

SAVE ANCIENT STUDIES ALLIANCE



ANNUAL REPORT

2021



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ACHIEVING OUR GOALS

During SASA's first year, in 2020, we were successful in beginning several Ancient Studies outreach and education projects, establishing our organizational infrastructure, and attracting an initial following. At the end of our first year, we set lofty goals for our second year, 2021. They were to:

- 1** Continue to develop and professionalize our organizational infrastructure
- 2** Transform our initial projects into ongoing programs
- 3** Create new projects to address areas of outreach need
- 4** Begin financially supporting our work
- 5** Double our audience



David Danzig
Executive Director

We have been incredibly successful in each of these areas!

In this report, you will be guided through the many areas of SASA's work and see how far we have come in our first two years. We hope this encourages you to get involved in our work and mission in any way you can.

David Danzig

**A personified Eye of
Horus offers incense
to the enthroned god
Osiris in a painting
from the tomb of
Pashedu**

ca. Thirteenth Century BCE

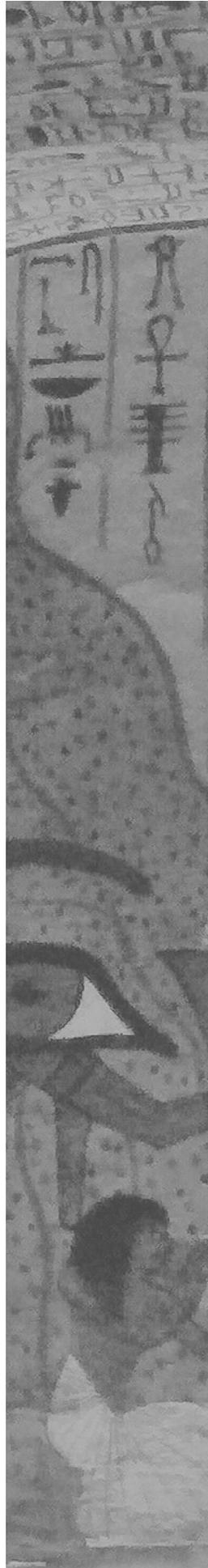
MISSION

Save Ancient Studies Alliance works to reverse the current downward trend in the study of the Ancient World. Building a grassroots movement through outreach, collaboration, accessibility, and public scholarship, we work toward our goal of inspiring a wider, inclusive community of learners and students.

VISION

Save Ancient Studies Alliance envisions a world in which connection with the richness of deep human history and culture is shared by all people. Our vision for a New Ancient Studies will encompass:

- Broad understandings of our pasts to help nurture cross-cultural awareness, curiosity, sensitivity, and an affinity for each other.
- Widespread opportunities to engage with our deep pasts in educational, public, and cultural spheres that emphasize openness and accessibility to all.
- Ancient Studies scholarship is a shared endeavor in a community of lifelong learners, both inside and outside institutions of higher education.
- Ancient Studies is a model of humanistic scholarship that actively engages the public imagination and exemplifies proactive inclusivity, interconnectedness, and cooperation.



THE SASA ARC

All of our projects and programming is aimed at achieving one or more of the goals that form the "SASA Arc."

1. Know What You Know

Educational Sociology and Marketing research about Ancient Studies

2. Raising Awareness

Generate and harness interest in the Ancient World, while raising awareness for Ancient Studies as the source of our knowledge of the Ancient World

3. Supporting Education

Support formal and informal Ancient Studies learning at all educational levels

4. Increasing Accessibility

Increase access to Ancient Studies for all



5. Forming an Alliance

Encourage Ancient Studies fields to come together and make public outreach a part of “what we do,” in addition to teaching and scholarship

6. Reenvisioning Post-Education Scholarship

Create a wider, inclusive community of Ancient Studies scholars and students, integrating people of all backgrounds, and scholars employed in academia and in other fields



WHAT IS ANCIENT STUDIES?

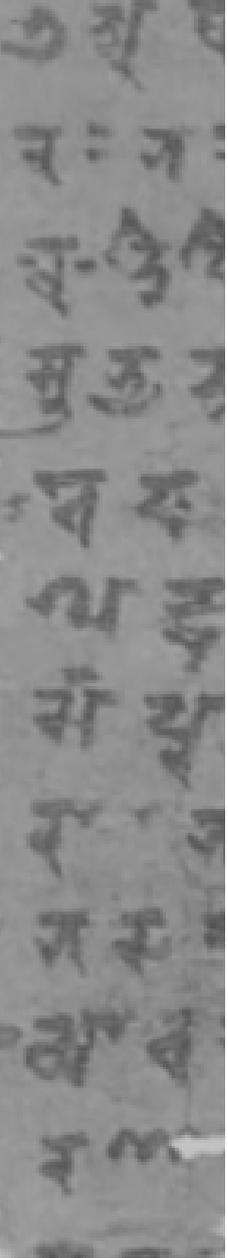
The concept of “Ancient Studies” as encompassing a variety of academic disciplines is not yet widespread and accepted. SASA includes the following disciplines within “Ancient Studies”. The concept of a deeper past exists in all disciplines of historical study. This is the history we mean to encompass by the term “Ancient.” The potential gains in accepting this moniker and associating these fields with one another is appreciable.

The collaboration of our fields will allow for the creation of a larger niche for them within the Humanities, helping to prevent their downsizing and creating a unified advocacy platform within the Humanities. In essence, forming an alliance of Ancient Studies fields puts us ahead of this downward trend and enables us to reposition ourselves as newly vital and flourishing fields.

**Samuel anoints
David, Dura Europos**
3rd century CE, Syria

ANCIENT AMERICAN AND INDIGENOUS STUDIES
 SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES
 CENTRAL ASIAN STUDIES
 EAST ASIAN STUDIES
 OCEANIA STUDIES
 ANCIENT EUROPE
 ANCIENT AFRICAN AND EGYPTIAN STUDIES
 ANCIENT NEAR EASTERN LANGUAGES AND CIVILIZATIONS
 BIBLICAL STUDIES
 ANCIENT GREEK AND ROMAN STUDIES
 ARABIC AND ISLAMIC STUDIES
 LATE ANTIQUE AND MEDIEVAL STUDIES
 ART HISTORY
 HISTORY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
 PRESERVATION AND CONSERVATION
 ANCIENT PHILOSOPHY
 ANCIENT MUSIC
 ANCIENT RELIGION
 GENERAL HISTORY
 GENERAL ARCHAEOLOGY

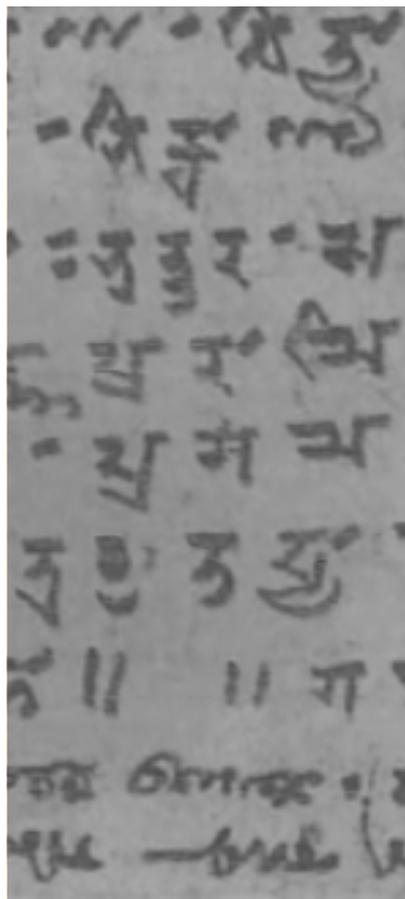
Ancient Studies is a dynamic and constantly evolving field, so SASA anticipates changing and growing this list in the future.



THE VALUE OF ANCIENT STUDIES

We believe the study of peoples, histories, and cultures distant from us in time is profoundly important and has significant contemporary relevance in the following ways.

A Sanskrit manuscript
copy of the Heart Sutra
at the Bibliothèque
Nationale de France, nd



I

Socio-political dynamics and cultural mentalities transcend the human experience across time and space. The study of the past is a mirror in which we are able to see ourselves with greater clarity, informing many aspects of our lives today. All contemporary cultures are reflections of the past, and as such, Ancient Studies continues to be a vibrant interest for communities. Likewise, it influences how we think about, study, and present, Ancient Studies themselves. As the history of the human journey, Ancient Studies is at the core of the Humanities.

II

Studying the ancient past fosters attitudes of cultural respect, empathy, and humility. Ancient Studies brings with it an inherent understanding and affinity for peoples and cultures that feel markedly different from ourselves. Ancient Studies thereby serves as an inclusive environment to encourage cross-interaction between peoples of different languages, cultures, socio-economic background, gender identities, sexual orientations, and skin colors. The empathy and understanding gained from studying ancient peoples ameliorates contemporary prejudices and inter-group tensions.

SASA'S CORE VALUES

EDUCATION FOR ALL

EDUCATION

We believe that education empowers individuals, communities, and societies. Liberal Arts and the Humanities, including Ancient Studies, is vital to fostering individuals and societies imbued with empathy, compassion, and altruism, as well as creativity, ingenuity, and innovation.

ACCESSIBILITY

We believe that education, knowledge, and understanding should be open and freely available to all. Our past is something that is owned by all of us. We endeavor to actively share this knowledge with all communities.

LEARNING & SCHOLARSHIP IS A LIFE-LONG ENDEAVOR

Intellectual engagement is a lifelong pursuit, and we support this ongoing quest for knowledge, awareness, and meaning through Ancient Studies. Ancient Studies can be enjoyed and pursued by people of all ages and backgrounds, and all should be accepted as participants in excellent scholarly discussion regardless of background, occupation, or means. The current model of restrictive membership must change to an open, inclusive community.

QUALITY

We aspire to the highest quality of content and education. By recruiting experts and insisting that the research and information we disseminate is evidence-based and of a high educational standard, we ensure the most accurate possible representation and interpretation of past peoples and histories.



COMMITMENT TO DIVERSITY

RESPECT, INCLUSIVITY & COMMUNITY

As an organization, we believe that regardless of gender identity, sexual orientation, nationality, age, race, disability, religion, social or professional status, everyone must be respected for who they are. Everyone has a right to learn, and everyone should be supported in this journey.

“WALKIN’ THE WALK” AT SASA

As individuals and as an organization, the SASA Team values inclusivity, collaboration, diversity, compassion, integrity, respect, transparency, equality, innovation, and excellence in everything we do. SASA aims to model the behaviors and exemplify the attitudes that we wish to share with others.

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

VOLUNTEERISM & FINANCIAL SUPPORT

We highly value volunteerism as a means of giving back to one another and the community at large. We also believe that people who contribute to an organization in a regular and ongoing manner deserve financial support and recognition for their time and work. Currently some of SASA’s staff, volunteers, and interns are unpaid. We are dedicated to providing all our volunteers with the necessary tools to succeed, and so we have been, currently are, and will continue our process of actively seeking funding to pay our talented and dedicated volunteers.

PASSION & INSPIRATION

All our volunteers have a deep-seated passion for the Study of the Ancient World. This passion permeates and drives all that we do. We hope to impart this passion, and inspire others with curiosity, positivity, and intrepid action in working toward positive change. Only by working together can we achieve our goals and Save Ancient Studies!



HOW WE OPERATE

DIGITAL OUTREACH

From the beginning, our fundamental vision of how we should operate necessitated fast growth and connection with people around the world. We call this Digital Outreach. By utilizing multiple avenues of digital networking we form new partnerships, recruit interns and volunteers, share AS stories and leverage our projects. These digital modalities include our cloud workspaces, online gatherings, website, social media pages, and virtual live events.

A GRASSROOTS MOVEMENT

Save Ancient Studies Alliance recognizes and reaffirms the high value of Ancient Studies for the contemporary world. We are also aware of the accelerating decline: in our fields; in enrollment numbers; in university, governmental, and non-profit support; and in the minds of potential participants.

**Illustration by
Yahyá al-Wasiti
depicting scholars
at an Abbasid
library in Baghdad**

1237

In this current climate, where the perceived societal value of Humanities is waning, direct lobbying to school decision makers for increased funding for Ancient Studies has proven to be ineffective. Therefore, the first step in reversing this trend is to raise a groundswell of interest in Ancient Studies. As we transform Ancient Studies into a shining beacon within the Humanities, changing attitudes toward Ancient Studies will lead to the promotion of formal educational engagement in Ancient Studies at all levels.

SASA seeks to translate academic knowledge to a wider audience, so that all generations will continue to learn about the ancient past. At SASA, we view all interest in Ancient Studies as a positive. Our understanding of the past is shaped by the popular media we consume, including comic books, films, novels, or video games! Whatever sparks a desire to learn more about Ancient Studies is beneficial and valuable. Through our various grassroots projects SASA successfully harnesses the public imagination and love for the ancient world, creating a rising tide of engagement and bringing together scholars, life-long learners, young students and enthusiasts from around the world.



HOW WE OPERATE

COMMUNITY BUILDING

Save Ancient Studies Alliance recognizes and reaffirms the high value of Ancient Studies for the contemporary world. We are also aware of the accelerating decline: in our fields; in enrollment numbers; in university, governmental, and non-profit support; and in the minds of potential participants. In this current climate, where the perceived societal value of Humanities is waning, direct lobbying to school decision makers for increased funding for Ancient Studies has proven to be ineffective.

PUBLIC SCHOLARSHIP

SASA is working to incorporate public-facing and open access scholarship as a normal and expected part of scholarly life. Too often, scholarly research remains confined within the walls of academia and is not readily disseminated to the wider public. What a shame! The wealth of knowledge modern scholars produce is incredibly rich and relevant to the public. Most scholars acknowledge the inherent merit of public outreach. Yet, effective public outreach in Ancient Studies fields is not prioritized within the academic community. This must change if Ancient Studies is to survive.

**Illustration by
Yahyá al-Wasiti
depicting scholars
at an Abbasid
library in Baghdad**

1237

SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP

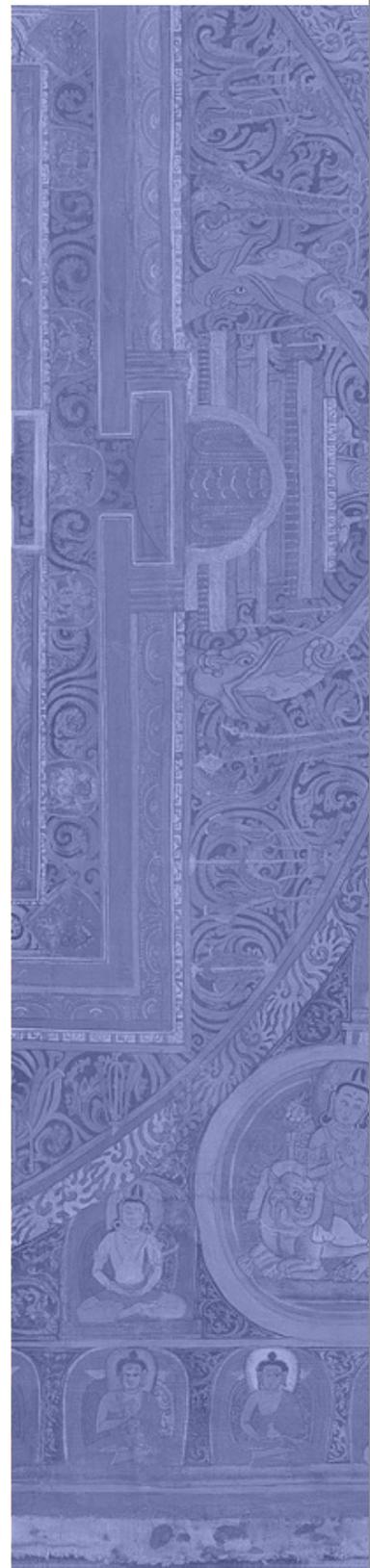
At SASA, we model our organizational strategies and practices after that of social entrepreneurship, employing: a modified business model in our organizational planning; design thinking in our project selection and development; and impact measurement in our self-evaluations. As a novel organization, SASA's methods and programming are naturally experimental. By importing and adapting business best practices into a non-profit setting, SASA works to continue becoming more effective in Saving Ancient Studies.

DIGITAL INTERCONNECTIVITY

At SASA, digitality is central to our daily workflow and all of our outreach projects. SASA staff and volunteers work remotely, connecting a dedicated international team of individuals who want to bring Ancient Studies to as many communities as possible. The interconnectivity between people in different places and communities affords a tremendous opportunity for public engagement. SASA leverages digital networks to reach and engage as many people as possible about the Ancient World and Ancient Studies.



Thangka painting of
Manjuvajra mandala,
15th century



IMPACT

SASA's initial development in Spring-Summer 2020 aimed at early recruitment and publicizing SASA's goals. The first project SASA embarked on was to create free Text-in-Translation Reading Groups to enable participants from high school age and up to engage with a variety of ancient texts without requiring a background in ancient languages. The first groups in March-May 2020 enabled the first recruitment of participants and of academic early career scholars as volunteers to lead the groups.

This was achieved through personal outreach and via SASA's nascent website and social media accounts. These groups led to the creation of ten 8-week Reading Groups over summer 2020 with over 150 participants. At the same time, SASA developed its Inspire Social Media Campaign, in which a team with 10 interns created a suite of original social media content during summer 2020 to be used over the course of September 2020 – August 2021. This suite was composed of 150 posts about fascinating ancient topics and are still rolling out, which has helped carry our social media general outreach.

3+ MILLION

SOCIAL MEDIA REACHES

54,600

ENGAGEMENTS

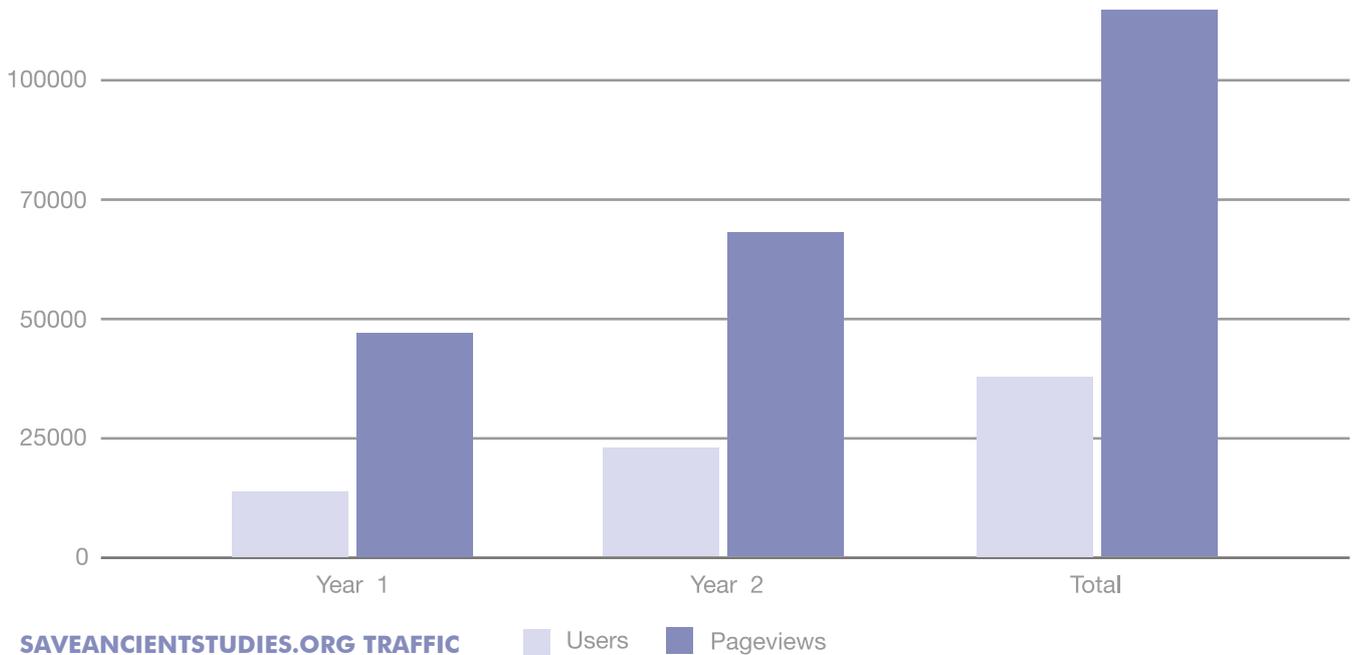
PEOPLE REACHED

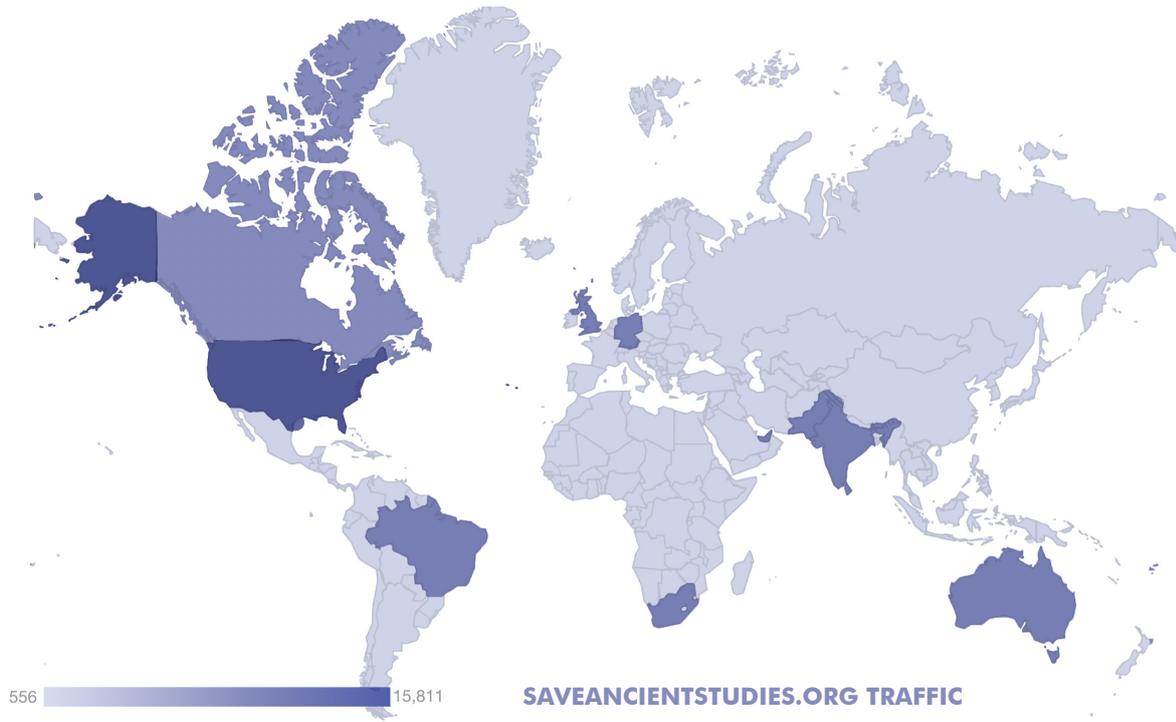
Since the creation of our social media pages in March 2020, we have engaged a growing audience.

37,000

WEBSITE VISITORS

We launched our website, saveancientstudies.org, right along with the birth of the organization. In our first year, we reached almost 12,000 unique users. In our second year, we doubled the number of new visitors.





GLOBAL REACH

We are extremely proud of the wide appeal of our programming, as seen in the 198 Countries Represented among our website visitors. This reflects the truly global interest in Ancient Studies.

Videos are integral to SASA’s mission as they open the ancient world in an exciting medium. In addition to housing recordings of our Live Events, our YouTube channel also features Inspire Campaign videos, including Ancient Kitchen, cooking videos of ancient recipes! We also have a series of videos from volunteers on why they love Ancient Studies.

Volunteers play an instrumental role in SASA’s reach and success. SASA has had 170 remote volunteers and that number continues to grow. Our usual complement of active part-time staff, volunteers, and interns is between 40-50.

16,000 +

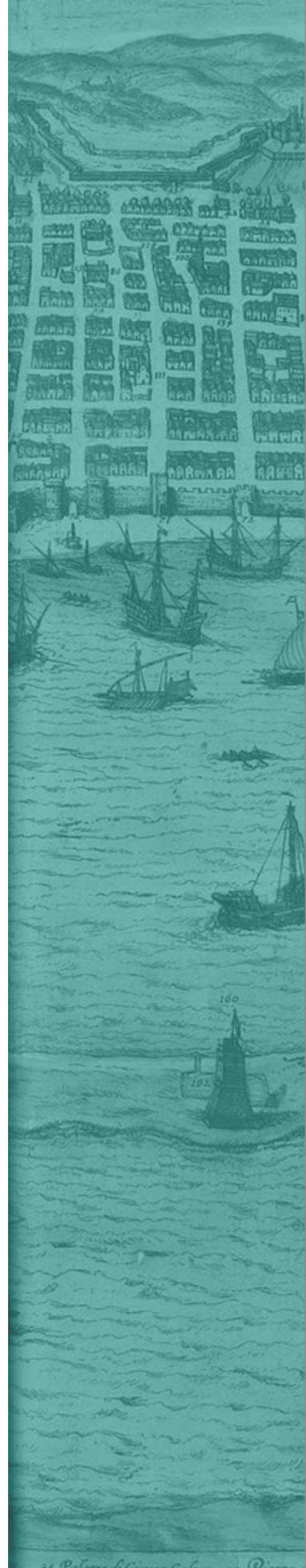
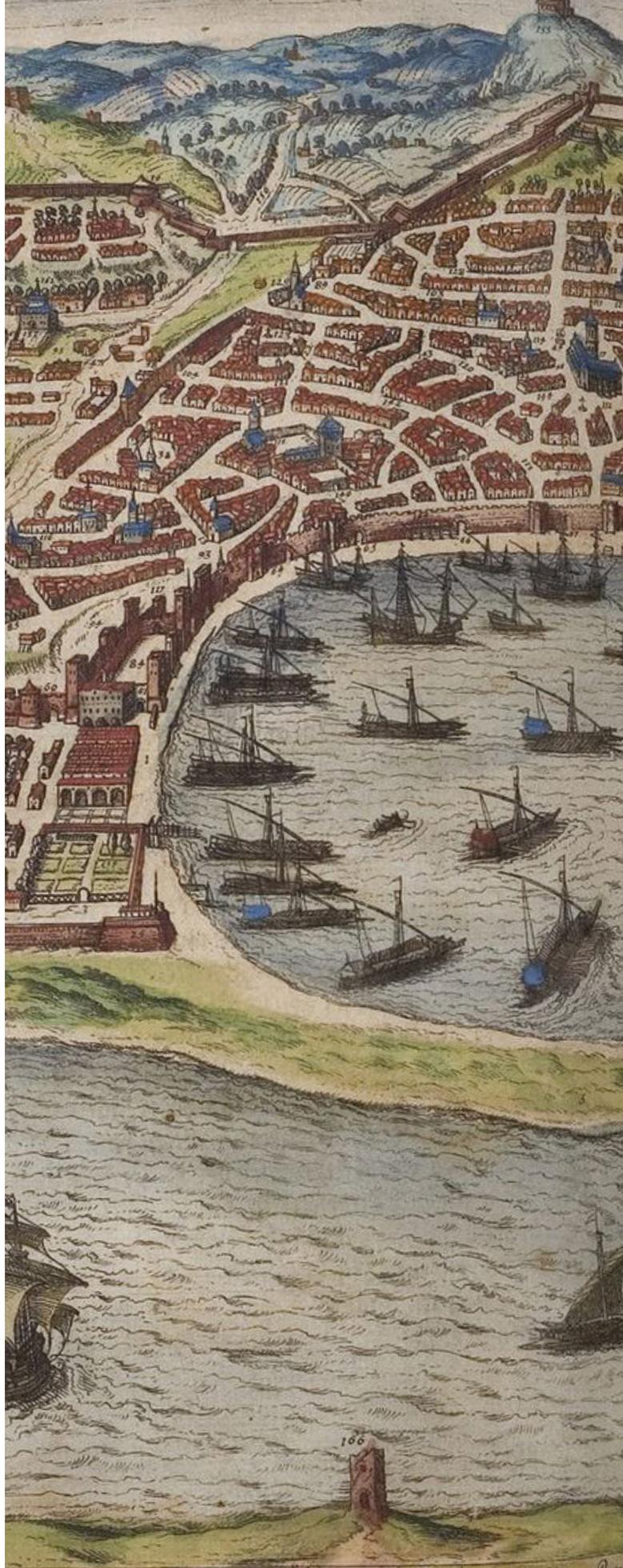
VIDEO VIEWS

500+

LIVE EVENT ATTENDEES

170+

VOLUNTEERS



Georg Braun; Frans Hogenberg: Civitates Orbis Terrarum 1572

- | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| 49. Santo Lio | 50. Macello della porta del Sale | 51. Orto del M. Simele | 52. Orti di diversi | 53. Orto di S. Gioiàne habitato | 54. Porta della Bozetta | 55. Porta del Portulo | 56. Porta di Gentilmenie | 57. Porta delle Ginatelle | 58. Porta della Giudica | 59. P. di terra noua nella marina | 60. Port. di terra noua di Spanola | 61. Porta piccola del Palazzo | 62. P. del Ponte nel palazzo | 63. P. di S. Maria del Pilire | 64. P. della Conzaria vecchia | 65. P. del Campo | 66. Porta della Pyscaria | 67. Porticella | 68. P. della dogana noua | 69. Porta del Sale | 70. P. della dogana vecchia | 71. P. del martoriare | 72. P. de Ghibluomani | 73. Porta | 74. P. de | 75. P. de | 76. P. de | 77. P. de | 78. P. de | 79. Porta | 80. P. de | 81. P. de | 82. Porta | 83. P. de | 84. P. de |
|---------------|----------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|----------------|--------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|

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|------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|
| 85. Palazzo di Giovan Galego | 86. Pal. di S. Cristoforo la rocca | 87. Pal. di Filippo la rocca | 88. Pal. di Mercurio | 89. Pal. della Scalcina | 90. Priorato di S. Giovanni | 91. Piano di S. Giovanni | 92. Piano di S. Francesco | 93. Piano dello Pilieri | 94. Piano del Palazzo | 95. Piano della Giudica | 96. Piano di S. Maria | 97. Piazza | 98. Piazza | 99. Piazza | 100. Piazza | 101. Piazza | 102. Piazza | 103. Piazza | 104. Piazza | 105. Santo Vi | 106. Santo G | 107. S. Leona | 108. Santa M |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|



Corey Loftus

ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

SASA's development and expansion throughout our second year has been substantial. Undertaking new projects has required an expansion of our teams which has led SASA to recruit over 80 new volunteers and interns. Successful fundraising efforts have allowed us to pay some of our staff members and contractors who are working on grant funded projects including our Reading Group hosts and coordinators, and several key members of the Archaeogaming Education Team.

Our Individual Donor support has also allowed us to bring on our first paid member of the Executive Team, Corey Loftus, in her role as Executive Assistant, keeping SASA running smoothly internally. We had significant success in beginning to support our programming through granted funding. We continued SASA's very first project, Text-in-Translation Reading Groups, for both Summer and Winter sessions funded by the Society for Classical Studies, and secured funding for our upcoming Summer 2022 sessions from the Gladys Krieble Delmas Foundation.

Our Archaeogaming Video Learning Modules also launched this year with the support of grants from the New Jersey Council for the Humanities and the University of North Carolina Humanities for the Public Good Initiative. We also began presenting many other exciting live events including Archaeogaming livestreams, and the first pilot programs of our exciting new Destination Ancient: Archaeotours initiative. As our base of operational and programming support for SASA grows, we expand our impact!



Warka vase
ca. 3000 BCE



ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

To accommodate the multiplicity of our projects and the compartmentalized remote working environment, we adopted a hybrid divisional and project-centered organizational model. In this schema, Teams were created to support SASA's main areas of endeavor and projects, as follows:

ORGANIZATIONAL TEAMS

COMMUNICATION

LAUREN K.

INTER-ORGANIZATION
COMMUNICATIONS

ERIC N.

FUNDRAISING

DAVID D.

OUTREACH

FLOR F.

SASA STAFF ORGANIZATION CHART

DIRECTOR		Responsibilities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management • Admin • Planning • CASO 	FUTURE: CO-DIRECTOR PROGRAM DIRECTOR
David Danzig	EXECUTIVE TEAM		
LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE		Responsibilities Assistance, help, and/or guidance in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long Term Planning • Program Development • Fundraising • Organization • Budgetary Planning 	FUTURE: STEERING COMMITTEE
David Danzig	TEAM LEADERS		
SASA AMBASSADORS		Responsibilities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fundraising • Collaboration Development 	FUTURE: BOARD OF TRUSTEES

PROGRAMMING TEAMS		LIVE EVENTS	LAUREN K.
ARCHAEOGAMING EDUCATION	PAIGE B.	ARCHAEOGAMING LIVE	KATE M. & ALEXANDER V.
ACCESS	JOHN H.	VIRTUAL CONFERENCE	ANH N.
MENTORSHIP	AGNIESZKA A	PROGRAMMING COORDINATOR	JULIE LEVY
NORTH TEXAS BRANCH	MIGUEL V.	RESEARCH	VALERIA Z.

ORGANIZATIONAL TEAM LEADERS



EXECUTIVE

Led by David Danzig, this team runs SASA's organizational support, both in terms of human resources and information technology. In addition, it organizes and executes all financial, legal, administrative and recruitment functions.



COMMUNICATIONS

Led by Lauren Kubosch, designs visual communications, maintains our website, manages social media presence, and mass email communications, including our monthly newsletter, the SASA Oracle. In addition, our Interorganizational Communications mini-Team maintains lines of communication with our many partners, large and small. The Communications Team also brainstorms and researches new strategies to reach wider audiences.



OUTREACH

Led by Flor Fustinoni, seeks out partnerships with other organizations of all sizes, including the formation of the Coalition of Ancient Studies Organizations, a group of Ancient Studies professional associations working together on outreach and advocacy. The Outreach team drives SASA's growth by involving educators in elementary and secondary schools and providing materials and tools to increase interest in Ancient Studies.



FUNDRAISING

Led by David Danzig, this team organizes fundraisers, applies for grants, and manages the website Bazaar as an alternative to traditional giving campaigns. The Fundraising Team also oversees SASA's nonprofit organizational development goals, including our SASA Ambassador Program.

PROGRAMMING TEAM LEADERS



ARCHAEOGAMING EDUCATION

Led by Paige Brevick, this team produces the archaeogaming modules for implementation in classrooms around the world. In addition, this team forms important relationships with educators and supports the use of our modules in classroom learning.



ACCESS

Led by John Haberstroh, the Access team is developing a web platform database to list online resources within Ancient Studies fields, including programs of study offered by universities, a general list of all Ancient Studies informational websites, a list of available scholarships, and listings of ancient-related public outreach projects.



VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

Led by Anh Nguyen, organizing a free, public virtual academic conference for Summer 2022 that targets the participation of scholars not on traditional career paths. The Summer 2021 Virtual Conference, *Opening the Ancient World*, brought together scholars from around the world for presentations and roundtable discussions focused on fostering diversity in the field and inclusive scholarship outside the academy.



LIVE EVENTS

Led by Lauren Kubosch, develops a program of free virtual live events hosted on Facebook, YouTube, and Twitch with a selection of programming including Book Club with authors, Archaeogaming play-throughs, as well as free Text-in-Translation Reading Groups in summer and winter.



RESEARCH

Led by Valeria Zupietta Lupo, researches and gathers evidence on the Downward Trend in Ancient Studies while creating materials on the importance and value of Ancient Studies aimed at being used as marketing tools for Ancient Studies departments.



INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

OUR ANNUAL INTERNSHIP CYCLE CONSISTS OF 3 RECURRING PERIODS PROGRAMS:

Autumn: September 1 – December 31

Spring: January 15 – April 30

Summer: May 15 – August 15

Our internships offer a fantastic opportunity to get involved with a vibrant educational community and outreach-oriented non profit in the Ancient Studies sector.

SASA welcomes interns from a broad range of backgrounds who are interested in growing, developing their skills, and making a difference. Although we are working on providing funds for internships in the future, the program is currently unpaid.

SASA's internships are designed to be mutually beneficial. Our interns participate in various SASA projects ranging from fundraising to social media and archaeogaming production.

In addition to learning new skills related to nonprofit work, we also encourage our interns to build connections within the field of ancient studies. Internships also include:

- **Monthly Professional Development Events**
- **Career Guidance/Mentoring by Appointment**

SASA is committed to creating a diverse environment and is proud to be an equal opportunity organization.

All qualified applicants will receive consideration for internships without regard to race, colour, religion, gender, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, national origin, genetics, disability, age, or veteran status. We also welcome applicants from diverse educational backgrounds, aside from Ancient Studies, and those on any career trajectory.

Olmec Head No. 3

1200–900 BCE,

San Lorenzo-Tenochtitlán

SOLVING THE CHALLENGES OF A REMOTE, VOLUNTEER RUN ORGANIZATION

As a completely remote organization, we had some trial and error with various cloud softwares and processes before we landed on what worked for us.

With a core group of volunteers and dozens of interns that change every semester, Team Leaders have determined which applications facilitate their workflows best, as different teams rely on various methods to assign and track work.

In addition, a concerted effort was made to streamline and set-up walkthroughs for new interns and volunteers, to onboard and teach the process of working remotely in a concise and efficient manner.

SASA utilizes a variety of modes of communication in order to accommodate individuals with various comfort levels. In addition, to improve our organizational efficiency, we created an Intranet Web Portal, where all staff, volunteers, and interns have access to the tools and information they need. This step has propelled our remote workflow to a new level.

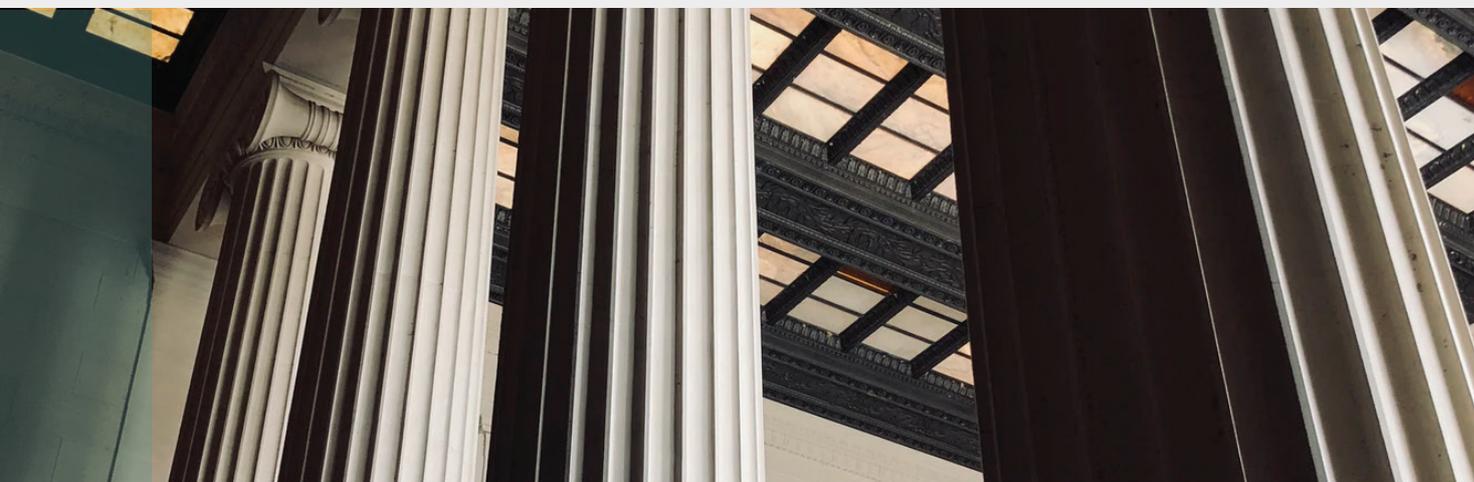
NEW FUNDING MODEL

This year saw some significant strides in the realm of Fundraising for SASA. We attribute part of our success to our new fundraising model. Our Fundraising operations have pivoted to a two-pronged funding model, with grants supporting our projects, while donations reinforce our day-to-day operations.

DONORS ———> OPERATIONS



GRANTS ———> PROGRAMMING



2021 DONATIONS

\$4,974.58

For individual donations, we organized two major fundraising efforts which rallied both new and old donors to the cause of Ancient Studies. From April 2021 through March 2022 SASA was supported by 63 individuals, accruing a total of \$4974.58. Our first major fundraising campaign was the Birthday Bash in Spring of 2021, celebrating the first year anniversary of SASA's birth. During the Birthday Bash, we raised \$3850, focusing on larger gifts with matching funds from partner organizations, including a \$1000 matching gift from the World History Encyclopedia. Our Fall Fundraiser emphasized small monthly recurring gifts, as 9 new recurring donors helped move us toward developing another, sustainable stream of revenue.

DONOR SUPPORT

While we anticipate developing the relationships required to fund the majority of SASA's programming through Grants and Major Gifts, smaller sustaining donations are still vital to SASA's day to day operations. As such we have designed and begun to implement a new donor support and engagement system to increase transparency and engagement with our donors, so they can see how their support helps move us toward our goals. For example, our new Quarterly Donor Newsletter keeps donors up to date on our spending and securement of grants. Likewise, our new Sustaining Donors Program provides tiered benefits to all monthly recurring donors, helping our donors maintain their connections with SASA.

FUNDRAISING PROJECTS

The SASA Bazaar has grown in its array of ancient-branded merchandise, which provides another stream of revenue toward SASA's operations. This has been an exciting avenue for our fundraising efforts and we plan to continually expand our offerings. One way in which we are doing so is through our design competition first held last fall which invited applicants to submit new artistic designs to go on our items. This competition was designed to promote creativity and engagement with Ancient Studies through art and graphic design.

GRANTS RECEIVED



THE UNIVERSITY
of NORTH CAROLINA
at CHAPEL HILL

\$21,236

THE GLADYS KRIEBLE DELMAS
FOUNDATION

\$10,000

NEW JERSEY COUNCIL
FOR THE
HUMANITIES

\$7,150

SOCIETY FOR
CLASSICAL
STUDIES

ΨΥΧΗΛΙΑΤΡΟΣ
ΤΑΓΡΑΜΜΑΤΑ

FOUNDED IN 1869 AS THE AMERICAN
PHILOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

\$800

GRANTS APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED TO

Spencer Foundation	\$50,000	The Achelis & Bodman Foundation	\$7,150
American Historical Association	\$28,973	Arizona Humanities	\$5,000
The Standard Foundation	\$15,000	Pollination Project	\$1,000
Humanities Nebraska	\$10,000	Awesome Foundation	\$1,000

GRANTS CONTINUED



WORLD HISTORY
ENCYCLOPEDIA

\$1,000

BIRTHDAY BASH MATCH



American Oriental Society
Founded 1842

\$200 VALUE

AIA/SCS VIRTUAL BOOTH



SOCIETY FOR
CLASSICAL
STUDIES

ΨΥΧΗΛΙΑΤΡΟΣ
ΤΑΓΡΑΜΜΑΤΑ

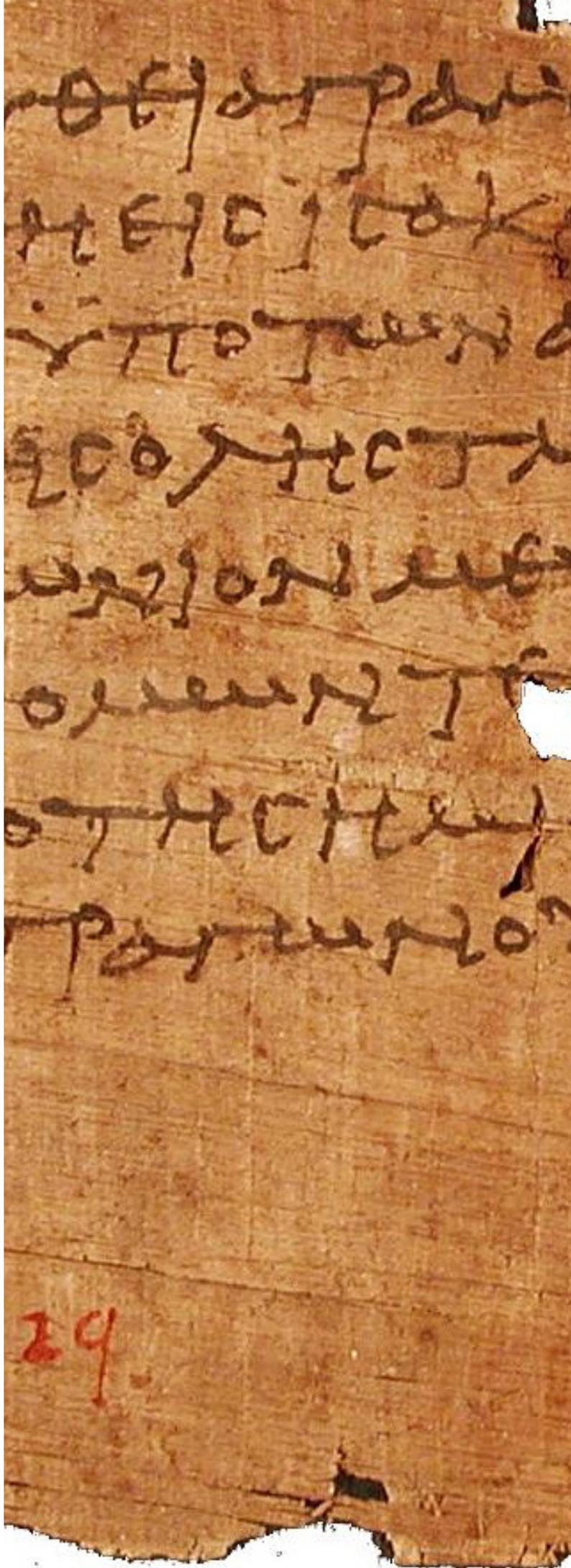
FOUNDED IN 1869 AS THE AMERICAN
PHILOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

\$200 VALUE

AIA/SCS VIRTUAL BOOTH

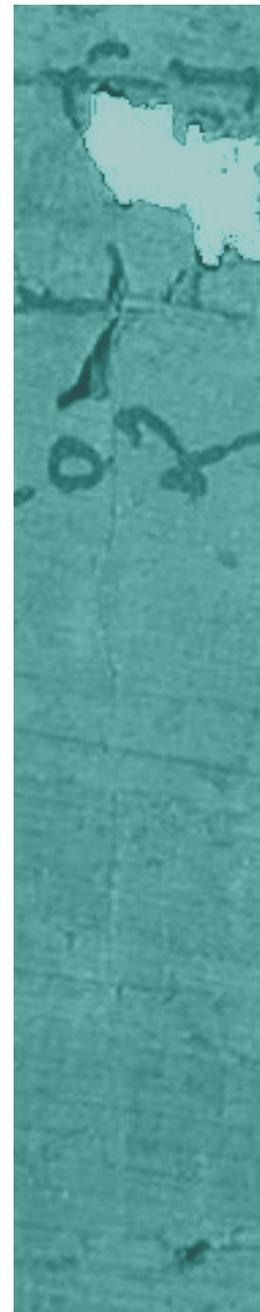


INTERCONNECTION
DONATED LAPTOP



One of the oldest surviving fragments of Euclid's Elements

Circa AD 100
Oxyrhynchus



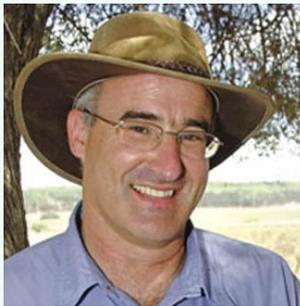
AMBASSADOR PROGRAM



Chuck Jones
Classics Librarian
at Pennsylvania
State University

This year, we were excited to launch our new SASA Ambassador Program. SASA Ambassadors are influential individuals tasked with raising awareness of the issues Ancient Studies faces and the ways SASA is combatting them, as well as supporting our fundraising efforts. The first Ambassador who joined us is Charles E. (Chuck) Jones, Tombros Librarian of Classics and Humanities at Penn State and creator of the Ancient World Online Blog.

Our second ambassador is Aren Maier, Professor of Archaeology and Head of the Institute of Archaeology at the Martin (Szusz) Department of Land of Israel Studies and Archaeology at Bar-Ilan University, Ramat-Gan, Israel. He has directed the Tell es-Safi/Gath Archaeological Project (gath.wordpress.com) for the last 25 years, co-directs the Minerva Center for the Relations between Israel and Aram in Biblical Times (RIAB; aramisrael.org), is director of the Ingeborg Rennert Center for Jerusalem Studies at Bar-Ilan University, and co-edits the Israel Exploration Journal.

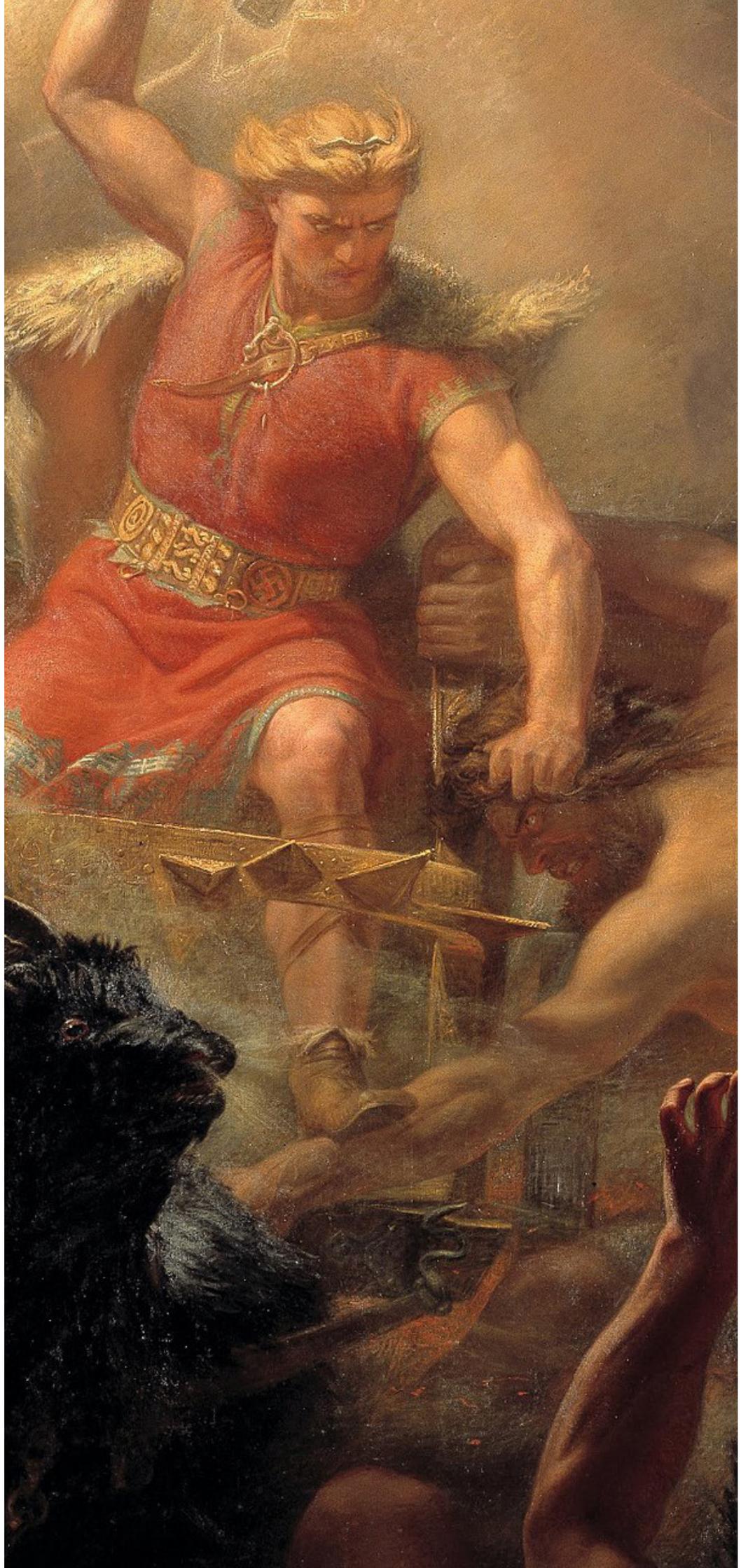


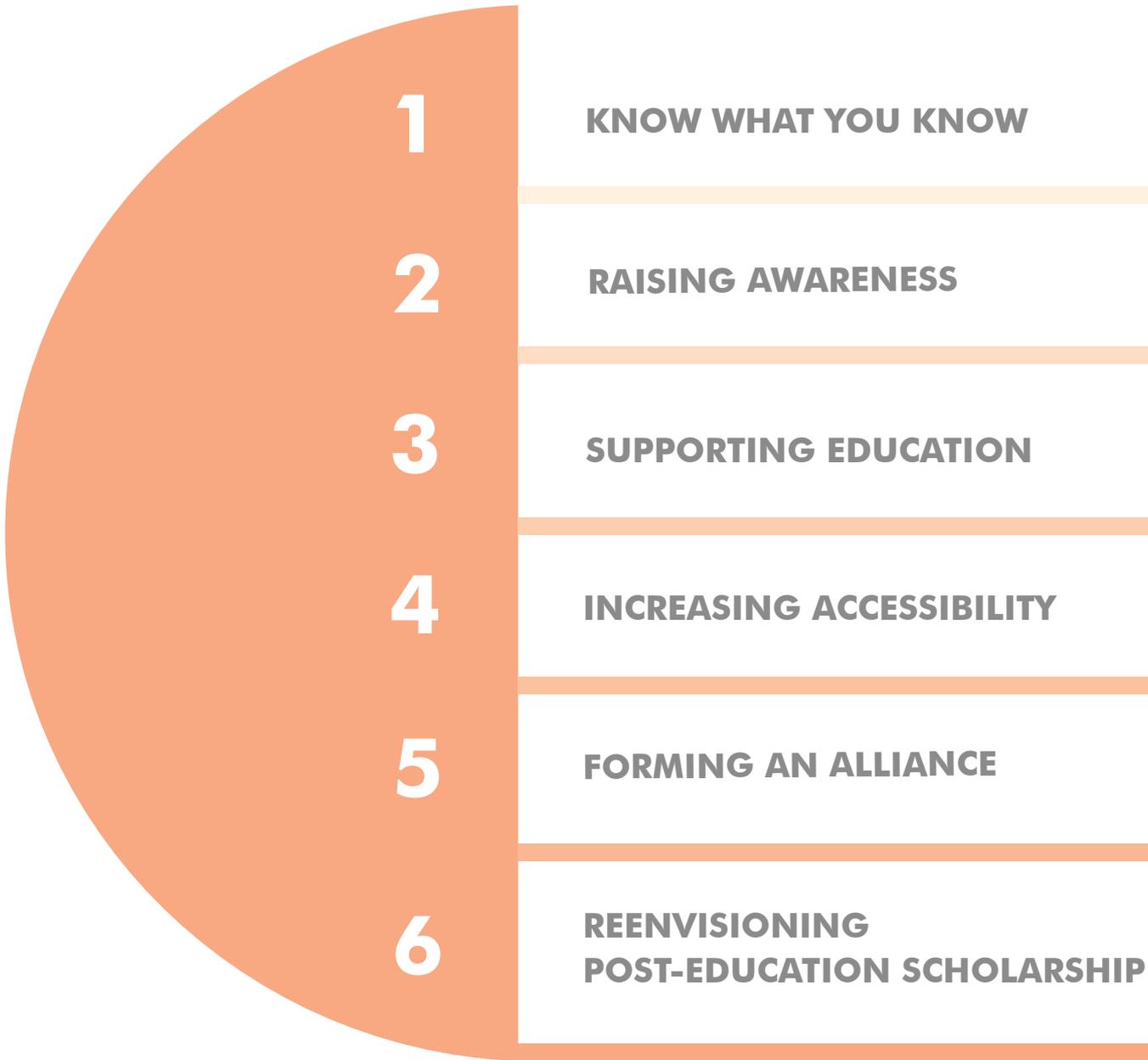
Aren Maier
Professor of Archaeology
at Bar-Ilan University

Each of our ambassadors is incredibly accomplished, and we are ecstatic that they share our passion for saving Ancient Studies as we do! Together with our fundraising team they help us build connections with Ancient Studies institutions and organizations, engage with potential donors who understand the value of Ancient Studies, and strategize ways to create new and broader pathways between the many siloes of Ancient Studies scholarship. Already, this has allowed SASA to pursue new opportunities and work towards our goals through collaboration and access to funding.



**Thor's Fight with the
Giants** Painting by
Mårten Eskil Winge
1872





PROGRAMS & PROJECTS

SASA offers a wealth of programs and projects, all of which fit into various stages of the SASA arc! By offering such a diverse range of opportunities, SASA has continued to meet internal goals and provide accessible Ancient Studies education and outreach opportunities for people of all backgrounds.

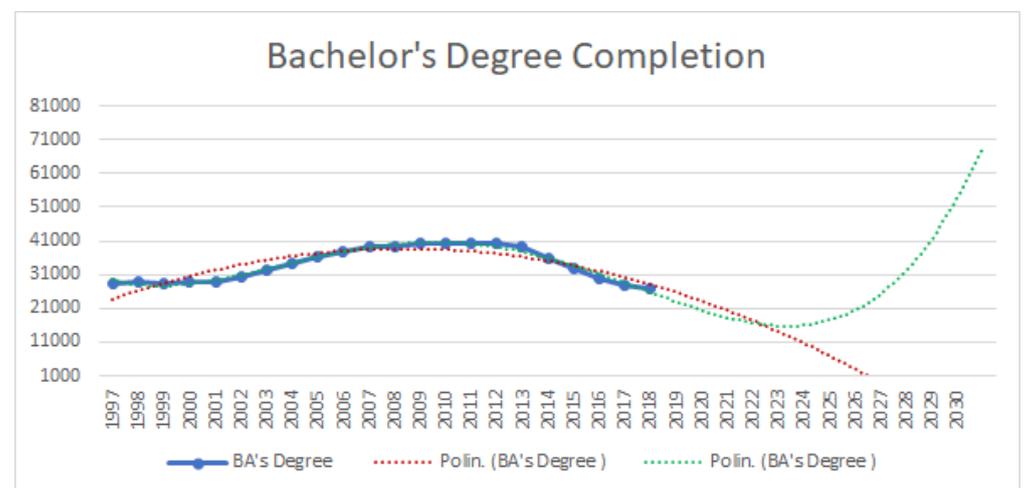


KNOW WHAT YOU KNOW

RESEARCHING THE DOWNWARD TREND: AN EDUCATIONAL SOCIOLOGY PROJECT

The Downward Trend Research Project gathers and analyzes data to identify statistical indicators for Ancient Studies prospects. These indicators include degree completion, language course enrollment, and hiring at higher education institutions, as well as funding for departments, learned societies, and individuals.

This research allows us to map the recent trajectory of Ancient Studies in the United States, predict the future trend, and follow our impact over time. Future goals include creating a publicly accessible database of information on Ancient Studies and related outreach that will be updated annually, and to expand our research to cover how the public understands Ancient Studies and what can be done to help focus college recruitment towards students in the subject area.



CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS:

SASA has been welcomed at a range of conferences and presented our research in the past year, including the Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale, American School of Overseas Research, and American Oriental Society.



American Oriental Society
Founded 1842

IDEAS TO IMPROVE ANCIENT STUDIES VIDEO SERIES

Working with our research team interns, we have developed a range of ideas on how to improve the accessibility, reach, and appeal of Ancient Studies to the general public. This project is presented as videos on our YouTube channel. These videos have been completed to date:

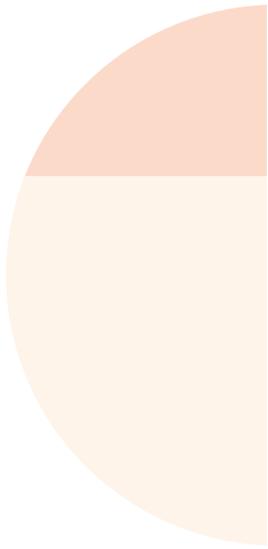
New Possibilities for Ancient Language Instruction

SASA & Social Entrepreneurship

Ancient Studies & International Relations

The Advantages of Multilingualism





RAISING AWARENESS

INSPIRE SOCIAL MEDIA CAMPAIGN

Part of growing SASA's social media presence is the Inspire Campaign, which was produced over Summer 2020 and 2021. Through engaging posts on a variety of fascinating topics from ancient cultures across the world, the ongoing campaign aims to inspire curiosity, engagement, education, and enjoyment in connection with the Ancient World.

POST CATEGORIES

- Ancient Kitchen
- Ancient Fanfiction
- What's that Artifact?
- Where in the World?
- Demons & Deities & Demigods
- Modern World, Ancient Roots
- Past Politics
- Ancient STEM
- Fun and Games
- Epoch Style

200

POSTS CREATED

1,000

POSTS POSTED

10,000

PEOPLE INSPIRED

RAISING AWARENESS

CONTINUED

The Ancient Kitchen

SASA Ancient Kitchen ×
 Save Ancient Studies Alliance - 1 / 7

↺ ↻ ⋮

- 

SASA Ancient Kitchen- Egyptian Tiger Nut Cakes
 Save Ancient Studies Alliance
 1:40
- 

SASA Ancient Kitchen- Roman pancakes
 Save Ancient Studies Alliance
 1:02
- 

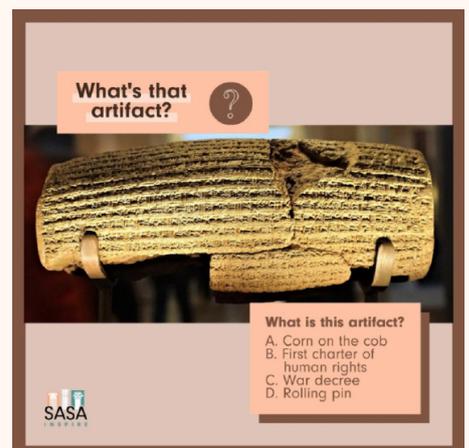
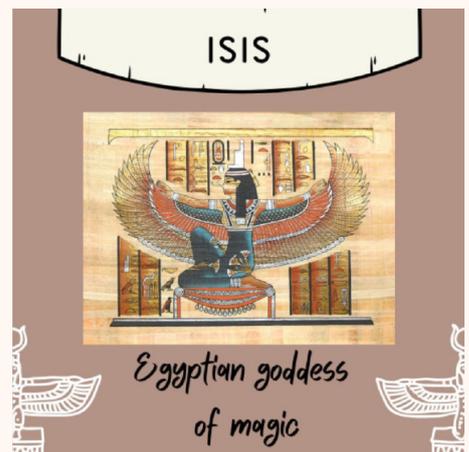
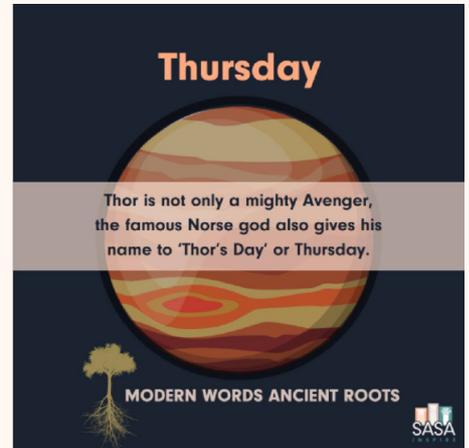
SASA Ancient Kitchen- Anatolian Grainbowl
 Save Ancient Studies Alliance
 0:46
- 

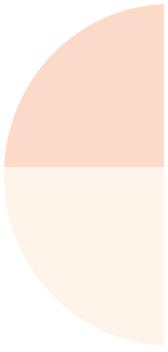
SASA Ancient Kitchen- No-leaven Roman bread
 Save Ancient Studies Alliance
 1:47
- 

SASA Ancient Kitchen- Loukoumades
 Save Ancient Studies Alliance
 1:42
- 

SASA Ancient Kitchen- Roman Honey Glazed Prawns
 Save Ancient Studies Alliance
 1:02
- 

SASA Ancient Kitchen- Mersu (Mesopotamia)
 Save Ancient Studies Alliance
 1:09





SUPPORTING EDUCATION

ARCHAEOGAMING EDUCATIONAL MODULES

Archaeogaming is the nascent field that studies and employs the incorporation of historically-oriented video games in connection with ancient studies to reach a range of audiences. Since young students are often engaged with video gaming, use of archaeogaming is an effective way to engage young people in learning about the past as opposed to conventional media, as it is a more interactive learning experience.

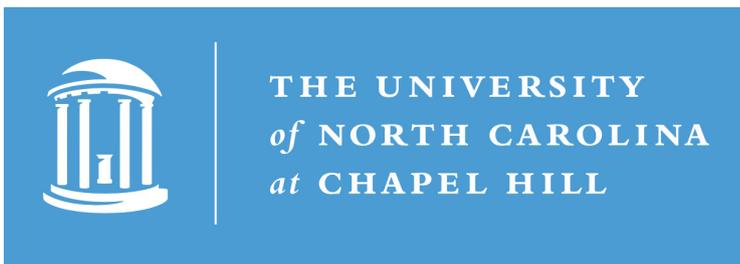
As such, we have developed Archaeogaming Educational Modules, each of which is a collection of teaching materials geared towards the ancient world. Each module includes a video for classroom usage with footage from video games, as well as a complete support package, designed to be delivered by teachers and other educators.

The material is age appropriate, and requires no prior knowledge on behalf of the educator - they all come with their own handouts and context pages that make sure that the educators can really get to grips with the information before they teach it. Our Education Modules are currently aimed at the 11–14 year old age bracket, but there is scope to scale it up all the way through to undergraduate level teaching.

OUR TEACHING MODULES ARE FREELY AVAILABLE TO TEACHERS AND ARE CURRENTLY BEING USED IN THE FOLLOWING US STATES AND COUNTRIES:

Arizona	New Jersey	Washington
California	New York	Canada
Massachusetts	North Carolina	Greece
Maryland	South Carolina	Israel
Michigan	Texas	Spain
Nebraska	Virginia	Switzerland

SUPPORTED BY GRANTS FROM:



NEW JERSEY COUNCIL FOR THE HUMANITIES

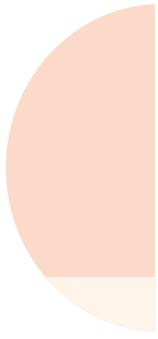
MODULE CONTENTS

- 10-minute Archaeogaming Video
- Interactive Accompanying Slideshow (guide to using this module)
- Teacher’s Packet (contains contextual subject information; activity links; video transcript; further reading)
- Assessment Quiz (multiple choice)
- Assessment Quiz (long-form answer)
- Activity worksheet (creative)
- Activity worksheet (numeracy)
- Crossword (literacy)
- Wordsearch (literacy)

MODULES COMPLETED & IN PRODUCTION

- Ancient Greece & Pottery Production
- Creating and Maintaining the Roman Empire
- Early Urbanism in Egypt and Mesopotamia
- Introduction to Medieval Ireland
- Viking Diaspora
- Medicine and Knowledge in Medieval Europe





INCREASING ACCESSIBILITY

VIRTUAL LIVE PUBLIC EDUCATION

TEXT-IN-TRANSLATION READING GROUPS

SASA launched our free online Text-in-Translation Reading Groups in Summer 2020, creating an accessible means of studying ancient texts in synchronous informal discussion groups.

Led by PhD students and Early Career Scholars, these groups cover a wide range of topics about different ancient cultures from around the globe.

Over the past two summers and Januaries, we have hosted over 400 participants in our Reading Groups, whose feedback is overwhelmingly positive. 97% of participants offered 4-star or 5-star reviews! In continuing to improve on these learning experiences, we have received grants from the Society for Classical Studies and from the Gladys Krieble Delmas Foundation, in the amounts of \$800 and \$10,000, respectively.

This support ensures that we provide the best possible experience for Reading Group participants by encouraging excellent applications for Group Leader positions.

13

READING GROUPS

200

PARTICIPANTS

4.75 out of 5

SATISFACTION RATING

2

LANGUAGES OFFERED

(ENGLISH & SPANISH)

DESTINATION ANCIENT: ARCHAEO TOURS

These partnerships virtually bring people into ancient sites, which they may never have an opportunity to experience otherwise.

As such, these events raise awareness of the diversity and wonder of the ancient world, allowing us to increase exposure to the ancient world from an engaging, yet academic, perspective.

In one of our latest collaborations, SASA has partnered with virtual tourism companies, to provide engaging specialist tours of ancient sites, including the American Institute for Roman Culture and Travelusion.

These tours are run by experts who also work as local guides, and are tailored to the tours' participants as they engage with the audience.

SASA AND DARIUS ARYA

Live On-Site at the Pantheon in Rome

Live On-Site at Trajan's Column in Rome



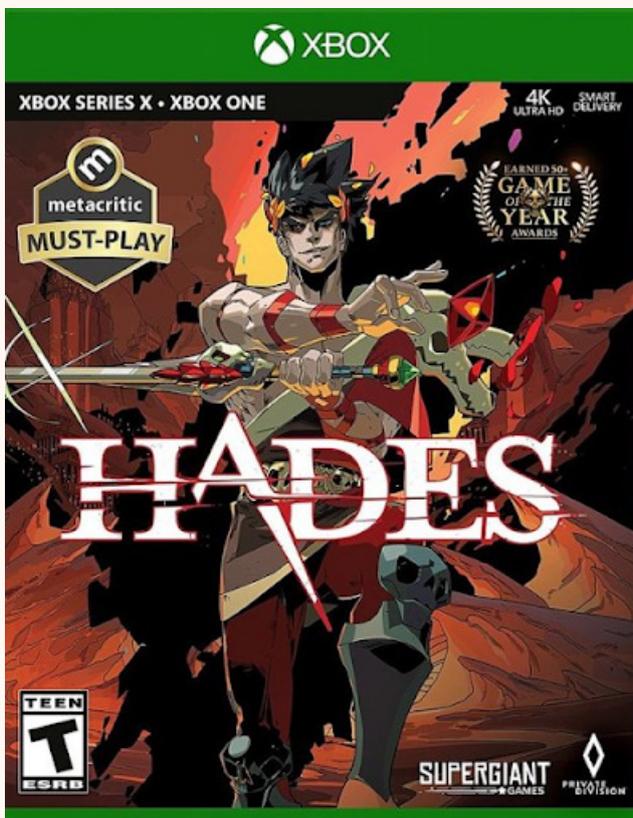
SASA AND LILLIAN GONZALEZ, PHD

Hyde Abbey

Southampton City Walls



INCREASING ACCESSIBILITY



LIVE ARCHAEOGAMING

Our Archaeogaming Live Events include playthroughs with engaging and scholarly commentary by Ancient Studies experts and gamers, as well as special interviews with game creators and archaeogaming scholars. Our program has taken great strides this year as we have expanded our schedule to offer weekly free online events, covering a number of popular games that have just been released.

These events have quickly picked up a growing following on Twitch, the major gaming interactive livestreaming platform. This mode of live interaction with

gamers who are interested in the ancient world allows us to reach whole new audiences, as SASA continues to make strides in developing accessible educational content in contemporary settings.

A recent highlight was hosting Greg Kasavin, Creative Director and Writer at Supergiant Games, discussing their new game Hades, a Hugo-award winning video game, during a live session of the virtual conference Antiquity in Media Studies.

ANCIENT STUDIES RESOURCES

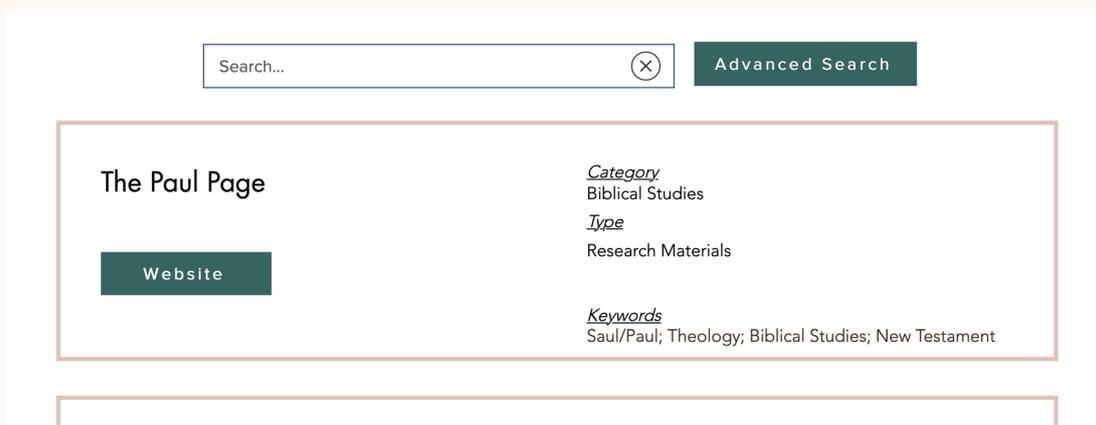
A collection of quality academic resources for students and scholars of all disciplines of Ancient Studies was previously unavailable. SASA is working to fill this gap by creating a new platform that presents important resources in all Ancient Studies fields and helps connect students and scholars with one another.

In the first tier of this project, we have collected over 1,000 websites that in themselves contain tons of useful information.

We published the first version of our Ancient Studies Resources database this past October, with a useful search tool.

We have also developed partnerships with various creative, open-access projects and media related to Ancient Studies and work to promote them through our social media outlets and partner project gallery, Port Ancient, to disseminate the fascinating, engaging products they have created.

1,000 WEBSITES LISTED



We are also working on producing these databases that are utterly crucial for Ancient Studies:

ALL available programs of study in ALL Ancient Studies fields at institutions of higher education in North America and beyond.

Scholarships and fellowships open to Ancient Studies fields for students at all levels, from undergraduate to postdoctoral researchers.

FORMING AN ALLIANCE

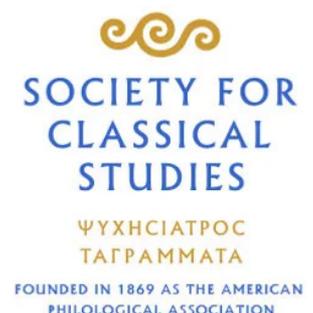
COALITION OF ANCIENT STUDIES ORGANIZATIONS (CASO)

CASO aims to bring together academic professional organizations to work on outreach and accessibility projects toward the mutual benefit of all Ancient Studies fields.

The first official meeting was held on December 18th, 2020, with the member organizations: SASA, the Society for Classical Studies (SCS) and the Society of Biblical Literature (SBL). We are continuing to work together to attract more academic organizations to join CASO. The first joint project of CASO is underway. As a part of the alliance, we have worked on an Ancient Studies Advocacy Project, “Lives in Ancient Studies”.

This project is collecting and publicizing video testimonials from alumni of closed or threatened Ancient Studies departments.

The goal of this project is to freely distribute professionally edited video collections of these testimonials for use by currently threatened departments in combating the pressure on them by showing the vibrant, meaningful, and successful lives that their alumni have created for themselves. In addition, they will be used as general advocacy tools for Ancient Studies through our organizations.



PARTNERSHIP DEVELOPMENT: PORT ANCIENT

Port Ancient is a web collection where SASA has shared information on a variety of projects that focus on different aspects of ancient studies. We believe that these projects will help pave the way to save Ancient Studies by bringing together a wide range of groups working on public outreach, accessibility and engagement with various audiences. Providing a broader platform for these projects will amplify their range and increase the strength of all member's messaging across a range of media channels.

A LIST OF OUR CURRENT PARTNER PROJECTS CAN BE FOUND BELOW:



RE-ENVISIONING POST-EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP

VIRTUAL CONFERENCE:
OPENING THE ANCIENT WORLD

SASA partnered with Digital Hammurabi to create Opening the Ancient World, a free public academic virtual conference. On August 15th and 16th, 2021, the conference was live-streamed over a variety of platforms. The goal of the conference was to present and support excellent scholarship by independent scholars, regardless of their primary occupation.

Additionally, special roundtable sessions were hosted, discussing issues of how to develop outreach by Ancient Studies scholars, further inclusiveness, and reimagining scholarship as a lifelong pursuit within a diverse yet inclusive scholarly community.

Working with our partners we delivered a two-day virtual conference, provided entirely free of charge and online with zero barrier to entry. Over the course of the conference, we had 19 independent scholars deliver insightful academic presentations, with over 1,800 participants attending the presentations and other sessions. This success provided proof of concept for future live-streamed open-access conferences.

We are currently transforming the conference into a recurring annual event with the goal of improving the accessibility of Ancient Studies and continuing to push for open-access academic events for all.



1,800+ ATTENDEES

19 INDEPENDENT SCHOLAR PRESENTED

INDEPENDENT SCHOLARS WORKING GROUP

As a part of our commitment to widening accessibility to scholarship for all, SASA has offered a range of events that encourage scholars from independent or otherwise non-organizational backgrounds with forums and opportunities to engage with like-minded scholars that are commonly inaccessible to researchers not in privileged institutions. These events have received positive feedback from participants and have become a firm fixture in SASA's monthly network of accessible material.

LET'S GET PUBLISHED EVENTS

The Let's Get Published events are a collection of monthly informal virtual gatherings aimed at independent scholars, researchers, and students, offering a comfortable forum to present recent research and receive feedback from an audience of like-minded peers and allow for engagement with current research. These sessions have run from the start of Q1 2022 and have been oversubscribed in each iteration, encouraging their continuation throughout Q2 and Q3. The overwhelming popularity of these groups make it clear that there is not only a market for independent scholars but a need to provide spaces for those outside of the traditional model of academia to continue to support Ancient Studies research and the scholars that contribute to it.

RESOURCES FOR INDEPENDENT SCHOLARS

To this end, SASA is working on creating dedicated resources for independent scholars beyond our Let's Get Published events. At present, this project is in its infancy, aiming for a Summer 2022 release, with our Independent Scholars Working Groups already live, creating spaces for researchers outside of traditional academic models to be able to access consistent peer support, networking, guidance, and information to continue to sustain their work.

PROSPECTS GOALS FOR 2022

DOUBLING OUR IMPACT, AGAIN!

In 2021, we were able to hit most of our Impact Goals that we set as double that of our first year, 2020.

For 2022, our third year in operation, we have set the same high bar - to double our impact of the previous year. We aim to achieve:

80,000 New social media engagements

40,000 New website visitors

18,000 New video views

6,000 New social media followers

3,000 New email subscribers

FUNDRAISING

Developing new sources of funding has been a growing focus over the past year. In 2022, we are committed to bringing our fundraising to new levels.

Increasing Donations:

In the realm of donations, we are developing our team of SASA Ambassadors to help us reach and engage donors of substantial means who can help underwrite our operations. We are aiming for a breakthrough in this area in our third year. In addition, we will consider SASA Ambassadors as potential future board members, as we work toward developing a suitable Board of Trustees within the coming years.

Sustainability Through Grant Cycles:

Following upon our very successful year in grant seeking in support of our projects, we are reaching higher toward larger grants. In an effort to develop sustainable support for our projects, we will re-apply to all the foundations from which we were awarded grants for the previous year.

Major Grants:

Further, by seeking partnerships with other organizations with longstanding reputations, including academic professional organizations, museums, and universities, we are working toward producing competitive grant applications to major humanities foundations, such as the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Mellon Foundation, and the Niarchos Foundation. We are currently undergoing an external financial review in preparation for these major grant applications.

OPERATIONS BUDGET FOR 2022

TOTAL: \$16,500

ADVERTISING	\$500
COMMUNICATIONS	\$1000
ACCOUNTING	\$2,500
FUNDRAISING	\$400
WEB & GRAPHIC DESIGN	\$900
LIVE EVENTS	\$1000
INSURANCE	\$3,000
ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF	\$7,200



NEW PROJECTS

INREACH: GATHERING ANCIENT STUDIES SCHOLARS

Growing our base of support within academia, our natural primary constituency, is crucial for the continued development of SASA in all its facets. In 2022, we will be working toward attracting the participation of Ancient Studies scholars and students in SASA in two ways.

One will be through the further development of the Coalition of Ancient Studies Organizations, as we court the induction of more member organizations.

The second will involve a new “boots on the ground” approach. Building off of our recent successes at Ancient Studies conferences, we will be promoting the ideas and methods of SASA at in-person conferences throughout the year. This will be in the form of conference booths, presentations, and panels that bring our Educational Sociology research, our novel educational methods, our social entrepreneurial model, and our unique programs to the attention of scholars across our fields.

INREACH: GATHERING ANCIENT STUDIES PUBLIC EDUCATORS

Ancient Studies extend beyond the walls of academia to the many ways in which people engage with the deep past of all cultures, whether in primary and secondary education, in informal online contexts, in museums, in the arts, and in popular culture.

A major goal for 2022 is to begin to make inroads with professionals in these settings. Within the wider public Ancient Studies, we are prioritizing developing a network of teachers, connecting with museum professionals, and drawing in online Ancient Studies popularizers through our Port Ancient gallery.

NEW PROJECTS

RESEARCH & MARKETING

Effectively explaining the value of Ancient Studies to those not engaged in our fields has been a difficulty Ancient Studies scholars have yet to resolve. As part of SASA's Educational Sociology Research Program, we will be researching this issue and working on finding effective solutions through marketing research.

To begin, we are investigating how institutions and university departments have articulated the value of Ancient Studies in recruiting and advocacy statements. These results will be placed in the context of value statements about the Humanities in general.

Thereafter, we will create a survey distributed to focus groups of persons of varying connectedness to Ancient Studies. These results will lead us in developing marketing packages for use by university departments for their internal recruiting.

PUBLICATIONS

In expanding SASA's impact, we are working to use the time-tested vehicle of scholarly publishing, in order to make long-lasting contributions. In the coming year, we intend to publish the first parts of our findings on the health of Ancient Studies in a well regarded Education Research journal.

To further support the Independent Scholars who presented at our first Virtual Conference in August 2021, we will publish their papers in an open access conference proceedings volume. As part of promoting public scholarship, we will also publish editorials about SASA and our projects in popular Ancient Studies magazines, such as Biblical Archaeology Review.

We view collaborations with publishers, who are instrumental in disseminating the scholarship and ideas of all Ancient Studies scholars, as another important piece of the Ancient Studies puzzle.

FOLLOW US!



@SaveAncientStudies



Save Ancient Studies Alliance



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Save Ancient Studies Alliance

www.saveancientancientstudies.org

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