

# Lewis & Clark Trail News

## Bringing the Trail to Life

January 25, 2025



*Richard Hunt*

### The Spirit of the Trail!

Welcome to another exciting edition of the Lewis & Clark Trail Alliance Newsletter! This issue is packed with inspiration, updates, and ways you can engage with the trail's vibrant community. From registration now available for our KC25 Annual Gathering to the release of our 2024 Impact Report—showcasing the incredible work we've done together over the past year—there's much to celebrate and look forward to.

We're thrilled to share the trailer for *Big Medicine*, now available through the National Park Service LCNHT team. You'll also find information about the 2025 Alliance Photo Contest, new grants for Missouri Historic Sites, and a fresh lineup of YouTube videos that bring the trail's history to life. And that's just the beginning! There's a full calendar of Tribal Festivals and Pow Wows to explore, plus many more events and updates in store—remember, it's still January!

Our newsletter continues to grow, with more than 120 new subscribers and just today I received a very nice note from one reader who has joined with a three-year membership. As we expand, we want to invite you to be an active part of this journey. The Alliance is all about sharing: sharing knowledge, sharing passion, and sharing our love of the trail. You can help by spreading the word—forwarding this newsletter, sharing our YouTube videos, engaging with us on Facebook, and encouraging others to get involved.

This is your trail and by sharing the spirit of it, we continue to build something meaningful for everyone. Together, we can do so much more. Thank you for your ongoing support and for helping us keep the trail alive!

### Quick Links

[Registration is Open for 2025 Kansas City Annual Gathering](#)

[LCTE Event Calendar](#)  
(now with Native Pow Wows)

[Missouri Historic Grants Program](#)

[LCTA 2024 Impact Report](#)

[LCTA Photo Contest](#)

Join the  
Alliance

Support the  
Alliance

## Call to Action

The Alliance is looking for volunteers who are interested in communications, storytelling, light graphic design, video production and other content creation.  
contact [Richard Hunt](#)



## A direct and compelling headline



Watch  
[What did Ste. Genevieve  
look like to Lewis and  
Clark?](#)

Ste. Genevieve is the oldest permanent European town in Missouri, especially known for the vertical log architecture, with over 30 buildings still standing built from about 1790 to 1820. This town existed at the time Lewis and Clark made their way north from the Ohio River. They even mentioned in a journal that they passed by and stopped on an island just north of town.

According to Clark's journal for November 28,



Watch  
[What was life like in 1803?](#)

Imagine what life was like in 1803! This video takes you on a journey through the grounds of Historic Locust Grove, once a bustling hub for early 19th-century frontier life. Explore the daily lives of the Croghan family, their enslaved workers, and the many travelers who passed through this estate, including famous visitors like George Rogers Clark and even Meriwether Lewis and William Clark.

From the architecture of the Federal-style mansion to the tools, trades, and traditions of the time, experience the sights



Watch  
[Nez Perce Trail  
Part 1](#)

In the first episode of this archival three part video, Sandra McFarland, now Administrator of the Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trail, takes us on a journey through the incredible history of the Nez Perce Tribe and their interactions with Lewis and Clark. In the fall of 1805, as the Corps of Discovery passed through Nez Perce lands, the Tribe provided essential aid to

1803, the expedition arrived at a landing on the other side of “St. Genevieve”. By the time of the expedition, the population of New Ste. Genevieve was around 1000. About one week later, Clark gave further descriptions of the town. He wrote that the town was primarily French with about 120 families.

and stories that bring this pivotal era to life. Whether you're a history buff, a fan of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, or simply curious about life in early Kentucky, this video will transport you back in time!

the explorers when they were on the brink of starvation.

Sandra reflects on the Tribe's resilience during their 1877 flight, where an estimated 750 men, women, and children journeyed over 1,170 miles to evade forced relocation.

## 2024 LCTA Impact Report



We're excited to share with you our [2024 Impact Report](#), which highlights the incredible progress and accomplishments we achieved together.

This has been an inspiring year of growth and expansion. We've worked tirelessly to bring the Trail's story to life for the American public through innovative discovery and education initiatives. Our two flagship websites, [lewisandclark.travel](https://lewisandclark.travel) and [lewis-clark.org](https://lewis-clark.org), continue to be trusted resources, offering a treasure trove of information to help people learn about the Trail's history and to plan their own adventures.

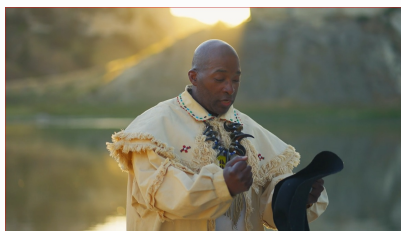
As we look ahead, your support is essential in helping us continue this important work. We invite you to deepen your connection with the Alliance by becoming a member or contributing to support our work. Your contributions directly sustain our efforts to preserve, promote, and enhance the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail and its enduring legacy.

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**2025 Alliance Photo Contest is Now Open**

Celebrate the beauty and history of the Lewis and Clark Trail by sharing your unique perspective through photography! The contest is open from now through May 31st.

### Photo Contest Form



Hasan Davis as York

Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail (LECL) has embarked on a multi-year inclusive interpretation project related to the life of York, enslaved member of the Lewis and Clark Expedition. This project and content developed from it will support LECL's network of 150+ partner sites along 4,900 miles, 16 states, and the territories of more than 65 Tribes.

## **Big Medicine: A Focus on York**

Watch the inspiring trailer for the

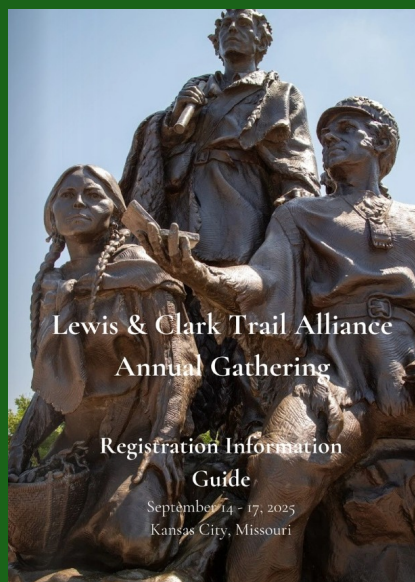
[Big Medicine: York Outdoors](#)

documentary which was released this week.

The full film will premiere in Omaha at *The Union for Contemporary Art* on June 10, 2025, as part of their Juneteenth programming.

LECL is working with trail partners to schedule premiere events around the country in the summer and early fall of 2025. Are you interested in hosting a premiere event at your site?

E-Mail [lecl\\_communications@nps.gov](mailto:lecl_communications@nps.gov)



## **Thinking about Kansas City?**

Kansas City is a hub of culture, history, and hospitality, all nestled in the Heart of America. Travel here is easy and convenient with our brand new airport, or enjoy the drive and explore additional sites along the Trail on your way.

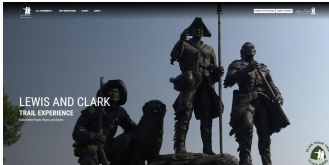
We can't wait to welcome you to this special event and get ready to celebrate the enduring legacy of Lewis & Clark with us this September!

[Annual Gathering Registration Guide](#)



# Our Network of Online Resources

The Lewis and Clark Trail Experience links authentic communities and cultures—including tribes whose connections span thousands of years—to historic, vibrant and living landscapes. Be amazed at our travel website



The Lewis and Clark story ties together famous people, natural history, military expeditions, Native American history, and more. Explore the 2300+ pages of all things Lewis and Clark on our educational website



Our national alliance connects Lewis & Clark resources across the country, inspiring lasting public engagement and promoting a more knowledgeable, healthier society. Explore more at our Alliance website



TRAVEL

EDUCATION

ALLIANCE

## New Mobile APP for the Lewis and Clark Trail Experience

An advertisement for the Lewis and Clark Trail Experience mobile app. The background is a scenic landscape with mountains and a lake at sunset. On the left, a smartphone displays the app's interface, which includes a search bar, a grid of icons for various features (like "Lewis & Clark", "Journals", "Maps", etc.), and a "Download" button. On the right, there is a large green square with a white silhouette of Lewis and Clark inside a tent, with the text "Lewis and Clark Trail Experience" below it. At the bottom right, there is a QR code. Below the QR code are two buttons: "Get it on Google play" and "Download on the App Store".

Experience the **Lewis & Clark Trail** With Our **New APP**

Get it on Google play

Download on the App Store

Scan the QR Code with your mobile device



[lewisandclark.org](http://lewisandclark.org)





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