

NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2026

PAHERITAGE.ORG

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.

Spring Bus Trip to Historic Bethlehem

Join the Pennsylvania Heritage Foundation and Historic Harrisburg as we spend the day in Historic Bethlehem. The Moravian Church Settlements in Bethlehem are collectively the United States' most recent UNESCO World Heritage Site, added in July 2024.

The grounds of Historic Moravian Bethlehem and Historic Bethlehem Museums & Sites feature a higher concentration of original structures than Colonial Williamsburg. The 1741 Gemeinhaus in Bethlehem is believed to be the largest 18th-century log structure in continuous use in the United States.

We'll be visiting during Community Heritage Day in the Colonial Industrial Quarter. We'll travel back in time to see blacksmiths, tinsmiths, open-hearth cooks and other artisans at work showcasing 18th- and 19th-century crafts and trades.

The Bell House, built between 1746 and 1749, in Bethlehem.
Historic Bethlehem Museums & Sites



Itinerary

The bus will depart from Camp Hill, Cumberland County, on Saturday, April 18, at 8 a.m.

Our first tour will begin at the Moravian Museum of Bethlehem in the Gemeinhaus to explore the Moravians' communal living, medicinal practices, missionary work and progressive educational system. We will also visit three important structures: the 1744/1752 Single Sisters' House, the 1765 Nain-Schober House and the 1752 Apothecary.

We'll enjoy a Lunch & Learn at Johnson Barn with a presentation on Burnside Plantation. This historic 6.5-acre farm in the city opened the door to early American agricultural life. The site includes one of the only working high-horsepower wheels in the U.S. A self-guided tour of the grounds will follow.

In the afternoon, we'll learn how the early Moravians established the largest concentration of crafts, trades and industries in the nation. At the Grist Millers House & Museum and Working Hands exhibit, we'll discover how a community of pacifists wrestled with their convictions and beliefs while playing an integral role in the American Revolution.

Before heading back, you'll have time on your own to visit and shop at the Moravian Bookshop, the oldest bookstore in America; Schropp Dry Goods Shoppe; and other unique businesses on Main Street.

Tours and lunch are provided. For more details and to reserve your seat, visit our website at paheritage.org

TRAILS OF HISTORY SITES AND MUSEUMS

Brandywine Battlefield Park
Chadds Ford, 610-459-3342
brandywinebattlefield.org

Bushy Run Battlefield
Jeannette, 724-527-5584
bushyrunbattlefield.com

Conrad Weiser Homestead
Womelsdorf, 610-589-2934
conradweiserhomestead.org

Cornwall Iron Furnace
Cornwall, 717-272-9711
cornwallironfurnace.org

Daniel Boone Homestead
Birdsboro, 610-582-4900
thedanielboonehomestead.org

Drake Well Museum
Titusville, 814-827-2797
drakewell.org

Eckley Miners' Village
Weatherly, 570-636-2070
eckleyminersvillage.com

Ephrata Cloister
Ephrata, 717-733-6600
ephratacloister.org

Erie Maritime Museum
Erie, 814-452-2744
eriemaritimemuseum.org

Fort Pitt Museum
Pittsburgh, 412-281-9285
heinzhistorycenter.org/fort-pitt

Graeme Park
Horsham, 215-343-0965
graemepark.org

Hope Lodge
Fort Washington, 215-646-1595
historichopelodge.org

PHF Essay Scholarships Now Open

The Pennsylvania Heritage Foundation's mission to help "preserve the commonwealth's rich heritage" includes supporting the next generation of scholars and encouraging their enthusiasm for Pennsylvania history.

For our third annual PHF Essay Scholarship, we seek rising high school seniors and undergraduate students who are pursuing an education in history or an allied field. Applicants are given broad latitude to prepare an essay of up to 1,500 words about a person, location or event that has been underrecognized in Pennsylvania history. We are looking for well-written and thoughtfully articulated essays in the applicant's authentic voice with an individual perspective that elevates the topic with originality and understanding.

Eight cash awards are presented for the best essays received: one award of \$2,500, one award of \$1,500, and six awards of \$1,000 each.

Eligible applicants should be current Pennsylvania residents attending a two- or four-year Pennsylvania college or university in the fall

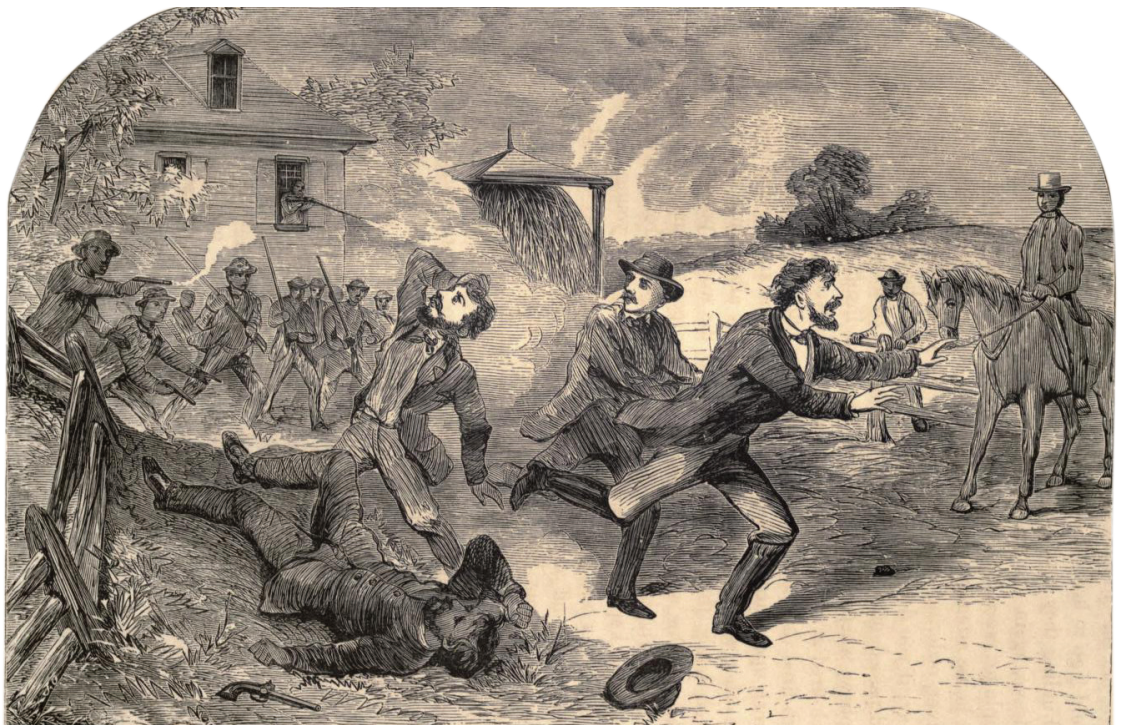
of 2026 and pursuing a course of study in history or an allied field. Winners will be announced on or before June 30, 2026

Requirements:

- An original essay of 1,500 words maximum about a person, location or event that has been under-recognized in Pennsylvania history
- A personal statement briefly explaining the applicant's path of study in the field of history
- Proof of full-time enrollment in a Pennsylvania two- or four-year college or university or copy of letter of acceptance (if entering the first year of post-secondary education) in fall 2026

Due date: All documents must be received electronically or postmarked by May 1, 2026, at 11:59 pm

Visit our website for more information. If you have any questions, please email or call Jodie Dodson at c-jododson@pa.gov or 717-787-9123.



The Christiana Riot was an armed uprising by free Blacks and freedom seekers in response to a raid initiated by a federal marshal to capture four self-emancipated men. The event that took place on September 11, 1851, in Christiana, Pennsylvania, was the subject of an essay by one of last year's top PHF Scholarship winners, Kori Kistler.

From William Still, The Underground Railroad (Philadelphia: Porter & Coates, 1872), page 350

Motley Joins PHF Board

PHF is pleased to welcome Louis R. Motley to its Board of Directors. Motley is vice president of commercial lending at Members 1st Federal Credit Union. His work includes advising companies with revenues up to \$500 million, structuring complex credit facilities, and collaborating across treasury management, merchant services, mortgage and retail banking teams to provide comprehensive member support.

Motley served in the United States Navy and holds a B.S. in business management from Saint Francis University and an MBA in leadership from Eastern University. He is also a graduate of Leadership Harrisburg, further strengthening his commitment to civic engagement and community leadership. Beyond his professional responsibilities, Motley is deeply engaged in community service. He sits on the Dauphin County Affordable Housing Trust Board, is a voting member of the CREDC Loan Review Committee, and serves on the Board of Veterans Outreach of Pennsylvania.

Motley brings to the PHF Board passion for service, commitment to stewardship, and expertise in credit analysis, risk management and organizational leadership.



In Remembrance: Lenwood “Leni” Sloan

Lenwood “Leni” Sloan passed away in December 2025. He served on the PHF Board of Directors with distinction, generosity and deep moral clarity. He brought to the Board a life-long commitment to equity, history and cultural relevance—along with a rare ability to ask thoughtful questions that challenged us to consider who benefits, who is missing, and whose stories remain untold.

“Let us not forget how he celebrated his multicultural African American and Irish ancestry through programs exploring the convergence, contributions and conflicts of Black and Irish experiences in America,” said PHF Vice President Demielo C. Luckette.

“Let us not forget how his travels . . . deepened his sense of self and appreciation for others, ultimately leading him to become a founding board member of the African American Irish Diaspora Network. Let us not forget his creation of the Art in the Marketplace programs in cities across the country, nor his leadership in placing the first U.S. monument honoring the 15th and 19th amendments at Pennsylvania’s Capitol. Let



us not forget his work with the Thaddeus Stevens and Lydia Smith Center for History and Democracy or his advocacy to recognize families displaced from the Old Eighth Ward.”

Lenwood Sloan’s legacy continues to guide our work at PHF. He reminds us that leadership requires courage, compassion and a commitment to leaving our communities better than we found them.

TRAILS OF HISTORY SITES AND MUSEUMS

Joseph Priestley House
Northumberland, 570-473-9474
joseph-priestley-house.org

**Landis Valley Village
& Farm Museum**
Lancaster, 717-569-0401
landisvalleymuseum.org

Old Economy Village
Ambridge, 724-266-4500
oldeconomyvillage.org

Pennsbury Manor
Morrisville, 215-946-0400
pennsburymanor.org

**Pennsylvania Anthracite
Heritage Museum**
Scranton, 570-963-4804
anthracitemuseum.org

Pennsylvania Lumber Museum
Galeton, 814-435-2652
lumbermuseum.org

Pennsylvania Military Museum
Boalsburg, 814-466-6263
pamilmuseum.org

Pennsylvania State Archives
Harrisburg, 717-783-3281
pastatearchives.com

Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania
Strasburg, 717-687-8628
rrmuseumpa.org

Somerset Historical Center
Somerset, 814-445-6077
somersethistoricalcenter.org

The State Museum of Pennsylvania
Harrisburg, 717-787-4980
statemuseumpa.org

**Washington Crossing
Historic Park**
Washington Crossing, 215-493-4076
washingtoncrossingpark.org



Join the Pennsylvania Heritage Foundation and get a year's subscription to *Pennsylvania Heritage*!

Heritage \$35

- subscription for one year of *Pennsylvania Heritage* (4 issues)

Individual \$55

- one year of *Pennsylvania Heritage* (4 issues)
- free general admission for one adult to Pennsylvania Trails of History sites and museums*
- Time Travelers privileges: free or discounted admission and gift shop discounts at more than 300 museums nationwide
- discounts on special events and bus trips to historic places
- weekly e-digest with updates and history

Family \$75

- one year of *Pennsylvania Heritage* (4 issues)
- free general admission for two adults in the same household and all children and grandchildren under age 18 to Pennsylvania Trails of History sites and museums*
- Time Travelers privileges: free or discounted admission and gift shop discounts at more than 300 museums nationwide
- discounts on special events and bus trips to historic places
- weekly e-digest with updates and history

Contributor \$100

- one year of *Pennsylvania Heritage* (4 issues)
- free general admission for two adults in the same household and all children and grandchildren under age 18 to Pennsylvania Trails of History sites and museums*
- Time Travelers privileges: free or discounted admission and gift shop discounts at more than 300 museums nationwide
- discounts on special events and bus trips to historic places
- weekly e-digest with updates and history
- \$25.00 gift to the Pennsylvania Heritage Foundation and its support of presenting and preserving the history of Pennsylvania

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



Online: **paheritage.org** Toll free: **866-823-6539**

Mail:
Pennsylvania Heritage Foundation
400 North Street
Harrisburg, PA 17120-0053



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