

AMERICAN GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

American Geographical Society Announces Endorsement of State of the Map US 2015

Description: The American Geographical Society announces the endorsement of this year's State of the Map US conference, to be held June 6-8, 2015 at the United Nations Headquarters in New York City. State of the Map is a leading provider, innovator and facilitator of open geo-data and related platforms.

[New York City, NY] – [May 20, 2015] — The American Geographical Society (AGS) announced today the endorsement of the State of the Map US Conference, to be held June 6-8, 2015 at the United Nations in New York City. Since its founding in 2010, OpenStreetMap US (OSM US) has been a leading advocate for the active collaboration between the global OpenStreetMap community, government agencies, multinational organizations, civil society, GIS/ICT professionals, academia and business in order to promote the contribution to and use of open geo-data projects. Each year OpenStreetMap US hosts the State of the Map Conference US to celebrate the work done by the OSM US community, share ideas, best practices and technical tools, and plan for the future. With this endorsement, AGS recognizes the importance of open geo-initiatives and the development of powerful technologies within the public domain.

“The State of the Map US Conference brings fresh perspectives, raises awareness of democratized tools and enables collaboration between unforeseen partners,” stated AGS Councilor Jared Novick, and Founder of GeoMakers. “Not only will the innovation within geography grow when geo-tech is flexed into the public domain, so do its markets and capital,” added Councilor Novick. “State of the Map US and OpenStreetMap represents the type of organization that enables cooperation across sectors and within communities to address the most pressing issues of our time, tackling them using powerful and accessible geodata” said Novick.

The State of the Map US Conference event includes two days of informational sessions and panels, as well as a third day (June 8th) of proactive work-shopping to help share skills in mapping our communities and the world. “Since its first edition in 2010, State of the Map US has grown from a small regional event into the premier gathering place for everyone interested in using or contributing to OpenStreetMap (OSM). With over two million registered users and a vibrant contributor community, OpenStreetMap is the leading global collaborative mapping project in wide use in government, education, disaster relief as well as for commercial applications,” stated board secretary of OpenStreetMap U.S, Martijn van Exel. For more information on the State of the Map US Conference, visit: <http://stateofthemap.us/>.

Established in 1851, the American Geographical Society (AGS) is the oldest professional geographical organization in the United States. It is recognized worldwide as a pioneer in geographical research and education in geography for over 163 years. The mission of AGS is to advance geographic knowledge and the recognition of its importance in the contemporary world. AGS promotes the use of geography in business, government, science, and education with a goal to enhance the nation's geographic literacy so as to engender sound public policy, national security, and human well-being worldwide. AGS is the only organization focused on bringing together academics, business people, those who influence public policy (including leaders in local, state and federal government, not-for-profit organizations and the media), and the general public for the express purpose of furthering the understanding of the role of geography in our lives. AGS provides leadership to frame the national discussion of the growing importance of geography and geospatial tools. The Society maintains its headquarters in Brooklyn Heights, New York.

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