Lancaster History

For Immediate Release

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LancasterHistory Joins Nationwide 'Museums for All' Admissions Program

Museum will accept SNAP EBT and WIC cards for reduced admission rates to exhibitions, Wheatland

beginning September 3

LANCASTER, PA — LancasterHistory is excited to announce that it has joined **Museums for** All, a national, signature-access program that encourages everyone to visit museums regularly and build lifelong museum habits. Museums for All is an initiative of the **Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS)**, a federal agency based in Washington, D.C., and administered by the **Association of Children's Museums (ACM)**. Specifically, the program ensures low cost access to museums for families and individuals receiving food assistance benefits across the country.

Beginning September 3, 2024, LancasterHistory will accept valid Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Electronic Benefit Transfer (SNAP EBT) cards or Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) cards in exchange for free or reduced admission to its facilities as part of its participation in the Museums for All program. LancasterHistory joins over 1,300 other institutions across the United States, including eight museums in Lancaster County that are already part of the program. These museums include:

• Ephrata Cloister

- Hands-On House, Children's Museum of Lancaster
- The Lancaster Medical Heritage Museum
- Landis Valley Village and Farm Museum
- The National Watch and Clock Museum
- North Museum of Nature and Science
- The Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania
- The Winters Heritage House Museum & The Siebert Genealogy Research Library

With such vibrant participation in the community, Lancaster is considered a "Hub City" for Museums for All. For a community to reach Hub status, three or more local organizations must be active participants in the initiative. LancasterHistory's participation increases county-wide participation to nine local museums.

"We're really excited to join this initiative," said **Robin Sarratt**, Vice President of LancasterHistory. "We want everyone in our community, whether residents or visitors, to access, enjoy, and learn from museums. Not only are museums places of learning, but they provide space for intergenerational interaction, rest, and renewal. Museums are safe spaces for exploration and discovery. Museums for All is part of LancasterHistory's strong commitment of ensuring everyone feels included and welcome on our Campus of History and at the future Thaddeus Stevens & Lydia Hamilton Smith Center for History and Democracy when it opens next year."

The Museums for All admission for LancasterHistory is \$3 per adult 18 years or older and free for children 17 and under.

To receive the Museums for All rate, visitors must present their EBT or WIC card and a valid form of ID upon check-in at LancasterHistory. LancasterHistory's reduced rate for Museums for All is available during normal operating hours for up to four (4) individuals per EBT or WIC card, one of whom must be an adult 18 years or older. For more details, please visit LancasterHistory's Visitor FAQ page at <u>lancasterhistory.org/visit/faqs</u> or call (717) 392-4633.

About Museums for All

Museums for All helps expand access to museums and also raise public awareness about how

museums in the U.S. are reaching their entire communities. More than 850 institutions participate in the initiative, including art museums, children's museums, science centers, botanical gardens, zoos, history museums, and more. Participating museums are located nationwide, representing all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and U.S. Virgin Islands.

About LancasterHistory

LancasterHistory is a community-based, not-for-profit organization established to educate the public on the history of Lancaster County and its place in the history of Pennsylvania and the United States, to advance the missions of regional historical organizations, and to promote the acquisition, preservation, and interpretation of resources representing the history of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania within the broader context of state and national history, including the homes of 15th US President James Buchanan and Congressman Thaddeus Stevens and Lydia Hamilton Smith.

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