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MLA'16 CHLA/ABSC ICLC

May 13–18, 2016 ♦ Toronto

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MLA Historical Marker to Be Installed in Philadelphia

Submitted by June H. Fulton, FMLA, and Daniel Kipnis, Philadelphia Regional Chapter of MLA

During 2015, its 117th anniversary year, MLA will celebrate a novel and permanent way of informing both residents and visitors to Philadelphia about the association. Several months ago, the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission voted to approve the nomination of an official State Historical Marker to commemorate MLA's founding in Philadelphia in 1898. The text of the marker will not be revealed until the marker's dedication ceremony in keeping with the commission's guidelines.

The MLA marker will sit on a pedestal to be installed on the sidewalk in front of the building where four physicians and four librarians, four from the United States and four from Canada, met to form the association. The building is located at 1420–22 Chestnut Street in the heart of Philadelphia and not far from other city landmarks. The building is already of historical significance, having been added in 1980 to the US National Register of Historic Places. This distinction recognizes the thirteen-story, steel-framed structure as an early example in the development of tall buildings and one that established the design for Philadelphia skyscrapers for the next three decades.

In early November, state and city officials and other dignitaries will join MLA leaders and chapter representatives for a dedication ceremony, to be followed by a reception hosted by the Philadelphia Regional Chapter of MLA. Further details will be reported at a later date.

A special guest of honor at the ceremony will be Carla J. Funk, CAE, who recently retired after more than twenty years as MLA's executive director. The marker project was initiated in Carla's name in 2014 by MLA Past-President June Fulton, FMLA, as a tangible way of thanking her for her years of service.



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