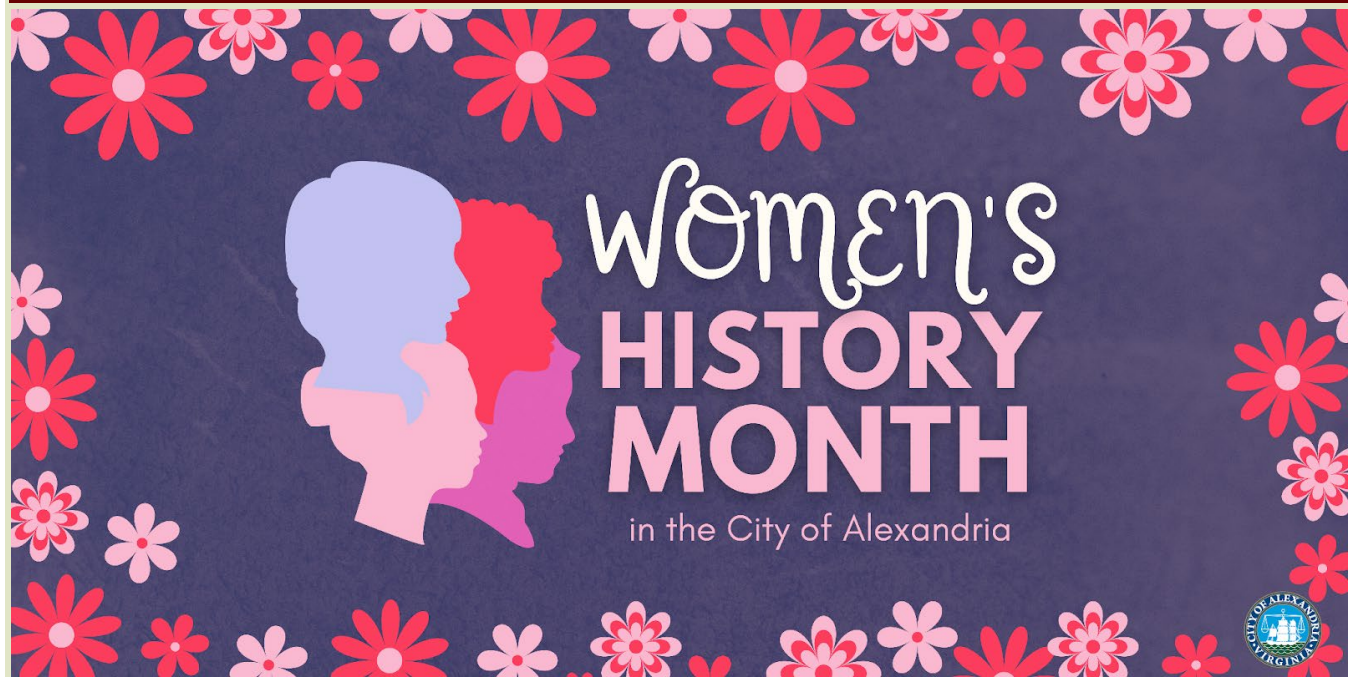


What's New



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 lead the way and it has been a leader in healthcare from its nursing school to its oncology program.

Specialty Tour: A Toast to the Ladies!

Gadsby's Tavern Museum

Friday, March 8 and Saturday, March 9

6-7:30 p.m.

\$20 per person, purchase in advance [here](#).

This special tour and discussion highlights the many women over the centuries associated with Gadsby's

Tavern Museum. From Hannah Griffith, the first woman to operate a coffeehouse in the tavern, to the spearheading preservationist Rebecca Ramsay Reese, these women's stories will spark conversations about political, economic, and social conditions for women in the past and present. Ticket includes tea, which can be carried throughout the tour and discussion.

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.

Lecture: How Women Changed the World of Health Care But Took Years to Be Recognized

Alexandria History Museum at The Lyceum

Sunday, March 10

12:30 p.m. -2:30 p.m.

Free event, no registration required.

In recognition of Women's History Month, join Jane Plitt, Director of the National Center of Women's Innovations at the Alexandria History Museum at The Lyceum for her lecture "How Women Changed the World of Health Care But Took Years to Be Recognized." She will be sharing the buried stories of a number of women who were innovators in health care including Dr. Patricia Bath (cataract eye surgery), Dr. Katalin Kariko (mRNA development), Dr. Svetlana Mojsov (Ozempic), Chemist Alice Ball (cure for leprosy), and Drs. Doudna and Charpentier (genome editing technology). These women fundamentally altered health for so many of us, and yet struggled to be recognized for their roles.

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

Upcoming 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.

Story Time for Little Historians

Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe Street

Saturday, March 9

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. Story time will be held in the Museum's Parker-Gray Gallery. Call 703-746-4356 for more information.

An Evening of Irish Music

Alexandria History Museum at the Lyceum

Saturday, March 9

7-8:30 p.m.

\$10 in Advance, \$15 at the door, Children 17 and under \$5, purchase in advance [here](#)

Celebrate St. Patrick's Day early with The Irish Breakfast Band. Most Irish Breakfast Band performances feature 15 or more musicians, often several fiddles and flutes, a guitar or two, a drummer, a hammered dulcimer, banjo, pipes, and at least one vocalist. The band performs extensively in the Washington Metropolitan area at festivals and other events including the Washington Folk Festival, Art on the Avenue (in Alexandria) and local concert series. Proceeds from ticket sales, cash bar, and tips benefit the Office of Historic Alexandria. Free Snacks. Beer & wine for sale.

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.

Why Does History Matter? Help Historic Alexandria!

Help Historic Alexandria answer the question, "Why does history matter?" We want to know how we can better support + engage our community in 2024 + 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! Your thoughts + feedback as our close stakeholders will help us guide our future work.

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

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.-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 4, 1861, Abraham Lincoln was inaugurated as President of the United States. The election of 1860 was hotly contested, with four candidates vying for the position. Lincoln received no majority in any Southern state and in Alexandria he received only two votes out of almost 1,000 cast. The outrage of his election in Southern states was so strong, that for his own safety, he had to enter the City of Washington secretly in the dark of night. Almost immediately votes of secession by state legislatures in the South began and within three months the American Civil War had begun.

UPCOMING COMMISSION AND COMMITTEE EVENTS

March 5 ACRP Remembrance Steering Committee

Alexandria Black History Museum

5-6 p.m., 902 Wythe Street

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 Advocacy Meeting

Lloyd House, 220 N. Washington Street

7-9 p.m.

March 20 Alexandria Archaeological Commission's Sub-Committee Meeting

Lloyd House, 220 N. Washington Street

6:30-7 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.