

Dear Friend: LancasterHistory has plenty of events coming up this February for all ages! Press releases on many of these events to follow. Contact Emily Miller for more information or to arrange any interviews or coverage.



LancasterHistory

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February 2023 Upcoming Events

from LancasterHistory

Please scroll to the bottom for updated hours and current exhibitions.

Sanctuary Road

Friday, February 3 at 7:30pm & Sunday, February 5 at 3pm

Gardner Theatre at Lancaster Country Day School

Sanctuary Road is an opera based on the writings of William Still, a conductor for the Underground Railroad, who helped almost 800 enslaved people escape to freedom and who meticulously and passionately documented many of their lives in his memoir, *The Underground Railroad Records*. In this modern opera by Paul Moravec and librettist Mark Campbell, stories document the network of secret routes and safe houses used by African American freedomseekers to escape into free states and Canada during the early- to mid-1800s. Some of the song texts are literal, as when Still interviews an escapee he has sheltered, and at other times more poetic. *Sanctuary Road* honors the courage and humanity of individuals escaping to freedom, while celebrating the inspirational, collective power of the movement William Still recorded in his memoir. It was first staged as an opera in March of 2022 by North Carolina Opera. Penn Square Music is proud to present the second fully staged performance with orchestra at the Gardner Theatre. The Lancaster performances of *Sanctuary Road* are generously supported by Anne Gardner and in partnership with LancasterHistory.

On Friday, February 3 only, the evening performance (and ticket purchase) includes a 6:30pm facilitated panel discussion featuring authors and scholars Fergus Bordewich, Dr. Leroy Hopkins, Jr., Senior Composer Paul Moravec, and librettist Mark Campbell. At 7:30pm, the main performance begins.

Tickets are \$30/person and can be purchased through the [Penn Square Music Festival website](#).

Event takes place at the Gardner Theatre, Lancaster Country Day School, 725 Hamilton Road, Lancaster, PA

Storytime: Celebrating Presidents' Day!

Saturday, February 4

10am at LancasterHistory

Join LancasterHistory for Saturday Storytime! We'll read a history-themed story and then have time for a creative craft. February's Storytime will feature *Grace for President*, a children's book by Kelly DiPucchio (illustrated by LeUygen Pham), that explains how Americans elect their presidents and reminds us that anyone can run for office. We'll then complete a craft or activity based on the day's theme (craft/activity to be determined).

This program broadens kids' historical knowledge, and establishes museum literacy and critical thinking skills. The program is free, and registration is required to ensure we have craft supplies for everyone. Suggested for ages 12 and under. Register for Storytime [online](#) or over the phone by calling (717) 392-4633.

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

The 19th Annual Valentine's Day Gala

Saturday, February 11

6:30pm at The Hamilton Club

The 19th Annual Valentine's Day Gala is back at the Hamilton Club this year for cocktails, dinner, dancing, and live music! A celebration of romance and history, this event benefits education and public programming at LancasterHistory.

The Valentine's Day Gala takes place on Saturday, February 11 at the Hamilton Club in Lancaster. The event begins with cocktails and hors' d'oeuvres at 6:30pm, followed by fine dining at 7:30pm. After dinner, dancing and live music by the Uptown Band.

Tickets are required. RSVP by February 6, 2023.

For more information, please visit lancasterhistory.org/valentines.

Event takes place at The Hamilton Club, 106 E. Orange Street, Lancaster, PA

Playing Politics with Disaster: The Impact of Hurricane Agnes in Pennsylvania

Thursday, February 16

5:30pm Online via Zoom

On Thursday, February 16, join LancasterHistory virtually as we welcome Nazareth College professor Dr. Timothy Kneeland to discuss Hurricane Agnes and its ripple effects in the history of Lancaster County and the nation.

After Hurricane Agnes spawned extensive flooding and damage across Pennsylvania in June 1972, the victims of the storm found themselves caught in a political game between Democrats and Republicans. Both parties sought to use the storm to gain political advantage in an election year. With a particular focus on events in New York and Pennsylvania, Timothy W. Kneeland narrates how local, state, and federal authorities responded to the immediate crisis of Hurricane Agnes and managed the long-term recovery. The impact of Agnes was horrific, as the storm left 122 people dead, forced tens of thousands into homelessness, and caused billions of dollars in damage from Florida to New York. In its aftermath, local officials and leaders directed disaster relief funds to rebuild their shattered cities and reshaped future disaster policies.

Dr. Timothy W. Kneeland is the Professor and Chair of History, Politics, and Law at Nazareth College in New York. He is the author of *Declaring Disaster: Buffalo's Blizzard of '77 and the Creation of FEMA* (2021), *Playing Politics with Natural Disaster: Hurricane Agnes, the 1972 Election, and the Origins of FEMA* (2020), *Democrats and Republicans on Social Issues* (2017), and *Pushbutton Psychiatry: A Cultural History of Electroshock in America* (2008). He has authored numerous chapter-length studies and encyclopedia articles on the American presidency, politics, and science. In addition to teaching and writing, Dr. Kneeland is a frequent guest on local television and radio programs and provides political analysis for local, state, national, and international media.

EVENT DETAILS & HOW TO REGISTER

This event will take place online via Zoom on **Thursday, February 16, 2023 at 5:30pm ET**. This is NOT an in-person event. The event will be streamed live and then recorded and made available on [LancasterHistory's YouTube Channel](#).

The program is free and open to the public but requires advance registration. Register [online](#) or by calling (717) 392-4633. Your link to the Zoom will be emailed to you on the day of the presentation.

Event takes place online via Zoom.

An Ardent Desire for the Presidency

Monday, February 20

Tours from 10am - 3pm at LancasterHistory

On Presidents' Day, February 20, tour Wheatland learn about James Buchanan's relationship with two of the men who preceded him as President of the United States. Visitors will discover why James K. Polk, the 11th President, distrusted Buchanan, his Secretary of State, and why Franklin Pierce, the 14th President, sent Buchanan away to be his Minister to Great Britain.

An Ardent Desire for the Presidency, a special guided tour of Wheatland, will be held on Monday, February 20. Tours will be available on the hour, beginning at 10am and continuing until the last tour at 3pm. **Please Note: These tours are not our regular General Admission tours and will be more focused on a particular topic than a general history of Buchanan and the home.**

Tickets are available for purchase [online](#) or over the phone by calling (717) 392-4633. Advance reservations are highly recommended as tours may sell out and walk-in tickets may not be available. Members receive complimentary admission, but should reserve their tickets in advance to guarantee the tour time of their choice.

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

Black Excellence in the Arts

Saturday, February 25

2pm at LancasterHistory

Join LancasterHistory for our first *Collections Up Close* tour where you'll interact with historic artifacts and materials in the LancasterHistory collections. On February 25, celebrate the careers

and accomplishments of Black performers and filmmakers with ties to Lancaster in this multimedia presentation. Listen to songs by The Trannells and The Crystalaires, watch a recorded performance by local group The Hamboners from 1954, and join in a discussion of Madeline Andersen's groundbreaking documentary film, *Integration Report 1*.

In *Collections Up Close* tours, LancasterHistory staff and visiting experts highlight documents, photos, and artifacts from LancasterHistory's vast collections. In a conversational setting, participants will hear the stories of these objects and what they reveal to us about the history of Lancaster County and its place in American history.

Black Excellence in the Arts, a *Collections Up Close* tour, takes place on Saturday, February 25 at 2pm at LancasterHistory. Tickets are \$10/Adults (18+), \$8/Seniors (65+), and \$6/Students (11-College ID). LancasterHistory Members are free, but should still register in advance to receive their complimentary admission. Tickets can be purchased or reserved [online](#) or by calling (717) 392-4633. Capacity is limited, so advance registration is strongly recommended.

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

CURRENT EXHIBITIONS

Main Exhibition - ***Lancaster in the '60s***

Over the course of more than 350 years, the physical and cultural landscapes of Lancaster County have undergone transformative change. *Lancaster in the '60s* examines the issues of conflict, resolution, and protest against the backdrop of four pivotal decades—the 1660s, 1760s, 1860s, and 1960s—in Lancaster County's history. The pivotal events that transpired in each of these decades changed the lives of those who experienced them, and continue to impact the way we live our lives today.

Special Exhibition - ***A Sweet Start: Milton Hershey's Lancaster Connections***

Milton Hershey spent much of his early life in Lancaster County. Hershey grew up on a farm in Bart Township and then, as a young man, learned how to make chocolate and established his first successful business in Lancaster City on Church Street. Buoyed by success, Hershey founded the Hershey Chocolate Company in Lancaster in 1894 and lived in the city with his wife from 1898 until 1904. Explore the photograph exhibit, *A Sweet Start*, highlighting Milton Hershey's personal and professional connections to Lancaster.

LANCASTERHISTORY HOURS OF OPERATION

February 2023

In February, LancasterHistory will be open Tuesdays through Saturdays from 9:30am to 5pm to the public. Tours of Wheatland are available from 10am to 3pm. The Research Center will be open 9:30am to 2pm for appointments.