



**Alliance Accreditation Commission**

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 Gosnell Executive Director, Nantucket Historical Association, Nantucket, MA

Mr. Rasmus Thøgersen  
 Executive Director  
 Museum of Danish America  
 2212 Washington Street  
 Elk Horn, IA 51531

Dear Mr. Thøgersen:

On behalf of the Accreditation Commission, it is my great pleasure to tell you that the Museum of Danish America was awarded accreditation at our February 6-7, 2017 meeting. This means the museum meets National Standards and Best Practices for U.S. Museums and joins a community of institutions that have chosen to hold themselves publicly accountable to excellence. Through a rigorous process of self-assessment and review by its peers, the museum has shown itself to be a good steward of its resources held in the public trust and committed to a philosophy of continual institutional growth.

The Museum of Danish America is an institution of great leadership and commitment to its purpose and community. Its internship program is a particular strength. Without a doubt, the museum's philosophy of excellence and level of professionalism have allowed it to succeed beyond expectations for an institution of its size. As one of the museum's major aspirations is to engage a wider audience, having a full-time or full-time-equivalent staff member dedicated to education is something that the museum will need to work towards.

To help ensure that accredited museums maintain their level of professional performance they must undergo periodic reaccreditation reviews. The museum's next Self-Study is due **March 1, 2026**.

At the time of the museum's next review, we will expect to see that:

- staffing allocations are in alignment with educational programming goals
- the museum has continued to explore who its audiences are and who they could be, and has used that information to shape its strategic plan

Accredited museums are looked up to as leaders in the field and we encourage you to proactively fulfill this responsibility by serving as a mentor and resource for other museums. Support and encourage museums working towards meeting standards, improving practices, or seeking accreditation by speaking at professional meetings, conducting Accreditation or MAP site visits, and sharing your expertise in other ways. As the director of an accredited museum, you are now an Alliance Peer Reviewer and

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February 24, 2017