefit them in the profession. Failure to complete this final step in the process will make the recipient ineligible for future scholarships.

Current Certification Opportunities

Apply for Assistance

Contact Jenny Sazama
Scholarship Chair



Certification Courses

(\$200 max per scholarship)

- Interpretive Guide
- Interpretive Host
- Interpretive Guide Train-the-Trainer
- Interpretive Host Train-the-Trainer

Professional Certification

(\$125 max per scholarship)

- Interpretive Trainer
- Heritage Interpreter
- Interpretive Planner
- Interpretive Manager

Available on a first-apply basis until funds depleted.

One scholarship per member.

Applications must include a statement of financial need and the dates of the certification course.

Note: Receiving a scholarship does not guarantee a space in the certification course of your choice. An alternate course would need to be selected by the recipient.

Want to attend the National Conference in Palm Springs next Fall? Watch for the scholarships announcement in the summer issue of *Buffalo Bull*.

Student Membership Grants

NAI is a great organization full of opportunities for students who want to network, find employment and gain professional skills in the field of interpretation. The Heartland Region wants to encourage students to become members to take advantage of these opportunities and benefits like mini-grants for projects and scholarships to workshops by providing grants on a first-apply basis. Awardees will be selected by the Scholarship Committee through a lottery.

To be eligible for an NAI student membership grant the student must be at full-time status and must submit the following:

- A letter from a university/college faculty or staff verifying that the student is full-time
- A 200-word statement on why he/she wants to be a member of NAI

To Apply, submit documents and contact information to:

Jenny Sazama
LCFPD-EE Services
1899 W. Winchester Road
Libertyville, IL 60048
jsazama@lcpd.org

Support Your Heartland Region!



Make a New Year's Resolution to become more involved with the Heartland Region! We currently have a handful of open positions that need to be filled, and **you** are exactly the person we are looking for!

Check out the job descriptions on the Heartland Region website and contact Heartland Region Director, Sloan Cathcart, to learn more.

[Job Descriptions](#)

[Contact Sloan Cathcart](#)

Connect with the Heartland Region

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[Heartland Region on Facebook](#)

[Heartland Region Leadership](#)