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2011 Mark O. Hatfield Distinguished Historians Forum, Presented by the Clark Foundation

Portland, OR – January 17, 2011 – The Oregon Historical Society is excited to announce that four extraordinary historians will be visiting Portland for thought provoking evenings of history: Steven Hayward, author of a two-volume narrative history on President Ronald Reagan; Rex Ziak, who will share a snapshot of Oregon history with his lecture on the founder of Astoria, John Jacob Astor; noted historian David Hackett Fischer, who will be talking about the presidencies of iconic leaders Washington, Lincoln, and Franklin Roosevelt; and Edith Gelles, closing the series with a lecture about the marriage of John and Abigail Adams.

The Mark O. Hatfield Distinguished Historians Forum provides Oregonians with an opportunity to engage with a range of historic topics. Each evening lecture lasts for forty-five minutes and is followed by a question and answer session with the audience. Following the lecture, patron ticket holders are invited to a post-lecture reception at the Oregon Historical Society with the speaker and a chance to get books and memorabilia personally signed.

All lectures begin at 7:30 p.m. at the First Congregational Church in Downtown Portland. Series and individual tickets are on sale now through boxofficetickets.com. We hope you will join the Oregon Historical Society and these four phenomenal historians for what will surely be enjoyable evenings of history. For more information on the lecture series and ticket sales, please visit www.ohs.org.

The schedule and topics for the lectures series are:

**Steven Hayward - "How Ronald Reagan Settled the GOP Split of 1912"
February 15, 2011**

Steven F. Hayward is the F.K. Weyerhaeuser Fellow in Law and Economics at the American Enterprise Institute in Washington DC and Senior Fellow at the Pacific

Research Institute for Public Policy in San Francisco. He holds a Ph.D. in American Studies and an M.A. in Government from Claremont Graduate School, and he has been a visiting professor at Georgetown University and Ashland University. He is the author of a two-volume narrative history of Ronald Reagan and his effect on American political life: *The Age of Reagan: The Fall of the Old Liberal Order, 1964–1980*, and *The Age of Reagan: The Conservative Counter-Revolution, 1980–1989*.

Rex Ziak - "John Jacob Astor: The Rise and Fall of his Fur Trade"

March 15, 2011

Rex Ziak is an artist, conservationist, and historian who is highly accomplished in all three fields. As an artistic cinematographer, he received an Emmy Award. As a conservationist, he personally led the effort to preserve large tracts of ancient rainforest, and his successes have been featured repeatedly on national news. As a historian, he researched and discovered unknown historical sites relating to the Corps of Discovery and of such importance the U.S. Department of the Interior purchased the land and created a new National Park to commemorate these discoveries. He has authored two acclaimed books on that history.

David Hackett Fischer - "Washington, Lincoln, and Franklin Roosevelt: Inventors of an American Tradition"

April 19, 2011

David Hackett Fischer holds a Ph.D. from Johns Hopkins University and is a professor of history at Brandeis University, where he has taught since 1962. Throughout his career, Fischer has had the opportunity to teach at various universities, including Harvard, Oxford, and the University of Washington. Fischer is a noted scholar in early American history and has written many books, including *Albion's Seed*, *Paul Revere's Ride*, *Washington's Crossing*, and *Liberty and Freedom*. Fischer's most recent book is *Champlain's Dream*, and he is presently at work on a history of slavery and African-American culture.

Edith Gelles - "Abigail and John Adams: Portrait of a Marriage"

May 17, 2011

Edith Gelles is a senior scholar at Stanford's Michelle R. Clayman Institute for Gender Research. She is the author of *Portia: The World of Abigail Adams* and *Abigail Adams: A Writing Life*. She is a co-winner of the American Historical Association's Herbert Feis Award. Her recent double biography, *Abigail and John: Portrait of a Marriage*, was a finalist for the George Washington Prize. She has also edited the *Letters of Abigail Levy Franks (1733–1748)*. She taught for many years in Stanford's Humanities program as well as in Continuing Studies.

For more than a decade, the Oregon Historical Society, with the help from generous sponsors, has brought famed historians such as Doris Kearns Goodwin, David McCullough, and Douglas Brinkley to Oregon. Speakers have lectured on America's history makers from Theodore Roosevelt, Abraham Lincoln, and George Washington to historic events and themes like Oregon's Native American history and westward expansion. OHS is committed to continuing this tradition and keeping this important educational opportunity alive.

About the Oregon Historical Society

The Society has served since 1898 as Oregon's primary research collection and museum about Oregon history. OHS has an extensive collection of historical pieces, including over 85,000 artifacts and 3 million photographs and films. It safeguards and presents Oregon's history through a museum, research library, traveling exhibits, school programs and website content.