

Executive Summary

The Rivers Project Office, St. Louis District is proud to nominate Ms. Kimberly Rea for the 2013 Hiram M. Chittenden Award for Interpretive Excellence. She has had a stellar interpretive career, highlighted by her many accomplishments in 2012, and is extremely deserving of the award. Ms. Rea is a true driving force for interpretive excellence. She regularly transcends the standards and promotes a diverse array of creative and enhanced experiences for our visitors and partners. Her interpretive talents inspire a committed and accountable team mentality and enable everyone to achieve above and beyond the norm.

Her ability to mold original ideas with previously successful programs showcases an art form rarely seen. In 2012, she accomplished an extraordinary array of programs, special events, visitor center exhibits and many other interpretive projects.

As a force for change, Kimberly Rea has had many successful outcomes in the interpretive and outreach programs throughout the District. Many of these successes will be highlighted in the following sections. A few examples where she has used a creative and innovative approach to our 2012 interpretive and outreach services include: developing interpretive plans; enabling creative design for websites, brochures and other publications; working with partners to enhance our local communities' outreach programs; and facilitating projects to improve the visitor experience.

Ms. Rea has had an outstanding career with the Corps for more than 10 years. It is this defining moment and opportunity that now enables us to recognize her achievements with just a small snapshot in the album of her career. In 2012, Ms. Rea provided her expertise to the Little Rock District, assisted the Kaskaskia River Project Office, Carlyle Lake Project Office, and the St. Louis District Service Base in their endeavors to develop interpretive master plans, develop visitor center exhibits, and complete brochures and other media pieces to promote the Corps missions. She has also worked closely with partners to develop programs, special events and engage communities about the Mississippi River and its watershed.