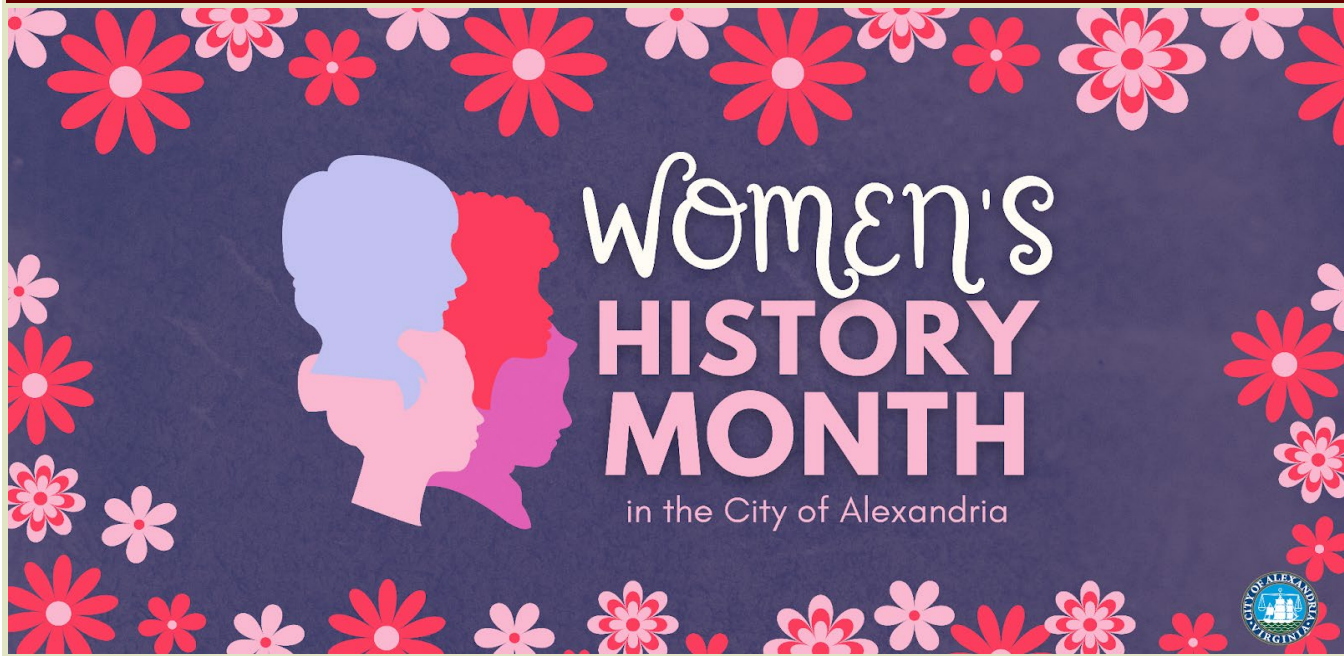


What's New



Women's History Month Events

Alexandria Hospital: Women Mobilize the Community

Alexandria History Museum at the Lyceum, 201 S. Washington Street

Now until March 31

Museum admission: \$3 adults / \$1 children, purchase in advance [here](#).

Don't miss your last chance to view the special exhibition "Alexandria Hospital: Women Mobilize the Community," closing March 31. Health care in Alexandria took a big step forward when a dynamic group of Alexandria women led by Julia Johns met to organize the Infirmary in December 1872. Through their efforts, townspeople were no longer required to go to Richmond or Washington to receive hospital care. The first purpose-built hospital facility was built in 1917 on the 700 block of Duke Street thanks to donations funding operating rooms, wards, and other facilities. Since then, the hospital has led the way and it has been a leader in healthcare from its nursing school to its oncology program.

The Women of Lee-Fendall

Lee-Fendall House

Saturday, March 9 and Saturday, March 16

11 a.m.

\$10 per person, purchase tickets in advance: leefendallhouse.eventbrite.com

In honor of Women's History Month, this special house tour will take you through the lives of some of the women who lived and worked in the Lee-Fendall House over the years as a private home and even when it

became a museum in 1974. Learn about their struggles and achievements as women, wives, educators, workers, mothers, performers, and activists.

Dorcas Allen Lecture, by Dr. Alison Mann

Alexandria History Museum at the Lyceum

Saturday, March 16

3-4 p.m.

\$15 per person, \$12 for volunteers and members of Historic Alexandria, purchase in advance [here](#).

Learn about Dorcas Allen, a woman living with her husband and four children as a free Black woman in Washington D.C. who was enslaved by James Birch, imprisoned in Alexandria, and tried for the murder of her two youngest children. A jury acquitted her by reason of insanity and, with John Quincy Adams' assistance, she regained her freedom. This is a story of African American agency in the most desperate of circumstances... when an enslaved mother feels death is better for her children than life in bondage. Proceeds from the event support Freedom House Museum.

Dr. Alison Mann serves as the Historian at the National Museum of American Diplomacy, U.S. Department of State as a subject matter expert in the field of diplomatic history, 19th century American history, public history, and education. Before joining the museum, she was Assistant Professor of History at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College in Tifton, GA, teaching courses in public history, multicultural America, and early American history. She has also taught diplomatic history and the history of American slavery and abolitionism at the University of New Hampshire and Franklin Pierce University and worked as a Park Ranger for Boston African American National Historic Site. She holds an MA and Ph.D. from the University of New Hampshire, and a BA from Rutgers University.

Call the Midwife! Women in Historic Medical Care

Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum

Friday, March 22, 6-7 p.m. and Saturday, March 23, 10-11 a.m.

\$15 per person, \$12 for volunteers and members of Historic Alexandria, purchase in advance [here](#).

Midwives did more than deliver babies! In honor of Women's History Month, explore the role, knowledge, and challenges of Midwives through the lens of the Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum and its collection of historic medicines and archives. Content note: this tour will cover the complex history around contraception, abortion, and miscarriage; recommended for ages 18 and older.

Civil War Women's Day

Fort Ward Museum & Historic Site

Saturday, March 30

11 a.m. -4 p.m.

Free event, no registration required.

Learn about the dress, skills, and contributions of women during the Civil War from historical interpreters who will present on-going talks, displays, and demonstrations. Interpreters will explore women's roles on the home front, in camp, and on the battlefield. Featured topics will include soldiers' aid societies and relief efforts that were typically launched by women to support both armies during the war. Interpreters in Union uniform will explore the theme of women who disguised themselves as soldiers during the war and will address the challenges experienced by the hundreds of women who served in the army. Learn how women and girls supported the war effort through industry and craft, and pursued new work roles, from the home and farm to the city and factory. Displays include 19th-century tableware, and a hands-on opportunity to learn about the everyday clothing of women and girls. The event is weather dependent.

For a full list of events, and to learn more, visit alexandriava.gov/WomensHistoryMonth

News and Forthcoming Future Events

Exhibit: "Searching for Truth in the Garden" at Freedom House Museum
Freedom House Museum, 1315 Duke Street
Now until April 15
Free for City of Alexandria residents. \$5 per adult, \$3 per child (ages 5-12) otherwise.

Gonzaga High School's groundbreaking research on slavery, "[Searching for Truth in the Garden,](#)" found new life at the Freedom House Museum. The traveling exhibition, on view through April 15, delves into the life of Gabriel, a teenager enslaved at Washington Seminary (now Gonzaga) in 1829. Gabriel's story offers a poignant lens through which to examine the complexities of slavery and its lasting impact.

Gadsby's Tavern Museum Now Accepting Junior Docent Applications

Applications from 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th grade students are now being accepted for Gadsby's Tavern Museum's Junior Docent Program. Students accepted into the Historic Alexandria program are trained in museum information and presentation skills. Then, they provide tours Sunday afternoons during the summer (based on student availability), practicing their speaking skills, and engaging visitors of all ages and sharing their interest in history.

To be considered, students must complete the application, available at alexandriava.gov/gadsbystavern and return it to the Museum no later than Friday, March 15. Applicants must also attend an audition on Sunday, March 17, where the child will have the chance to give a short presentation on a historical topic of their choosing. Application includes information about required training classes. Questions should be directed to kristy.huettner@alexandriava.gov.

Last week for AAM Survey 2024

Help Historic Alexandria answer the question, "Why does history matter?" We want to know how we can better support + engage our community in 2024 and beyond. To learn more about how we can do this, we are participating in a national survey of museum-goers, sponsored by the [American Alliance of Museums](#). Please take a few minutes + take this survey plus share with your friends! This is the last week to participate in this year's AAM survey. Survey closes on March 15. Your thoughts and feedback as our close stakeholders will help us guide our future work.

<https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/7639514/historicalexandria>

Beyond the Battlefield: A Civil War Walking Tour

Lee-Fendall House
Saturday, March 23
10 a.m.

\$15 to the general public. Free for museum members.

Tickets must be purchased in advance at leefendallhouse.eventbrite.com

This walking tour shares the stories of soldiers, citizens, and self-liberated African Americans in Civil War Alexandria. It covers the military occupation, the conversion of public and private buildings into hospitals, and emancipation. The tour is limited to 12 participants and lasts approximately an hour and a half. Walking tours take place rain or shine, so please wear appropriate shoes and clothing. For more information, please call 703-548-1789 or e-mail contact@leefendallhouse.org.

Carlyle House Peep Hunt

Carlyle House
March 24 through March 31

\$2 per child, Sundays 12pm-4pm, Monday-Saturday (closed Wednesday) 10am-4pm

Stop by the Museum Store during open hours (closed Wednesday) from March 24th through 31st to

participate in our Peep Hunt! In this \$2 drop-in activity, guests can pick up a worksheet and explore the garden of Carlyle House while hunting those sneaky Peeps! Find all the peeps and their letters to unscramble and spell out a secret word. Tell a staff member the secret word and receive a special prize*!

This fun spring activity is best for young guests and their grownups. No tickets required, just stop in and visit the museum during open hours. Questions? email us at Carlyle@NVRPA.org

*so all our friends can play, prizes will not be edible

Story Time for Little Historians

Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe Street

Saturday, April 13

10 -10:45 a.m.

Free event, no registration required.

This FREE, fun, and educational story time is geared to children ages 5-8 years old and features stories related to Black History. The program uses books written by and about African American people and other communities of color to educate and inspire our youngest visitors. Along with the book reading, Museum Staff provides historical context and local community connections. Story time will be held in the Museum's Parker-Gray Gallery. Call 703-746-4356 for more information.

SXSW 2024 in Austin, TX

Did you know Historic Alexandria's own Audrey Davis attended SXSW last week along with partners from Alexandria Library, Virginia and New America? During a panel session, they spotlighted the Library Sit-In of 1939-the first public and peaceful demonstration of its kind. This session was part of the SXSW education tracks: <https://schedule.sxswedu.com/2024/events/PP138477>

Historic Alexandria receives City operational funding to support its mission; however, these resources do not cover the full scope of the department's strategic goals and projects. Donations, special revenue, and grant funding help supplement staff, conservation work, and educational programs.

[Please consider a donation today.](#)

Historic Alexandria Museum Hours

Alexandria Archaeology Museum

Tuesdays-Fridays, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Saturdays, 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Sundays, 1-5 p.m.

Alexandria Black History Museum

Thursdays & Fridays, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Saturdays, 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Sundays, 1-5 p.m.

Alexandria History Museum at The Lyceum

Thursdays & Fridays, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Saturdays, 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Sundays, 1-5 p.m.

Fort Ward Museum

Thursdays & Fridays, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Saturdays, 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Sundays, 1-5 p.m.

Freedom House Museum

Thursdays & Fridays, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Saturdays, 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Sundays & Mondays, 1-5 p.m.

Friendship Firehouse Museum

Saturdays, March 16 and April 27, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

Gadsby's Tavern Museum

Thursdays & Fridays, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Saturdays, 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Sundays 1-5 p.m.

Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum

Wednesdays-Fridays, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Saturdays, 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Sundays 1 - 5 p.m.

Visit our website and follow us on social media to discover new things about your hometown. For more information, please visit alexandriava.gov/historic. Admission to City of Alexandria museums is complimentary for City residents.

THIS WEEK IN ALEXANDRIA'S HISTORY

On March 14, 1801, two weeks after being sworn into office, President Thomas Jefferson and Vice President Aaron Burr enjoyed an inaugural dinner at Gadsby's Tavern. The *National Intelligencer* newspaper recalled that, "the style and elegance with which it was furnished... reflect the highest credit on the taste and industry of Mr. Gadsby." Proprietor John Gadsby had previously hosted events for Presidents George Washington and John Adams.

UPCOMING COMMISSION AND COMMITTEE EVENTS

March 11 Alexandria-Caen Sister City Committee Meeting

City Hall, Sister Cities Room 1101, 301 King Street
7-9 p.m.

March 13 Historical Restoration and Preservation Commission

Alexandria Black History Museum
8:15 a.m.-9:30 a.m., 902 Wythe Street

March 18 George Washington Birthday Celebration Committee

Lloyd House, 220 N. Washington Street
7-9 p.m.

March 19 Historic Alexandria Resources Commission Meeting

Lloyd House, 220 N. Washington Street
7-9 p.m.

March 20 Alexandria Archaeological Commission

Lloyd House, 220 N. Washington Street
7-9 p.m.

March 21 ACRP McCoy Remembrance Planning Meeting

Lloyd House, 220 N. Washington Street
12-1 p.m.