



PETER S. LAPAGLIA JIMI SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Peter S. LaPaglia had a long and successful career in the museum field, beginning as a museum professional and concluding as a museum consultant. He was instrumental in creating a program called Jumpstart! with several colleagues, which eventually grew into the nationally recognized Jekyll Island Management Institute (JIMI). The Southeastern Museums Conference (SEMC) is pleased to award the annual Peter S. LaPaglia Scholarship for JIMI 2027, to be held January 19-26, 2027. **The scholarship covers tuition only.**

SEMC and JIMI invite you to submit your application for this scholarship. Recipients will be responsible for all travel and lodging costs. La Paglia awardees will be asked to reflect on their experience at JIMI2027 and submit an article to be published in a future edition of *Inside SEMC*.

Instructions: **Please download this scholarship application**, complete the information, and email it (along with your narrative) to zwillits@semcdirect.net. The deadline for submitting the application and scholarship materials is October 4, 2026.

Narrative: Explain the importance of this scholarship to you and your institution. Please limit the response to 2 pages.

Criteria: This scholarship is open to all JIMI applicants (with at least five years of experience), with strong consideration for those who have demonstrated active involvement with a museum professional organization (state, regional, or national). The applicant must be a member of SEMC or, if not working in the Southeast, a member of another state or regional museum association.

Notification: The JIMI Selection Committee will review all applications, and applicants will receive notification of the outcome by November 8, 2026.

Name:	
Position:	
Institution:	
Address:	
City/State/Zip:	
Email:	
Telephone:	
Years in Field:	
SEMC (or other professional museum association) Membership #:	

Applicant Signature:

Date: _____

Pete LaPaglia



PETER S. LA PAGLIA (1943-2008) received his B.S. and M.A. in history from Middle Tennessee State University and served actively in the US Army from 1966 to 1969, including a tour in Vietnam. Mr. LaPaglia enjoyed a thirty-five-year career in the museum and public history fields. His love of museums and history led him to establish his museum consulting firm, LaPaglia & Associates, in 1990. He assisted numerous small and large museums and historic sites throughout the country with master planning, building programs, educational initiatives, exhibit development, and executive

searches. Believing strongly in the value of continuing education for museum personnel, he conducted seminars and workshops nationwide. He developed and served as program facilitator for the annual Jekyll Island Management Institute for the Southeastern Museums Conference, which, by the time of Mr. LaPaglia's death, had provided training for over 140 museum personnel (today that number is well over 300). Mr. LaPaglia served as co-editor of *Public History, Essays from the Field*, which is used in higher education public history programs throughout the country. In honor of his contributions to the museum and public history fields, the LaPaglia scholarship was established in his name at the Southeastern Museums Conference for the support of future attendees of the Jekyll Island Management Institute.