



# Center is Renamed in Recognition of Gift

A \$15 million gift from Mr. and Mrs. Robert H. Smith of Arlington, Va., will endow in perpetuity the International Center for Jefferson

Studies, which oversees Monticello's diverse scholarly activities and educational outreach programs.

In recognition of the gift – the largest in the 81-year history of the Thomas Jefferson Foundation – the center has been renamed the Robert H. Smith International Center for Jefferson Studies.

“This is truly a transformational gift that will enable Monticello to expand and enhance its current scholarly and



**The Robert H. Smith International Center for Jefferson Studies conducts an active program of lectures, seminars, and panel discussions.**

educational programs while assuring their long-term sustainability, outreach, and quality,” said Daniel P. Jordan, president of the Foundation. “We are truly indebted to Bob and Clarice Smith for their magnificent commitment, for their patriotic values, and for their enlightened philanthropy.”

“It is important to know not only how to make a living, but also how to make a life,” Mr. Smith said. “We make a living by what we get; we make a life by what we give.”

The International Center for Jefferson Studies was established in 1994 in cooperation with the University of Virginia to foster Jefferson scholarship and disseminate its findings. The center is based at Kenwood, a 78-acre estate located approximately one-half mile east of the entrance to Monticello on land once owned by Jefferson. Its facilities

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# MONTICELLO



## Robert H. Smith Center

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include the Jefferson Library, a 15,500-square-foot research facility opened in 2002; residences for visiting scholars; and offices.

The activities of the center are multidisciplinary. It is a residential site for scholars and teachers, as well as a venue for lectures, seminars, and conferences. The center has established a central role in the ongoing study of Jefferson worldwide by supporting a wide range of inquiry; by building a network of scholars, teachers, and resources; by helping to define new areas of investigation; and by promoting the application of new technologies. Monticello's archaeology, education, and research departments are directed by the center, as are library operations and the foundation's publishing activities, which include *The Papers of Thomas Jefferson: Retirement Series*.

To date, the center has organized 18 conferences, published 23 books, and hosted 134 scholars in residence.

Smith is chairman of Charles E. Smith Commercial Realty, a division of Vornado Realty Trust, and chairman of Charles E. Smith Residential, a division of Archstone-Smith, both of which are among the largest commercial and residential real estate investment trusts in the United States. His wife, Clarice, is an artist whose work has been displayed nationally and internationally.

The Smiths have been donors to Monticello since the early 1990s. They previously endowed the position of Robert H. Smith Director of Restoration at Monticello and made a naming gift for the central space in the Jefferson Library, the Robert H. and Clarice Smith Reading Room.

The Smiths' \$15 million gift also helped Monticello surpass the \$100 million total for *Jefferson Lives: A Campaign for Monticello in the Twenty-First Century* 10 months ahead of schedule.

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