

Mary Koik

Mary has spent more than 17 years working on behalf of historic preservation for the American Battlefield Trust, beginning as a grassroots coordinator in the first effort to stop a casino on the edge of the Gettysburg Battlefield and rising to become the director of communications, overseeing media relations and marketing efforts and playing a key role in strategic positioning of the growing, evolving organization.

Under her leadership, *Hallowed Ground* magazine, which she began editing in late 2007, has become recognized as a leader in historical periodicals and membership publications. It has been recognized more than a dozen times as a top membership communications vehicle in the APEX Awards and earned accolades from the international Society of Publication Designers. Just this year, a multimedia extra from the Winter 2021 issue, focused on the Franco-American Alliance during the American Revolution, received a Silver Telly Award, while the same edition took home the gold medal in its circulation size for the 42nd annual SIAA Association Media & Publishing Network EXCEL Awards. As an editorial consultant, she helped other preservation organizations, including George Washington's Mount Vernon and the Central Virginia Battlefields Trust develop and refine their own membership publications.

Mary is a graduate of Georgetown University, where she studied English and history, while serving as editor-in-chief of *The Hoya*, the university's newspaper of record. Prior to joining the Trust, she worked as a journalist, covering local news for *The Hartford Courant*, and as a professional copy editor. She lives in Washington, D.C., with her husband, two sons and dog -- all of whom love exploring battlefields and historic sites.

