While the snow flies all around us, the Adirondack Park Institute Board of Directors approved a 2018 Budget which contains funding for some exciting educational programming at the Interpretive Centers in Newcomb and Paul Smiths this summer and fall seasons.

**At SUNY ESF’s Adirondack Interpretive Center**, the API will once again fund the **Summer Intern Program**. This program provides an upper-level college student with valuable professional experience in informal science education and facility management. The 2017 summer intern was Andrew Coulter, a Paul Smith’s College graduate.

The API will support the **Artist-in-Residence Program** funding a summer artist who teaches on the trails and in the classroom studio through lectures and workshops. Funding for this program was received in-part from the Essex County Arts Council. Finally, the API will provide funding support for the **Huntington Lecture Series** presenting seven programs through the summer on a variety of Adirondack focused topics, and the **Philosophers Camp**, a weekend-long exploration of the philosophical relationship with nature and the founding forces of the American conservation movement.
At the Paul Smith’s College VIC, the API is providing funding for the Lepidopterist-in-Residence. Butterflies and moths (order lepidoptera) are significant members of the Adirondack ecosystem, playing a critical role as pollinators throughout the region. The public's fascination with lepidoptera is evidenced by the enormous popularity of the Breck Chapin Butterfly House, which celebrates its 25th Anniversary this year. Establishing the Lepidopterist-in-Residence will enable the VIC to maintain operational continuity of the butterfly house while also continuing to expand interpretive education. Funds will be provided for the Junior Naturalist Program engaging youth ages 5-12 with age-appropriate materials, exercises, and games to stimulate their interest in the natural world. Finally, the API will provide funding support for the Adirondack Rural Skills and Homesteading Festival which draws more than 1,000 people to the VIC property each year, encouraging guests to participate in hands-on workshops that complement the festival program such as the blacksmithing workshop.

Program and scheduling information will be available in the spring by contacting the Interpretive Centers directly or give us a call at the API office, we are always glad to help out!

Join us in 2018 at Upcoming Events We Are Planning!

In June, join us for a welcoming reception at the Adirondack Interpretive Center in Newcomb for the 2018 Artist-in-Residence. In addition to enjoying light snacks, the Artist will present a short program on the upcoming summer program.

Also in June, the API will be hosting a reception at the Paul Smith College VIC for the 2018 Lepidopterist-in-Residence. Join us for light refreshments and learn about the fascinating world of butterflies through programs to be presented at the Breck Chapin Butterfly House.

In September, join us for the 2018 Leadership Awards Gala to be held this year in Newcomb. This is the API’s major fundraising event to support educational programs for children and families in the Adirondacks. In addition to presenting the 2018 Frank M. Hutchins Adirondack Environmental Education Leadership Award at the dinner, some lucky individual will have the chance to win a beautiful Hornbeck Boat generously donated by Pete Hornbeck to support the API’s work.