

# Letter of Support of Marc Champagne, Ph. D.

## Excerpts

“The project outlined by Avenue of American History is, in my judgment, a ground-breaking one. It proposes to take a basic grammatical unit of our urban language, the street, and merge it with a potent diagrammatic device, the timeline. In so doing, the project urges us to consciously and collectively take charge of our recollection of the past (I say collectively because, though each individual must think anew in order to understand history, the baton of evidence must be passed along in a relay marathon that spans multiple lifetimes).

“I am a Canadian, so I [can only] support this endeavor in principle, as an interested onlooker. Yet, I surmise that, in time, as its success becomes manifest, sites similar to the Avenue of American History will be replicated elsewhere.

“It would of course lessen the decision-making burden [of the Avenue of America History Development Group] if predecessors had long ago begun this project, such that we could stroll down an avenue that had already accumulated historical mileage. True, the best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. But the second best time is now.”

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