



## **White House Historical Association Announces the Gerard B. Lambert Endowed Chair in White House History and the Gerard B. Lambert Foundation Fellows in White House History Program**

**March 13, 2025 (Washington, D.C.)** – The White House Historical Association announced that it will establish an endowed position, the Gerard B. Lambert Chair in White House History, through the generous support of the Gerard B. Lambert Foundation. The Chair will provide strategic leadership overseeing the Gerard B. Lambert Foundation Fellows program and hold the title of Director of the David M. Rubenstein National Center for White House History.

The Gerard B. Lambert Foundation Fellows in White House History will also be supported through an endowment gift from the Gerard B. Lambert Foundation. This fellowship program will encourage new scholarship on the White House and the American presidency, and support efforts to bring new research to the public through programming and the Association's new educational experience, [The People's House: A White House Experience](#).

"Through the generous support from the Gerard B. Lambert Foundation we are thrilled to establish the Gerard B. Lambert Chair in White House History," said Stewart McLaurin, President of The White House Historical Association. "The Gerard B. Lambert Foundation Fellows program will unlock research opportunities to discover White House history, furthering our mission to teach and tell the stories of the Executive Mansion, its occupants, and collection."

Chief Education Officer and Director of the Rubenstein Center, Dr. Matthew Costello, will occupy the Chair. "The generous support of the Gerard B. Lambert Foundation of both The People's House and the Rubenstein Center's work is truly transformative. These gifts will allow us to grow our network of researchers, support new scholarship, develop new partnerships, and continually evolve The People's House with innovative, original research."

"It continues to be an honor and a privilege to partner with the White House Historical Association. Through education and exploration, we can uncover our nation's history and the diverse experiences of the people who have shaped it." – Thomas Lloyd, President Gerard B. Lambert Foundation.

The Gerard B. Lambert Foundation's relationship with the White House Historical Association extends to its founder, Jacqueline Kennedy, when in 1961 Lambert Foundation founder Rachel "Bunny" Mellon answered the call from President and Mrs. Kennedy. The Nation benefitted from Mrs. Mellon's service as a citizen volunteer who advised Mrs. Kennedy during the restoration of the White House and the design of the Rose Garden.

Costello currently holds the Marlyne Sexton Chair in White House History, named in honor of Marlyne Sexton, cabinet member on the National Council for White House History. A search is now underway to name the next Marlyne Sexton Chair in White House History and Senior Historian.

### **About the White House Historical Association**

First Lady Jacqueline Kennedy envisioned a restored White House that conveyed a sense of history through its decorative and fine arts. She sought to inspire Americans, especially children, to explore and engage with American history and its presidents. In 1961, the nonprofit, nonpartisan White House Historical Association was established to support her vision to preserve and share the Executive Mansion's legacy for generations to come. Supported entirely by private resources, the Association's mission is to assist in the preservation of the state and public rooms, fund acquisitions for the White House permanent collection, and educate the public on the history of the White House. Since its founding, the Association has given more than \$115 million to the White House in fulfillment of its mission.

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