



LancasterHistory

Contact: Emily Miller
Director of Marketing & Communications
717-392-4633 ext. 133
emily.miller@lancasterhistory.org

December 2023 Upcoming Events

from LancasterHistory

Please scroll to the bottom for updates on hours and current exhibitions.

CONTINUING IN DECEMBER... Yuletide at Wheatland

November 20 - December 30, 2023
Mondays - Saturdays, 10am - 3pm | LancasterHistory

LancasterHistory invites the public to experience the rich history of the festive season with its annual event, *Yuletide at Wheatland*. From November 20 to December 30, 2023, attendees can observe the holiday traditions of the late 1800s through the eyes of President James Buchanan's niece and nephew, Harriet Lane and James Buchanan "Buck" Henry.

These guided, history-infused holiday tours provide an intimate look at Christmas in the years after Buchanan's death in 1868. Attendees will explore how the holiday spirit blossomed during the Second Industrial Revolution, from the advent of electric tree lights to the burgeoning culture of gift-giving and entertainment.

Tickets are now available for purchase [online](#) or by calling (717) 392-4633. For additional details and FAQs, visitors are urged to refer to [LancasterHistory's official website](#).

Event takes place at LancasterHistory, 230 N. President Avenue, Lancaster, PA

Campus of History Cheer

Saturday, December 2

5-7pm | LancasterHistory

****NOTE FOR MEDIA: A dedicated press release about "Campus of History Cheer" will be released soon. Please check our [Press Room](#) for this release.****

On Saturday, December 2, from 5 - 7pm, LancasterHistory will come alive with the magic of the holiday season at Campus of History Cheer. This family-friendly event offers a wide range of activities, including:

- **Tours at Twilight:** Explore the festively decorated first floor of James Buchanan's historic home after dark on a self-guided tour.
- **Illuminated Stroll:** Take a leisurely walk around the beautifully lit grounds, guided by hundreds of luminaries* and colorful up-lighting.
- **Holiday Traditions Exhibit:** Discover the rich tapestry of Lancaster County's holiday traditions, from religious to secular, at a special pop-up exhibit.
- **Live Music:** Enjoy live performances by the Lancaster Marimba Ensemble and Ukulele Uprising, featuring both traditional and non-traditional holiday songs.
- **Sweet Treats:** Savor hot chocolate and cookies at our refreshment station in Ware Commons.
- **Holiday Shopping:** Start your holiday shopping at LancasterHistory's Museum Store and a pop-up Maker's Market in the Carriage House, featuring the Pennsylvania Guild of Craftsmen.

Campus of History Cheer will take place on Saturday, December 2 from 5-7pm at LancasterHistory. The rain date is Sunday, December 3 from 5-7pm. Tickets are:

LancasterHistory Members	\$8.00/person
Adults (14+)	\$17.00/person
Youth (6 – 13)	\$8.00/person
Child (5 & Under)	FREE**
Family Pass***	\$40.00

Tickets may be purchased in advance [online](#) or by calling (717) 392-4633.

**Luminary lighting weather permitting.*

***Children are free with the admission of a paying Adult.*

**** A Family Pass admits two (2) Adults and two (2) Youths.*

Event takes place at LancasterHistory, 230 N. President Avenue, Lancaster, PA

Urban Metabolism: Greek Immigrants & The Progressive Era in Southeastern PA

Thursday, December 7

5pm Reception, 5:30pm Lecture | LancasterHistory

*****NOTE FOR MEDIA: A dedicated press release about "Urban Metabolism" will be released in the near future. Please visit our [Press Room](#) for this release.*****

On Thursday, December 7, join LancasterHistory as we welcome Franklin & Marshall College's Dr. Konstantinos Kourelis who will share his research on Lancaster's Greek community in the early twentieth century.

Greek immigration to the United States was one of the most significant demographic movements for modern Greece. The migration also played an important role in shaping immigrant communities in southeastern Pennsylvania. In Harrisburg, the city's urban reformers promised better housing and living conditions for all of the city's residents, but the demolition of the Old Eighth Ward and the construction of more expensive housing between 1910 and 1930 made it harder for new Greek immigrants to make a living and a home in the city. However, Greeks coming to Lancaster during the early 20th century found a relatively stable city that experienced neither the rapid growth nor the major upheavals of urbanization. Kourelis will discuss his research and the demographic and geospatial data for Greek immigrant communities in Harrisburg and Lancaster to highlight the different challenges and opportunities of Greek community during the era of City Beautiful.

Dr. Konstantinos "Kostis" Kourelis is an architectural historian, archaeologist, and Associate Professor of Art History at Franklin & Marshall College in Lancaster, PA. His fieldwork focuses on settlements, landscapes, and vernacular architecture of migration from the medieval period to the present. He also explores the history of humanitarianism and the relationship between radical art practices and archaeology during the twentieth century. Kourelis' current fieldwork centers on refugee camps in Greece from 1821 to the present, Japanese incarceration camps in the American West, and Philadelphia's Greektown.

EVENT DETAILS & HOW TO REGISTER

This event is expected to take place in person at LancasterHistory on **Thursday, December 7, 2023**. Doors open and the reception begins at 5pm. The lecture will begin at 5:30pm. The lecture will also be streamed to Zoom at 5:30pm for those who wish to join us virtually.

This program is free and open to the public. In-person attendance requires advance registration in order to guarantee a seat. Due to capacity restrictions, tickets may not be available at the door. Virtual attendance requires advance registration in order to receive the Zoom link. Register online by clicking the appropriate link below or by calling (717) 392-4633. Registration will close online on Thursday, December 7 at 5:30pm.

[REGISTER TO ATTEND IN PERSON](#)

[REGISTER TO ATTEND ONLINE](#)

Event takes place at LancasterHistory, 230 N. President Avenue, Lancaster, PA and online via Zoom

"An Uncommon Woman" Reception & Author Talk

Thursday, December 14

5-7pm | LancasterHistory

****NOTE FOR MEDIA: A dedicated press release about "An Uncommon Woman" was disseminated on November 9. Please visit our [Press Room](#) for this release. Please note that limited tickets remain for this program.****

Join us on Thursday, December 14 from 5 – 7pm for a reception and author talk to celebrate the release of *An Uncommon Woman: The Life of Lydia Hamilton Smith* by Mark Kelley. *An Uncommon Woman* is a biography of Lydia Hamilton Smith (1813-1884), a prominent mixed-race businesswoman in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, and the longtime housekeeper, life companion, and collaborator of congressman and staunch abolitionist Thaddeus Stevens. In his biography of this remarkable woman, Mark Kelley reveals how Smith served the cause of abolition, managed Stevens' household, acquired property, and crossed racialized social boundaries.

LancasterHistory is honored to co-publish this exciting new book with Penn State University Press.

Mark Kelley holds a Ph.D. in journalism from Syracuse University. He worked for twenty-five years as a broadcast journalist and has taught journalism and mass communications at Goshen College, Syracuse University, the University of Maine, and the New England School of Communications. *An Uncommon Woman* is his fourth book. Kelley currently serves on the Scholarly Advisory Committee for the Thaddeus Stevens & Lydia Hamilton Smith Center for History and Democracy, a museum under development by LancasterHistory. He resides in

Lancaster, Pennsylvania, with his wife, Marty.

REGISTRATION

This event will take place on Thursday, December 14, 2023, from 5-7pm at LancasterHistory. A reception begins at 5pm, followed by an author talk and book signing by Mark Kelley. Copies of *An Uncommon Woman* will be available for purchase in LancasterHistory's Museum Store. The event is free but advanced registration is required. Attendees may register for the event [online](#) or call 717.392.4633 to register over the phone. Limited tickets remain for this program.

Event takes place at LancasterHistory, 230 N. President Avenue, Lancaster, PA

Candy Canes & Cocoa on the Campus of History

Saturday, December 16

10 - 11am | LancasterHistory

On Saturday, December 16, bring your family to LancasterHistory's Campus of History for a delightful candy cane hunt and more at "Candy Canes & Cocoa." The event features a story read aloud, a holiday craft to take home, a peek at historic children's items from the LancasterHistory Collections, and a hot cup of cocoa.

Tickets for "Candy Canes & Cocoa on the Campus of History" are \$5 for ages 6 and older and free for children 5 and under. Children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian aged 18 or older. Tickets are available for purchase [online](#) or by calling (717) 392-4633.

Please dress appropriately for the weather as the outdoor candy cane hunt is weather-dependent. All other activities will take place indoors. In case of inclement weather, the rain date for "Candy Canes & Cocoa on the Campus of History" is Sunday, December 17 at 10am.

Event takes place at LancasterHistory, 230 N. President Avenue, Lancaster, PA

EXHIBITIONS ON DISPLAY

Main Exhibition - ***Thieves & Vagabonds: A History of Law and Justice in Lancaster County***

LancasterHistory's newest major exhibition, *Thieves & Vagabonds*, chronicles key moments in the history of law and justice in Lancaster County from the 18th century to the 20th century. From prisons to prohibition, *Thieves & Vagabonds* explores the making, breaking, and remaking of laws over 300 years of Lancaster County's history. Visit LancasterHistory's newest exhibition for a deep dive into crime and punishment as well as

reform and repair in the Lancaster community.

Special Exhibition - ***Black Lancastrians in the Arts: A Lasting Legacy***

Explore the enduring work of African American artists in Lancaster County. This new photo exhibit highlights the music, films, and performances of artists like Madeline Anderson and The Tranells through historical images in LancasterHistory's archives. Examine how these individuals navigated Lancaster from the Fulton Opera House to J.P. McCaskey High School and the impact they left on local, national, and international institutions.

LANCASTERHISTORY HOURS OF OPERATION

DECEMBER HOURS 2023

LancasterHistory is open Mondays through Saturdays from 9:30am to 5pm to the public. Tours of Wheatland are available from 10am to 3pm. The Research Center is open Tuesdays - Saturdays from 9:30am to 2pm for appointments.

DECEMBER EXCEPTIONS TO HOURS

All operations of LancasterHistory will be closed on December 25 for Christmas. The Research Center only will be closed December 23, 26, and 30 (all other operations on normal schedule those days).



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