



# Monticello Explorer wins a Webby Award

**M**onticello Explorer has captured the highest award in its class.

The multimedia feature on the Web site [monticello.org](http://monticello.org) that offers an array of innovative ways to experience Thomas Jefferson's house and plantation was the winner of the 2006 Webby Award in the Cultural Institutions category.

The Webby Awards, first presented in 1997 by the International Academy of Digital Arts and Sciences, are widely regarded as the leading honors for Web sites and the people who develop, design, and produce them. IADAS judges selected winners in 69 categories from among 5,500 entries representing 40 countries.

Monticello Explorer faced formidable competition in the Cultural Institutions category. The

other finalists were Web sites by the Library of Congress, Britain's National Theatre, Britain's Tate Museum, and the Museum of New Zealand.

The awards were presented June 12 at a ceremony in New York. Monticello's webmaster, Chad Wollerton, accepted the award on behalf of the Thomas Jefferson Foundation and Second Story Interactive Studios of Portland, Ore., which designed the feature. All acceptance speeches were limited to five words; Wollerton's was, "All Websites aren't created equal."

A complete list of the 2006 winners is available at [www.webbyawards.com](http://www.webbyawards.com).

Monticello Explorer offers a variety of devices, from 3-D models that



**Monticello Explorer won first place in the Cultural Institutions category.**

## *This Issue's Other Stories*

-  CARETAKER
-  DAACS JAMAICA
-  EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
-  FICKLIN
-  INTERNATIONAL FELLOWS
-  JACK JOUETT
-  JEFFERSON STATUE
-  MONTALTO RAZED
-  NEVIS RESEARCH
-  NEWS & NOTES
-  PRESIDENT'S LETTER
-  TICKET RESERVATIONS
-  VISITOR CENTER

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE.

© Thomas Jefferson Foundation, Inc., 2006

Monticello



## Webby Award

CONTINUED, PAGE **TWO**

allow Internet users to tour Jefferson's house room by room to an interactive map that shows the buildings, roads, gardens, and fields of the Monticello mountaintop over the decades. Computer animations, panoramic views, still images, text, and video contribute to a distinctive experience for a wide range of Web users, from serious researchers to casual surfers.

Since its debut in April 2005, Monticello Explorer has attracted an average of approximately 11,000 unique visitors per month.

In addition to producing Monticello Explorer's overall design, Second Story executed the animation, programming, and 3-D modeling. Since 1994, Second Story has developed more than 80 award-winning interactive projects, with clients and partners such as the Smithsonian Institution, Museum of Modern Art, National Geographic Society, and PBS.

The project development team at Monticello was headed by Wollerton and Chief Technology Officer Kate Bakich.

Monticello Explorer was made possible through the support of the John A. Griffin Foundation.

Monticello Explorer is accessible through Monticello's home page or by going to <http://explorer.monticello.org/index.html>.

**COMMENTS? [newsletter@monticello.org](mailto:newsletter@monticello.org)**