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Massachusetts Governor Charles Baker Honored by American Ancestors and New England Historic Genealogical Society

April 27, 2022—Boston, Massachusetts—**Charles D. Baker**, 72nd Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts was honored on Thursday, April 21, 2022, by American Ancestors and New England Historic Genealogical Society (NEHGS), the oldest and largest genealogical society in America. Governor Baker was presented with the NEHGS Lifetime Achievement Award for Distinguished Public Service, and also received an expertly researched, hand-bound volume of his family history.

Hosts NEHGS President and CEO D. Brenton Simons and Executive Vice President and COO Ryan J. Woods also honored four notable contributors to the fields of history and genealogy with the NEHGS Preservation and History Award. This year's honorees are **Linda Coombs, Thomas Bailey Hagen, Peter Lynch, and Paula Peters**.

“We are delighted to honor Governor Baker with this award for his lifetime achievements and his dedication to the people of Massachusetts,” said Brenton Simons. “He has accomplished much during his term, and we are proud to present to him the history of his ancestors, which is a uniquely American story of perseverance, hard work, and civic duty.”

Charles D. Baker has served as the 72nd Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts since January 8, 2015. Throughout his term in office, Governor Baker has assembled a diverse team and put forth a “get stuff done” approach to build a state government that is as thrifty, hard-working, and creative as the people of Massachusetts. Nonpartisan polls consistently list him as one of the most popular governors in the country

Over the course of his career, Governor Baker has been a highly successful leader of complex business and government organizations. As a cabinet secretary under Governors William Weld and Paul Cellucci, he helped lead efforts to reform and modernize state government, turn a

billion-dollar deficit into a surplus, create a half million jobs, and enact an ambitious education reform agenda.

Raised in Needham, Governor Baker attended Massachusetts public schools and is a graduate of Harvard College. He went on to earn a master of business administration from the Kellogg Graduate School of Management at Northwestern University, where he met his wife, Lauren. The Bakers reside in Swampscott, have been heavily involved in numerous civic and charitable endeavors, and are the proud parents of their three children, Charlie, AJ, and Caroline.

2022 Preservation and History Award Recipients

Linda Coombs, author, and historian of the Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah)

Thomas Bailey Hagen, Business leader, preservationist, and philanthropist

Peter Lynch, American investor, author, and philanthropist

Paula Peters, journalist, educator, and activist for the Wampanoag tribe

Proceeds of the Family History Benefit Gala help fund our groundbreaking work, including educational programs, youth outreach, original research and scholarship, diversity programming, publications, and online services and content development.

About American Ancestors and New England Historic Genealogical Society

American Ancestors is a national center for family history, heritage, and culture. It is the global brand of New England Historic Genealogical Society (NEHGS), America's oldest and largest genealogical society (founded 1845). American Ancestors serves more than 350,000 members and millions of online users engaged in family history nationally and around the world through its website AmericanAncestors.org with more than 1.4 billion names in its databases. Its national headquarters, located in Boston's Back Bay, is home to a world-class research center and archive, an expert staff, and the Wyner Family Jewish Heritage Center. It maintains a publishing division which produces original genealogical research, scholarship, and educational materials, including the *Register*, the flagship journal of American genealogy since 1847; *American Ancestors*, its award-winning magazine; and *Mayflower Descendant*, a quarterly journal of Pilgrim genealogy and history.

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