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# PRESS RELEASE

## Eastern National Announces 2013 Award Winners

*Annual Awards Highlight Excellence in Performance and Partnership*

**FORT WASHINGTON, PA, May 1, 2014:** Eastern National (EN), a not-for-profit cooperating association with the National Park Service, is proud to announce the winners of its annual awards for 2013. The awards program was designed to acknowledge outstanding individual achievements and contributions that have had a positive impact on an EN operation or an individual park, thus furthering and promoting EN's unique relationship with its partners. Nominees were submitted by EN managers in November 2013.

The **Charles S. Marshall Unit Award** was presented to Cape Hatteras National Seashore, and \$2,500 will be donated by EN to the park's interpretive program. The Unit Award annually recognizes the most outstanding agency that has achieved noteworthy teamwork in promoting and aiding the historical, scientific, educational, interpretive and operational activities of EN partners through EN agency operation. Teamwork is evidenced through agency growth, visitor service, product development, partner relations and administration.

**Superior Performance Awards** were presented to Blanca Stransky, Superintendent, Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial; Pat Jones, Chief of Interpretation, Independence National Historical Park; Josie Fernandez, Superintendent, Hot Springs National Park; and Mike Madell, Superintendent, Vicksburg National Military Park. Superior Performance Awards annually recognize outstanding partner management of an EN agency. They are awarded to the top four outstanding partner personnel, regardless of agency size.

The **Herbert E. Kahler Award** recognizes the EN partner judged to have cooperatively managed the most efficient and innovative agency. The winner is selected by the EN Board of Directors from the four Superior Performance Award winners, and will be presented at the EN Board Meeting in June 2014.

**Special Achievement Awards** were presented to the following EN employees: Christine Godwin, Unit Manager, Cape Hatteras National Seashore; Marie Marquar, Unit Manager, Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park; Jennifer Harris, Site Supervisor, Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historical Park; Anna Sanders, Unit Manager, Vicksburg National Military Park; Lee Pettey, Assistant Regional Manager, National Capital Region; and Jordan Klatt, Unit Manager, Cape Cod National Seashore. Special Achievement Awards recognize exceptional performance in the area of store operations and partner relations.



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The **Customer Service Award** was presented to Fort Raleigh National Historic Site. This award annually recognizes the EN store staff with the highest average score in EN's secret shopper program. The program evaluates the overall store appearance, product presentation, and professionalism of staff.

*Eastern National is a 501(C)(3) not for profit association that promotes the public's understanding and support of America's national parks and other public trusts by providing quality experiences, educational products and services to the visitors of America's national parks. For more information about Eastern National, its products or services, visit our website at [www.EasternNational.org](http://www.EasternNational.org).*

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