Joyce Bedi is the senior historian at the Smithsonian’s Lemelson Center for the Study of Invention and Innovation at the National Museum of American History. She is responsible for the center’s scholarly publication program and website and assists with the development of scholarly programs and exhibitions. She is the coeditor, with Arthur Molella, of the Lemelson Center Studies in Invention and Innovation book series with MIT Press and of the first volume in that series, *Inventing for the Environment* (2003). Bedi has also authored publications and exhibitions on the work of Harold Edgerton in stroboscopic photography. Before joining the Lemelson Center in 1995, Bedi’s research and curatorial career included positions at the MIT Museum, the Edison National Historic Site, the IEEE History Center, and the Powerhouse Museum in Sydney, Australia.

Laurel Fritzsch is a project curator on the *Places of Invention* project with the Lemelson Center for the Study of Invention and Innovation at the National Museum of American History (NMAH). She also cohosts and coproduces the Lemelson Center’s podcast series and worked on the NMAH’s exhibit *Making a Modern Museum: Celebrating the Fiftieth Anniversary of the National Museum of American History*. Fritzsch spent the previous five years as a museum curator at the Kansas Historical Society, where she helped develop three exhibitions, worked with the museum’s collections, facilitated object donations, and worked with social media. She has also previously worked in the education division of the National Museum of Wales in the United Kingdom and as an archival assistant, assistant registrar, and archaeology assistant at the Wisconsin State Historical Society. Fritzsch has a B.A. in history from Lawrence University in Appleton, Wisconsin, and a M.A. in museum studies from the University of Leicester in Leicester, England.

John L. Gray is the Elizabeth MacMillan Director of the National Museum of American History. With a background as a banker and a belief in transforming museums through support of scholarship and education, Director Gray stakes out a clear vision of what’s ahead for the National Museum of American History, the place where America comes to visit its rich and multilayered heritage. Prior to becoming the museum’s ninth director, he was founding president of the Autry National Center of the American West, a successful merging of three cultural organizations: the Autry; Colorado’s Women of the West Museum in Denver; and Los Angeles’ oldest museum, the Southwest Museum of the American Indian. He also created the Institute for the Study of the American West, which supports the scholarly, interpretive, and educational activities of the Autry National Center. Commercial banking was the foundation of Gray’s previous career. He served as executive vice president of First Interstate Bank of California in Los Angeles from 1987 until 1996 and worked at the Small Business Administration in Washington, D.C., for two years, 1997 to 1999. Gray has a bachelor’s degree from C. W. Post College at Long Island University and a master’s degree in business administration from the University of Colorado. He serves on the boards of the Global Center for Cultural Entrepreneurship in
Santa Fe and St. John’s College in Annapolis and Santa Fe and received an honorary degree from Occidental College in Los Angeles.

**Eric S. Hintz** is a historian with the Lemelson Center for the Study of Invention and Innovation. He serves as a curator on the *Places of Invention* exhibition project and is responsible for producing the center’s annual symposium series, “New Perspectives on Invention and Innovation.” In addition, Hintz coordinates the Lemelson Center’s fellowship and grant programs, assists in the collection of historically significant artifacts and documents, and pursues opportunities to speak and write about his scholarly interests. Hintz’s research interests include the history of science and technology and U.S. business and economic history; he specializes in the history of invention and research and development (R&D). He has discussed his work on MSNBC and National Public Radio; his publications have appeared in the *Wall Street Journal*, *Technology and Culture*, the *Business History Review*, *Enterprise and Society*, and *Research-Technology Management*. Hintz is currently working on a book that considers the changing fortunes of American independent inventors from 1900 to 1950, an era of expanding corporate R&D. Hintz earned his B.S. in aerospace engineering from the University of Notre Dame (1996), then worked for nearly six years in San Francisco and Silicon Valley as a technology consultant for Accenture, a leading services firm. After leaving the corporate world, he taught both science and history at Sacred Heart Cathedral Preparatory High School in San Francisco before pursuing graduate studies at the University of Pennsylvania, where he completed his M.A. (2005) and Ph.D. (2010) in the history and sociology of science.

**Anna Karvellas** (coeditor) is the program specialist for the *Places of Invention* Affiliates Project, a new collaborative model for the Smithsonian, its Affiliate institutions, community partners, and the general public. She provides training and resources to help groups document their places of invention and discover how invention can be a transformative lens for understanding local history. Karvellas works with teams to develop public programming, oral history archives, and video content for the interactive map at the heart of the *Places of Invention* exhibition. Karvellas has nearly 25 years of experience editing complex, multiauthor print and online publications. Her research and curatorial work has ranged from William Steinway and nineteenth-century New York to regional American culture and identity as expressed through American music and decorative arts. Raised in Reston, Virginia, and a former longtime resident of New York City, she has a keen interest in urban planning and the relationship between space, community, and creativity. Karvellas joined the National Museum of American History in 2007 as managing editor of the William Steinway Diary Project in the Division of Culture and the Arts. She developed the William Steinway Diary website, the first publicly available online edition of the 2,500-page diary written by a key figure in the cultural, political, financial, and physical development of New York City. She also curated the related exhibition, *A Gateway to the 19th Century: The William Steinway Diary, 1861–1896*, in the Museum’s Albert H. Small Documents Gallery. Prior to joining the Smithsonian, she worked as an editor, writer, and researcher for organizations such as W. W. Norton & Company, Time Inc., and Sotheby’s. Karvellas is a graduate of the University of Michigan where she was the recipient of a 1992 Avery Hopwood and Jule Hopwood Prize: Special Award in Fiction.

**Lorraine McConaghy** is the project consultant for the *Places of Invention* Affiliates Project, which she directly inspired through her award-winning Nearby History work at the Museum of History & Industry (MOHAI) in Seattle, Washington. As MOHAI’s Public Historian, she developed its core exhibition, *True Northwest: The Seattle Journey*, which was framed by four thematic through lines, one of which pursued metro Seattle’s distinctive history of invention and creativity. With Dr. Margaret O’Mara, she also developed MOHAI’s Bezos Center for Innovation, winner of a 2014 MUSE Award from the American Alliance of Museums. In addition to these duties, Dr. McConaghy curated Washington State Historical Society’s *Civil War Pathways* exhibition and served as public historian for its Civil War Read-In. She is also a consultant on the Ford’s Theatre Remembering Lincoln project. McConaghy completed her Ph.D. in U.S. history in 1993 at the University of Washington and has published articles and chapters as a public historian concerning readers’ theater, oral history, and the Nearby History program. Her principal area of historical research is the antebellum and Civil War period in Washington Territory, particularly the U.S. Navy’s Pacific Squadron. Her most recent book is *Free Boy: A Story*

**Arthur P. Molella** (coeditor) is the Jerome and Dorothy Lemelson Director of the Smithsonian Institution’s Lemelson Center for the Study of Invention and Innovation at the National Museum of American History. Under his direction, the center has developed a wide range of publications, exhibitions, and programs. He received his Ph.D. in the history of science from Cornell University. At the National Museum of American History, he has also served variously as curator of the Electricity Collections and chairman of the Department of the History of Science and Technology and of the Department of History. He was head curator of the Smithsonian’s Science in American Life exhibition, cocurator of the international exhibition Nobel Voices, and most recently curator of Making a Modern Museum: Celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the National Museum of American History. He has published and lectured internationally on the relationship between science, technology, and culture and on museum exhibitions and strategies. His publications include volumes 1–4 of The Papers of Joseph Henry (coeditor), Inventing for the Environment (coeditor with Joyce Bedi, MIT Press, 2003) and Invented Edens: Techno-cities of the 20th Century (with Robert Kargon, MIT Press, 2008). Molella currently serves on the boards of the National Academy of Inventors and the MIT Museum. He was awarded a doctorate of science, honoris causa, from Westminster University in the United Kingdom and also serves as a senior lecturer in the Department of History of Science and Technology of Johns Hopkins University.

**Robert E. Simon Jr.** is founder of Reston, Virginia, one of the country’s most famous planned communities and “new towns” of the 1960s. Reston—derived from Simon’s initials, RES—was planned as an open community where people of all races, ages, and incomes could live, work, and play over the course of a lifetime. Key to this vision was the development of community and opportunities for people to gather in shared public spaces set within inspiring natural and architectural contexts. Simon was born in New York City and grew up on the Upper West Side. After graduating from Harvard University, he became head of his family real estate management and development business. It was the sale of Carnegie Hall, one of Simon’s family properties, that allowed him to purchase 6,750 acres of rolling hills in Fairfax County, Virginia. He began development of Reston in 1961 with a diverse team of experts, including planners William Conklin and James Rossant. The first industry and residents moved to Reston in 1964, and in 2014 Reston celebrated its 50th anniversary—and Simon’s 100th birthday. Today, Reston is a vital part of the Dulles Technology Corridor and home to over 60,000 residents and nearly as many workers. In 2002, the American Institute of Certified Planners presented Simon with its Planning Pioneer Award and named Reston a National Planning Landmark.

**Monica M. Smith** is the exhibition program manager for the Smithsonian’s Lemelson Center for the Study of Invention and Innovation at the National Museum of American History. She serves as project director, principal investigator, and cocurator for the center’s National Science Foundation–funded Places of Invention exhibition project. Previously, Smith was the project historian and then the second project director and principal investigator for the center’s National Science Foundation–funded Invention at Play traveling exhibition, which won an AAM Excellence in Exhibition award and also a MUSE Gold Medal for its companion website. Other Smithsonian exhibition projects on which Smith has worked include Making a Modern Museum: Celebrating the Fiftieth Anniversary of the National Museum of American History, Time and Navigation: The Untold Story of Getting from Here to There, and From Frying Pan to Flying V: The Rise of the Electric Guitar. Smith’s publications include “Invention at Play: An Award-Winning Interactive Traveling Exhibition” in Museums at Play: Games, Interaction and Learning (2011) and “The Electric Guitar: How We Got from Andres Segovia to Kurt Cobain” in Regional Cultures in American Rock ‘n’ Roll: An Anthology (2011), which was originally published in American Heritage of Invention and Technology (Summer 2004). She is also a featured speaker in the Smithsonian Channel’s award-winning film Electrified: The Guitar Revolution. In addition to her tenure at the Lemelson Center since 1995, Smith served as editor in chief of the Journal of Museum Education from 2005 to 2008 and is on the board of directors of the Rotary Club of Washington, D.C. (2014–16).