

Education Fund Sponsors Schoolchildren's Visits to Trails of History Sites



Schoolchildren visit Pennsylvania Lumber Museum.

Photo, Pennsylvania Lumber Museum

The Pennsylvania Heritage Foundation has initiated an Education Fund to sponsor schoolchildren's visits to sites on the Pennsylvania Trails of History.

"There is no better way to impact our children's future than to have them experience our past," said PHF manager Mary Hull. "The children can explore and experience our traditions and engage in the adventures of the hidden historic treasures that can be discovered in the museums and sites."

PHF wishes to make these historic treasures accessible to schoolchildren throughout the commonwealth. With your help, the foundation can expand this program to more sites and open this opportunity to more schoolchildren in Pennsylvania.

There are many ways to support the Education Fund. You can sponsor a child or a classroom or give a general gift. If you are interested in partnering with PHF in this effort, please call 717-787-2407, or visit paheritage.org, hover over the "Ways to Give" tab, and click "Fundraising Campaigns."

The Pennsylvania Heritage Foundation is the nonprofit partner of the Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission. Governed by a volunteer board, PHF helps preserve the commonwealth's rich heritage through charitable funding, membership, grant management, and community engagement.

Trails of History Sites and Museums

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PHF Partners with Daniel Boone Homestead

Last year the Pennsylvania Heritage Foundation began a partnership with PHMC to assist in the operation of Daniel Boone Homestead, one of the Pennsylvania Trails of History sites.

A site manager, Heather Hicks, was hired to coordinate site activities with planned construction, serve as the onsite liaison for the Master Plan process, assist in the transition to a new management and operations structure, and oversee site operations.

Under the site manager's original contract, both the Capital Project and the Master Plan have begun. Through the Capital Project, which is near completion, a failing bridge has been replaced, the bathrooms have been upgraded and are now ADA compliant, the secondary entrance has been widened, and a sewer line has been run in preparation for connecting with the Exeter Township system. An additional Capital Project has been funded for lake dredging and dam breast repairs.

Through Keystone funding, other site improvements have been made in the past year. The Boone House received a new roof and an exterior paint job on the windows and trim. In the Blacksmith Shop, the bellows has been removed for preservation purposes; it will be conserved

this coming fiscal year and put on exhibit, and a reproduction bellows for use will be made by onsite preservation staff.

An orientation exhibit is being designed by Gecko Group. Heather Hicks has been involved in research, text development and image procurement. Fabrication and installation of the exhibit are anticipated for the upcoming fiscal year.

In the Visitor Center, new lighting, suitable for a museum exhibit, is in the process of being installed. An ADA-compliant reception desk has been designed and fabricated by in-house staff.

Heather Hicks has been solely responsible for the creation and maintenance of a new website, and she has established a strong social media presence for the site. Hicks has also been instrumental in the incorporation of a new support group for the site, the Daniel Boone Homestead Associates.

Although the recreational part of Daniel Boone Homestead remained open during the COVID-19 pandemic, the historic core and the buildings themselves were closed until recently. The site reopened on a limited basis on April 30, 2021, and since June 28, events, rentals and larger tours have resumed.



The Boone House, opposite, and the dam at Daniel Boone Lake, above, at Daniel Boone Homestead in Birdsboro.
Photos, PHMC

PHF Board Reelected

The Pennsylvania Heritage Foundation held its Annual Business Meeting on June 2, 2021. All board officers were reelected for another one-year term. Outgoing board members were reelected to an additional three-year term. New committees for membership, marketing and development were formed to support PHF's mission.

You Can Help Preserve Pennsylvania's History

It is instrumental to the existence of the Pennsylvania Heritage Foundation to have the support to continue its mission to preserve the commonwealth's rich heritage. Many of our projects and programs are outside the scope of the state budget. To continue this great work, we depend on donors for their generous gifts.

It is a critical time in our history and together we can keep the door open to the treasures of our past and impact our future.

To support PHF, visit our website at paheritage.org or mail your gift to Pennsylvania Heritage Foundation, 400 North Street, Harrisburg, PA 17120.



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- \$25.00 gift to the Pennsylvania Heritage Foundation and its support of presenting and preserving the history of Pennsylvania
- online member's portal access to information and activities
- biweekly e-digest with updates and history

**Some special events and tours at PHMC sites require an additional fee*



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