

**Media Contact:**

Karen Kegelman  
302-655-7161  
kkegelman@dehistory.org

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Delaware Historical Society Executive Director Dr. David W. Young  
Awarded the Philip S. Klein Book Prize  
by the Pennsylvania Historical Association**

**Wilmington, DE (October 21, 2020) --**

Executive Director Dr. David W. Young has been awarded the Philip S. Klein Book Prize by the Pennsylvania Historical Association for, *The Battles of Germantown: Effective Public History in America* (Temple University Press, 2019).

The Philip S. Klein Book Prize is awarded to the best book on a topic that illuminates the history of Pennsylvania. A selection committee evaluates the overall quality of scholarship, the significance of contribution to historical knowledge and methodology, and its style, presentation, and readability. The prize was established in honor of Philip S. Klein, president of the Pennsylvania Historical Association from 1954 to 1957.

This year the committee received an exceptionally strong field of nominations. After careful reading and consideration, the committee unanimously agreed that the Philip S. Klein Book Prize should be awarded to Dr. David W. Young's fine study, *The Battles of Germantown: Effective Public History in America*. The book is an intellectually rich exploration of the role of public history institutions in communities, employing as a case study the series of "battles" in Germantown during the past century about the meaning and significance of history in civic life. Young sets out his important vision for community engagement through history by examining the conflict and teamwork among various groups, framing effective public history as a process that embraces evolving views within a community. He offers both a stirring rationale for collaboration among local sites and organizations and provides specific examples of how historians can work with neighbors to develop interpretation at their sites.

"It's a tremendous honor to receive this prize. I researched and wrote the book over many years and it especially gratifying to know that the scholarship and public programs described in the book are appreciated by such an esteemed body of historians. The book describes important connections with Delaware history, such in the American Revolutionary War, Underground Railroad history, and the records of people enslaved on colonial plantations—the examples of public engagement with history are timely and relevant for many communities." said David Young.

The book is available through Temple University Press <http://tupress.temple.edu>.

**About the Delaware Historical Society:**

The Delaware Historical Society owns and operates the Delaware History Museum; the Jane and Littleton Mitchell Center for African American Heritage; a nationally recognized Research Library; Old Town Hall; Willingtown Square, four 18th-century houses surrounding a picturesque urban courtyard located in downtown Wilmington; and the National Historic Landmark, Read House & Gardens located in Old New Castle. For more information, call (302) 655-7161, email [deinfo@dehistory.org](mailto:deinfo@dehistory.org), or visit [dehistory.org](http://dehistory.org).

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