

Celebrate the New Home of Greenwich History

## OPENING DAY PARTY

### Saturday, October 6

**J**oin us for a truly grand Opening Day Party on Saturday, October 6. On this banner day, we'll officially open for business and be ready to share our beautiful new campus with one and all. Guests should plan to gather for the official ribbon-cutting ceremony at the new upper parking lot Museum Lobby entrance at noon; remarks by Greenwich First Selectman Peter Tesei,

Connecticut State Representative Scott Frantz and United States Senator Richard Blumenthal will commence at 12:10 pm, and the official ribbon cutting will take place at 12:30 pm.

The new Library & Archives, Museum Store and galleries featuring inaugural exhibitions (see page 2 for more information) will be open throughout the afternoon with staff available to answer questions about the facility and gardens.

Live music by popular bluegrass-swing band Too Blue begins at 1:00 pm, and kids can enjoy craft projects including scarecrow making, cornhusk dolls, birdhouses and more throughout the afternoon. Family-friendly tours of Bush-Holley House will take place every 30 minutes.

If, after all that, you've worked up an appetite, Dough Girls on the Go will be serving up wood-fired pizzas, and Randy's Wines of Cos Cob will have beer and wine for sale.



*We open the doors to our new campus on October 6!*

*Come ... and party like it's 1899!*

**Saturday, October 6; Noon to 4:00 pm**

**Admission is free and all are welcome. Please help us plan by registering online at [greenwichhistory.org](http://greenwichhistory.org) or calling 203-869-6899.**

## Behind-the-Scenes Site Tours on Sunday, October 7

Explore the artful blend of historic restoration and new construction at our newly reimagined site. Two special tours of the new buildings and grounds will showcase discoveries made during the construction process including historic wallpaper, an original key for Toby's Tavern and highlights from the Historical Society's collection.

Director of Education Anna Greco will lead 45-minute tours of the new Library & Archives, the Gallery for Special Exhibitions, the Gallery for Permanent Collections, Museum Lobby, Museum Store and Artists' Café. Guests will have the opportunity to ask questions about the new facility, its design and construction, and its significance to the organization and the community in the preservation of the town's history.

Tour guide and Greenwich native Anna Greco has worked on exhibition and education teams in Boston, Massachusetts and Santa Cruz, California. With degrees in art history, classical civilizations and museum studies, her career has focused on how individuals can connect with museums and their collections. She has been a senior member of the staff from the project's onset and is excited to share the process of reimagining the Historical Society with you.

**Tours will start in the Museum Lobby at the front desk. Sunday, October 7**

**Two Sessions: 12:15 to 1:00 pm and 2:15 to 3:00 pm**

**Admission is free and space is limited. Reserve online at [greenwichhistory.org](http://greenwichhistory.org) or call 203-869-6899.**

# New Campus Inaugural Exhibition

## History Is...

**H**istory is multifaceted and, at different times in our lives, can take on personal, local or global dimensions. *History Is...*, the inaugural exhibition in the Gallery for Special Exhibitions, a gift of the Frank Family Foundation, explores some of the ways we as individuals look at, define and interpret history.

Visitors will be encouraged to reflect on their personal histories, how history plays a part in their lives from childhood through adulthood and how we are continuously connected to the past and the future through the generations that come before and after us.

Viewing history as a journey of continuity and change offers an opportunity to revisit the Historical Society's collections and allows visitors to experience artifacts, documents and stories in new and engaging ways. ■



Photo: Paul Mutino

*Game of Round the World, 1890. A Novel and Fascinating Game with Plenty of Excitement by Land and Sea with Nellie Bly, the World's Globe Circler. Created by J. A. Grozier. Published by McLoughlin Bros., Inc. Greenwich Historical Society*



### On View in the Gallery for Permanent Collections...

This gallery presents the unique and fascinating story of Greenwich's evolution as a town and showcases works by the artists of the Cos Cob art colony as well as treasures from the collections. A film recounts the story of Bush-Holley House and highlights the Greenwich Historical Society's mission and programs. ■

## 87th Annual Meeting

### Core Values: Downtown Greenwich and Its Architects in the City Beautiful Era

**W**e have so much to share! Hear all about this milestone year from Executive Director and CEO Debra Mecky, and then enjoy a lecture by architectural historian, writer and author Francis Morrone about something we all know and love: downtown Greenwich.

Morrone will talk about the golden age of suburban America

*The 1916 former Greenwich Post Office is on the National Register of Historic Places.*



when development was focused tightly on town centers (e.g., development close to the railroad station) and often resulted in high streets of exceptional charm. Focusing on the distinctive structures that shaped our downtown landscape, Morrone will talk about some of the architects who contributed to our unique and expansive downtown in the years between 1900 and 1925.



*Keynote speaker Francis Morrone*

With a special interest in the history and preservation of the commercial centers of America's turn-of-the-century suburbs, Francis Morrone is an architectural historian, writer and the author of 11 books.

Reserve now. This is a program you won't want to miss.

**Thursday, September 13, 2018**

**Reception at 6:00 pm; Annual Meeting at 6:30 pm;  
Lecture at 7:00 pm**

**Belle Haven Club, 100 Harbor Drive, Greenwich**

**Tickets: \$65 for members; \$75 for nonmembers**

# History on the Move: Greenwich Avenue Walking Tour

It is hard to imagine that Greenwich Avenue was not always the bustling scene it is today. In fact, not that long ago, during a period between 1893 and 1938 when wealthy benefactors began to view Greenwich as their primary place of residence, all of the important buildings in our municipal district were erected on open farmland right in the center of town. Tour leader John Bridge will take you through the Greenwich Municipal Center Historic District, focusing on key structures built between 1893 and 1934.

The district begins with the Havemeyer School (1893), built on acreage large enough to be used as a public common. It includes three war memorials and six masonry buildings erected in the Romanesque Revival, Neoclassical and Art Deco styles: Old Town Hall (1905), Old Town Hall Annex (built as the town's first high school in 1906), the former Greenwich Post Office (1917), today's Town Hall (built as the town's second high school in 1925) and a Central Fire House and Police Station (1938, demolished in 2014). A lot has changed since then, but the remaining buildings contribute immensely to Greenwich's historic landscape.

A "downtown" Greenwich native, tour leader John Bridge now resides in

Riverside. John has witnessed firsthand the last 50+ years of residential and commercial development of his beloved hometown. He is a graduate of Greenwich High School and Georgetown University with a BA in English. After many years working in the telecommunications and travel industries, John is now delighted to educate and entertain both children and adults as a docent for the Bush-Holley House.



*Tour Leader  
John Bridge*

Participants will meet in front of the current Town Hall at 101 Field Point Road. The tour will last approximately 1-1/2 hours. Please wear comfortable shoes. There will be a short rest in the middle, but you should expect to be on your feet for 45 minutes. Water will be provided.

Due to limited space, reservations will be limited to two per person and must be made in advance.

**Wednesday, October 17**

**10:00 to 11:30 am**

**Members: free; nonmembers: \$15**

**Space limited; reservations required**

## The Faces of the Greenwich Historical Society

Greenwich High School senior Jeffrey Jackson interned in our Communications Department in the weeks before graduation. Jeffrey wrote social media posts about Greenwich history that will be published throughout the coming year. Follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter to check out Jeffrey's discoveries!

*Jeffrey Jackson*



Bella Ferrante is a student at UCONN studying history. She interned with the Greenwich Historical Society this June in our Education Department, overseeing educational programs and developing summer activities. She also conducted research for our Curatorial Department, collecting historical headlines to be featured in the upcoming exhibition, *History Is...*

*Bella Ferrante*



*James Myles (and friends) at the D. S. Mead Homestead, 1909. Old Town Hall in background.*



# Greenwich historical society

47 Strickland Road, Cos Cob, CT 06807



**Note our new street number.**

## SAVE THE DATES:

### September 13

87th Annual Meeting

### October 6

Opening Day Party

*History Is...* Exhibition Opens

### October 7

Behind-the-Scenes Site Tours

### October 17

Greenwich Avenue Walking Tour

### November 30

Greenwich Winter Antiques Show

Opening Night Party

### December 4

Holiday Boutique Opening

### December 5

Holiday House Tour



*Greenwich Historical Society chronicles the past, but the future is in your hands. Please remember us in your estate plan so that future generations may continue to explore the ongoing story of our community.*

## Fun at French Farm

A great time was had by all at *Old-Fashioned Fun at French Farm* held at Greenwich's first property to be listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The afternoon was filled with games, crafts, plein-air painting, sheep shearing and a scavenger hunt.



Many thanks to co-chairs Holly Cassin, Jordan Rhodes and Lauren Stephens and to corporate sponsors VanderHorn Architects, Dudley-Stephens, Betteridge, Val's Wine and *Fairfield County Look* for their support of the June 10 event.

Proceeds support the education and preservation efforts of the Greenwich Historical Society. ■



*Co-chairs Lauren Stephens, Holly Cassin and Jordan Rhodes*

Visit our blog at [greenwichhistory.org/blog](http://greenwichhistory.org/blog) and follow us on:



@GreenwichHistoricalSociety



@GrnHistCT



@greenwichhistory



### HOURS

#### Museum

Wednesday through Sunday,  
12 to 4 pm, beginning October 6

#### Docent-led Tours of Bush-Holley House

Wednesday through Sunday,  
1, 2 and 3 pm and  
by appointment

### ADMISSION

\$10 for adults  
\$8 for seniors and students  
Always free to members and  
children under 18.

Free to all visitors the first  
Wednesday of each month.

### CONTACT US

Greenwich Historical Society  
47 Strickland Road  
Cos Cob, CT 06807

203-869-6899

[greenwichhistory.org/contact](http://greenwichhistory.org/contact)

### MISSION

We preserve and interpret  
Greenwich history to strengthen  
our community's connection to  
our past, to each other and to  
our future.

# Educational Programming:

## A Major Role for the Historical Society

A significant part of our mission is connecting our community to our past, to each other and to the future. This is exemplified in our reaching thousands of children every year through educational programs.

All third graders in Greenwich Public Schools interact with the Greenwich Historical Society as part of their curriculum. In addition, most local independent schools as well as school groups from towns including Stamford, Norwalk, Mamaroneck and Larchmont visit every year. Site visits as well as programming including Skyping with classrooms, badge workshops for



*Three generations celebrating the end-of-year exhibition of students' work*

scouts and professional development for teachers will be discussed in a later article. Here, we focus on an extremely successful school partnership that celebrated its 10th anniversary this year.

Every year, the Greenwich Historical Society works with students in grades one through five at Hamilton Avenue Elementary School, one of three Title I schools in Greenwich. Third graders create quilt panels depicting scenes remembered from class trips, and fourth graders work with a local professional artist to paint self-portraits in response to the portraits they studied during their visit.

### TITLE I SCHOOL PROGRAM ENDOWMENT GIFTS

Thank you to Roberta and Steve Denning and Barbara and Ray Dalio for generous gifts to endow our Title I schools program.

A select group of fifth grade students participate in afterschool training to become student docents. At the end of the school year, Hamilton Avenue students and their families, teachers, Greenwich Historical Society staff and educators gather to celebrate the students' accomplishments with an exhibition of self-portraits and quilts. The junior docents lead tours of Bush-Holley House, showcasing their new knowledge and public speaking skills. A fifth grade docent said: "It's a new experience for me. It's fun to do this with my friends and to be learning at the same time." A teacher commented that this partnership provides "an opportunity to shine outside the classroom," and another noted that it is "such a fabulous opportunity to collaborate on delivering curriculum through an exciting program."

For many Hamilton Avenue students, Greenwich Historical Society is their first museum experience. This partnership aims to instill a sense of connection to the site and our history as well as to break down barriers to museum attendance.

These experiences are made possible by an educational endowment. We are especially grateful to Roberta and Steve Denning and to Barbara and Ray Dalio for their gifts to the endowment for Title I school programming.

Our next goal is to reach all of Greenwich's Title 1 schools through the creation of new museum-school partnerships with the New Lebanon and Julian Curtiss schools. If you would like to help make this, or any of our other education initiatives, possible, please contact Executive Director and CEO Debra Mecky at 203-869-6899 or [dmecky@greenwichhistory.org](mailto:dmecky@greenwichhistory.org). ■



*A proud fourth grader with her self-portrait*

“Learning can be fun and there doesn't have to be a test at the end. If you can explore something that you're interested in just for the joy of it, I think that's formidable and has lasting impact.”

—Anna Greco, Director of Education  
Greenwich Historical Society

# The Final Steps on the Journey to

# Reimagine Our Campus

**W**e are in the home stretch of the capital campaign for the Greenwich Historical Society, with the expansion of our historic campus nearly complete. Thanks to the hard work of so many in our community—including our extraordinary Capital Campaign Chairman Peter Malkin and our committee—we have exceeded our goal of \$13.5 million to restore, rebuild and renovate the campus!

Now is the time to look forward: We still have work to do to fully realize our vision. To ensure our continued preservation efforts, we added an endowment goal of \$5 million (of which we have raised \$675,000) as well as a \$1.5 million operations budget to support our larger campus and expanded programming (of which \$225,000 has been raised).

An integral program that the endowment will support is the expansion of the Historical Society's Title I schools program, which will have tremendous positive impact on underserved, at-risk students in Greenwich. These funds will enable us to offer our Museum-School Education Partnership Program to all three Title I schools in Greenwich, based on a template that the Historical Society has piloted at Hamilton Avenue for seven years with the inaugural support of Fairfield County's Community Foundation.

Regarding construction, we are pleased to report that the restoration of Toby's is almost complete. Along with the building's conserved wood floors, the documented original wallpapers have now been restored in the Artists' Café and the Constance Hinman Getz Conference Room. The lobby already has its stone tile floors, glass doors and a new permanent visitor reception desk. Progress on the brand-new construction is also well on its way and will include the new James Stevenson and Josephine Merck Stevenson Library & Archives and the Frank Family Foundation Gallery for Special Exhibitions.

We have an impressive lineup of exhibits over the next three years, including our inaugural exhibition, *History Is...*, opening October 2018, which offers seven alternative ways to explore your stories and ours.

By the time you read this, the former archives building demolition will have begun, which will vastly increase our campus green space for events and children's programs and make room for expanded American Impressionist-era perennial and vegetable gardens, a gift of Hortulus.

The ongoing restoration is truly a sight to behold. If you would like to take a tour or are interested in supporting additional aspects of the campaign, please contact Laura Kelly at [lkelly@greenwichhistory.org](mailto:lkelly@greenwichhistory.org). ■



*Campus photo taken July 2018*



*Rendering of expanded American Impressionist-era perennial and vegetable gardens, a gift of Hortulus*

*New gifts to the Historical Society that will be on display at our October 6 opening in the Gallery for Permanent Collections*



*Thomas A. Mead, 1830–1835.  
Oil on canvas. Gift of  
Patricia and John Chadwick.*



*Hannah Seamon Mead, 1830–1835.  
Oil on canvas. Gift of  
Patricia and John Chadwick.*