



Annual Report 2023

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Museum Building After Construction. Michelle Podkova

Museum Foundation and staff at Casino Night. WPD Staff

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Introduction

The DuPage County Historical Museum (Museum) functions as the only institution dedicated to the collection, preservation, and interpretation of the material culture documenting all of DuPage County. As a 501© 3 organization, the DuPage County Historical Museum Foundation (Foundation) raises money to support the Museum. The Museum is free to the public and open five days a week. Starting in 2024, the Museum added four hours on Sunday.

Mission Statement

The DuPage County Historical Museum is operated as a facility of the Wheaton Park District, owned by the County of DuPage by resolution of the County Board pursuant to state stature. Its principal purposes are to educate the general public through the collection, preservation, interpretation, and exhibition of materials which document the history of DuPage County and its relationship to Illinois and the nation, and to provide local history services for historical organizations and for scholarly endeavors.

Stakeholders' Quotes

“Worthwhile trip to this county museum. We especially liked the exhibits on Illinois/ county history and how people lived, mens facial styles through the ages and the trains.”

Mary Schnurr, Google, February 2023

“They have a charming train display on the lower level that children tend to love! ...”

Sarah M., Yelp, October 6, 2023

“Went to [a] meeting there. Small but interesting museum focused on DuPage history. Interesting HO Scale train layout/display. Great for kids and adults.”

Philip J Boudreau, Google, January 2023

“No photos allowed but we had a great time taking a walk down memory lane during our visit. We enjoyed our great guided tour but our favorite feature was the trains. If you have a moment please visit the DuPage County Historical Museum!”

StoryPoint Romeoville, Facebook, January 17, 2023

Visitor Data

In 2023, the Museum served 5,628 visitors. This was an increase of 33% over 2022. Numbers are still slightly down compared to pre-pandemic numbers. Please note, 2019 had limited numbers as well due to downtown Wheaton construction in front of the Museum. Staff uses 2018 numbers as the pre-pandemic standard. See data in graphs on page 6.

*Sunday hours of 12-4P will be added in 2024.

**Total reach includes every touch the Museum had in people’s lives including attendance to events, programs, field trips, visitors, rentals, social media, using Museum online resources, parents, outreach event attendance, etc.



2023 Hours*
Tuesday-Friday
10:30A-4:00P
Saturday
12:00-4:00P

**Serving over 30
Communities!**

Visitors

Year	Visitors
2017	8,420
2018	7,301
2019	5,820
2020	1,326
2021	2,782
2022	4,230
2023	5,628

2023 Visitors: 5,628

**2023 Total Reach:
70,791****

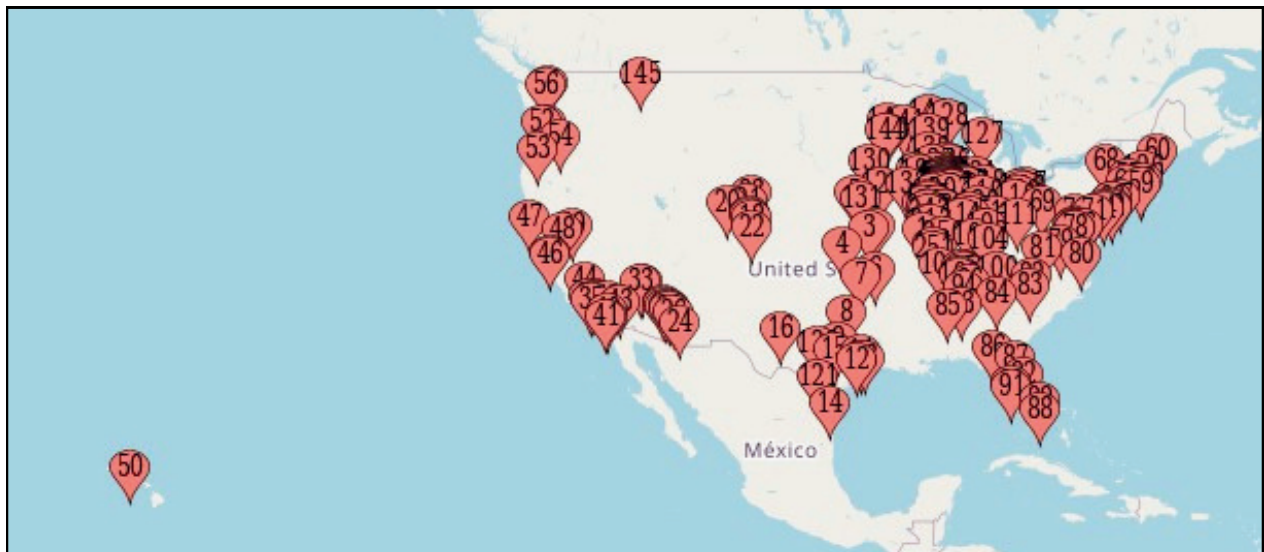
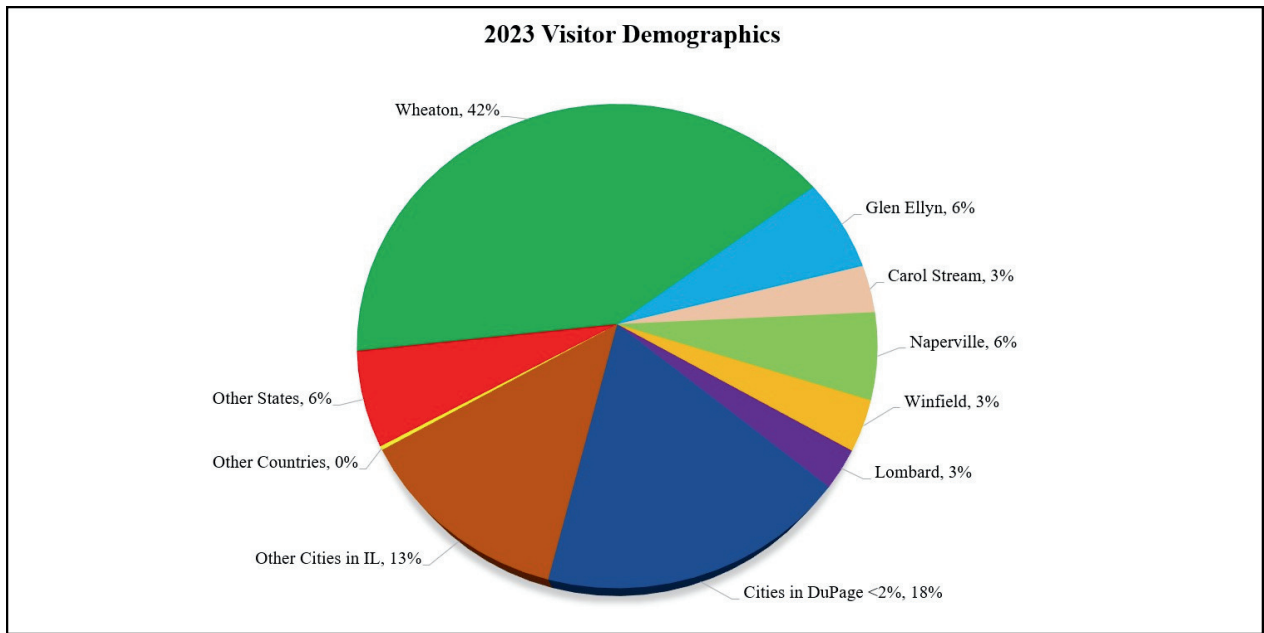
Donations: \$7,408.08



*Visitors watching train.
Museum staff*



*Train Camp. Michelle
Podkowa*



Visitors Across the United States and Beyond

In 2023, visitors from 35 states, Washington D.C. and the countries of China, Canada, England, Finland, and Switzerland visited the Museum.

Museum Operating Budget

All 2023 calculations are preliminary and will be confirmed through a professional annual audit.

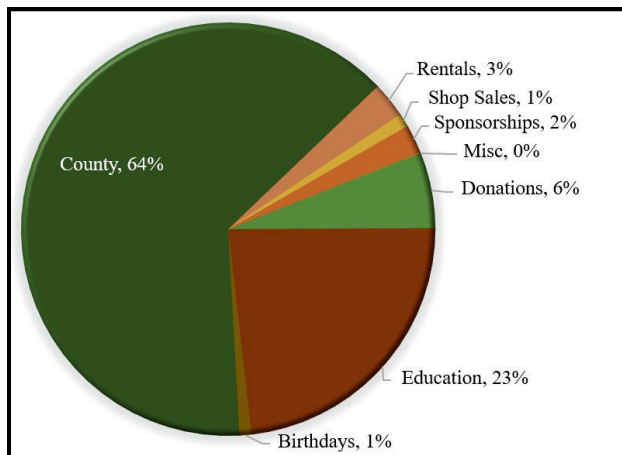
Revenues	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
Sponsorships	\$5,750	\$5,750	\$5,000	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$2,500
Edu. Prog/B-day/Research	\$59,766	\$48,998	\$24,352	\$3,380	\$45,942	\$38,971
Facility Rentals/Special Events	\$6,104	\$9,072	\$7,536	\$1,875	\$10,318	\$4,925
Shop Sales	\$2,444	\$1,146	\$583	\$1,095	\$1,312	\$1,135
Grants & Donations	\$14,908	\$8,493	\$11,697	\$22,394	\$12,034	\$18,008
County	\$160,000	\$145,000	\$119,166*	\$130,000	\$130,000	\$130,000
Revenue Sub Total	\$248,972	\$218,459	\$168,335	\$161,244	\$202,104	\$195,540

Expenses						
FT Salaries & Insurance	(\$131,491)	(\$133,788)	(\$118,911)	(\$117,795)	(\$121,796)	(\$126,668)
Part Time Wages	(\$19,622)	(\$17,081)	(\$6,650)	(\$4,524)	(\$17,404)	(\$16,622)
Contractual	(\$32,380)	(\$27,505)	(\$13,605)	(\$2,330)	(\$23,457)	(\$18,773)
IT Services & Supplies	(\$19,448)	(\$14,066)	(\$8,808)	(\$9,855)	(\$15,889)	(\$11,639)
Utilities	(\$6,945)	(\$5,204)	(\$6,776)	(\$6,468)	(\$6,569)	(\$6,286)
Supplies	(\$12,183)	(\$8,080)	(\$3,541)	(\$1,802)	(\$4,417)	(\$4,997)
Marketing	(\$2,223)	(\$576)	(\$548)	(\$550)	(\$3,695)	(\$2,735)
Fundraising	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$49)	\$0
Mileage Reimbursement	(\$22)	(\$56)	(\$22)	(\$45)	(\$368)	(\$525)
Dues and Subscriptions	(\$953)	(\$973)	(\$983)	(\$1,013)	(\$1,038)	(\$858)
Training	(\$481)	(\$93)	(\$35)	(\$100)	(\$2,068)	(\$734)
Capital Expense-Computers	(\$502)	(\$628)	(\$1,143)	(\$2,096)	(\$446)	(\$325)
Expense Sub Total	(\$226,250)	(\$208,050)	(\$161,022)	(\$146,578)	(\$197,197)	(\$190,163)

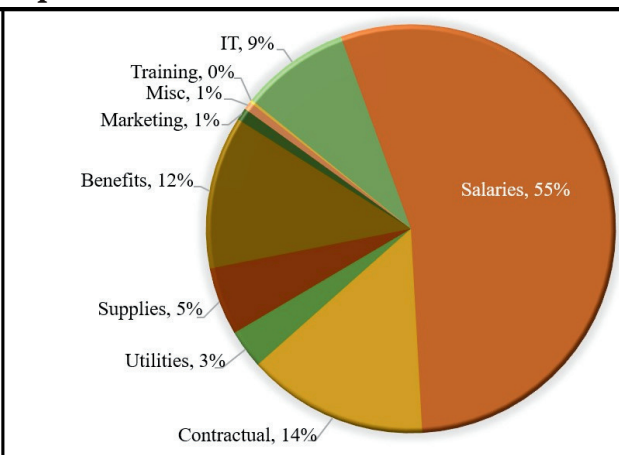
Report Totals	\$22,722	\$10,409	\$7,313	\$14,666	\$4,908	\$5,377
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*County funds increase beginning in 2022. Due to fiscal year differences between County and the Park District, financial protocols dictate a change in the way the County funds are recorded making 2021 show less than the normal annual amount. Funding will appear normal again moving forward.

Revenue



Expenses





Joyce Ostberg presenting on *The Roarin' Elgin*.
Larry Kmiecik

Educational Revenue:
\$59,703.63*

Total Educational Reach:
2,264

Total Offerings

- 25 In-Person Events
- 2 Virtual Events
- 28 Tours/Programs
- 9 Outreach Events
- 16 Camps
- 6 Presentations
- 10 Birthday Parties
- 2 Craft To-Go Kits



Santa Express. Michelle Podkowa

Museum Events

Type	Events	Attendees
Adult	12	994
Family	13	363
Total	25	1357



Architectural Walking Tour. Beth Frederick



Go Fly A Kite outreach table. Michelle Podkowa

Education

The Museum provides events, programs, presentations, and tours to audiences of all ages. Programming explores people, places, and events that shaped DuPage County. Since the COVID Pandemic in 2020, some virtual and craft kits have become staples in the Museum’s offerings to provide convenience and accessibility. Seventeen craft kits were sold. Two virtual programs hosted 15 people. Videos on the Museum website provided entertainment for nearly 200 viewers.

Museum Events

The Museum collaborated with local organizations (listed below) to provide engaging events at little or no cost to the attendees. Total fees for presenters in 2023 were \$909.19. DuPage Foundation’s grant covered \$810 of the speakers’ fees. Event donations brought in \$287 which helped cover the remaining speaker fees and other incidentals for the events. All events August 14 through November 20 were held at the Community Center or Mary Lubko Center due to construction in the Museum auditorium. Events are listed in Appendix 2.

- BeHistoric (Brian and Joyce Ostberg)
- City of Wheaton’s Community Relations Commission and Historic Commission
- Culinary Historians of Northern Illinois (CHNI)
- DuPage County Genealogical Society (DCGS)
- DuPage County Historical Society (DCHS)
- DuPage County Society of Model Engineers (DPSME)
- Illinois National Guard
- Illinois Prairie Path (IPP)
- Wheaton Public Library (WPL)

Santa Express

The Museum hosted five Santa Express trips for 569 riders. Families enjoyed cookies while singing carols and reading a story aboard the Metra train. Santa also visited each family. The net revenue was \$8,525.31. Arrowhead Golf Club sponsored snacks and Smile Doctors sponsored the children’s goodie bags.

Birthday Parties

The Museum offers birthday parties for children aged 4 to 12. Birthday parties are \$200 for 10 children. Additional children cost \$10 each. In 2023, the Museum hosted ten birthday parties with 108 children. Total revenue was \$2,210 with a profit margin of 80%.

Outreach Events

Staff attended five outreach events including DuPage County Social Studies Conference for Educators, STEAM Night at Eisenhower Jr. High, Westmont Park District Last Straw event, Wheaton Rotary Meeting, and DuPage County Veterans Resource Fair. Outreach tables were also set up at four Museum Foundation and Park District events. An estimated 775 people visited these tables while 37,950 people attended these events who may have come in contact with the Museum table.

*This number combines educational programs and birthday party accounts included in this are camps, presentations, tours, programs, Santa Express. Research fees will be covered on page 10.

Presentations

In 2023, the Museum delivered six presentations to local organizations for 120 attendees to libraries, retirement communities, and community groups, making \$770 in revenue.

Camps

In 2023, 16 summer camp sessions were offered and all sessions ran with a total of 228 participants. Of the 16 sessions, 14 were contracted LEGO camps with Play-Well TEKnologies and two were staff-facilitated. Camps had a profit margin of 35%.

Craft To-Go Kits

Staff created two different craft to-go kits in 2023. The Museum offered curbside pick up for convenience and accessibility. Kits were \$15 each. Seventeen kits were sold netting \$252.63.

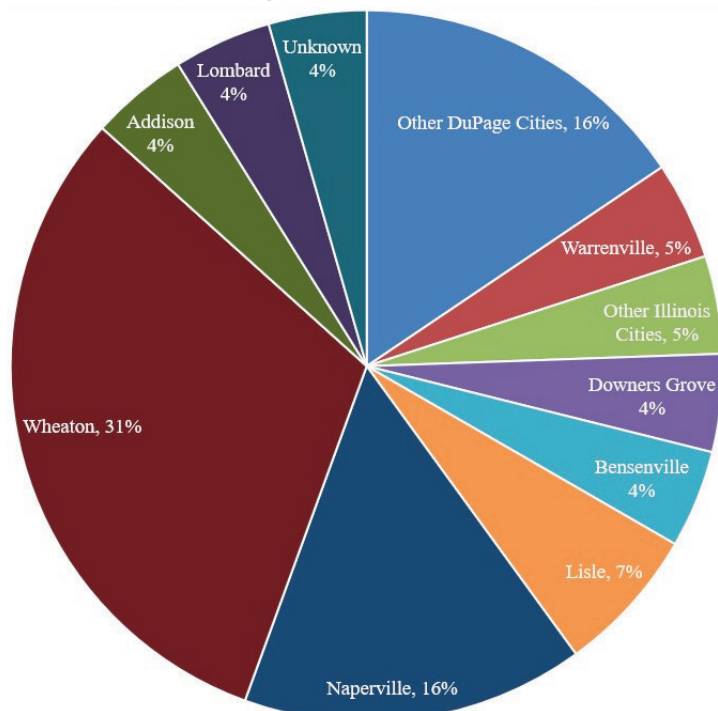
Tours, School, and Scout Programs

Tours are available for \$5 per person. School and scout programs are available for \$5-\$7 per person. Virtual options are available. There were 28 paid tours and programs conducted in 2023, earning a total of \$2,329. These programs reached 434 participants. There were five schools included in this number that visited the Museum or had the Museum visit them.

In addition, 15 organizations took advantage of self-guided tours bringing another 163 visitors to the Museum. These were mostly special recreation groups who enjoy utilizing the educational and quiet environment the Museum provides.

The listing of 2023 tour groups can be found in Appendix 2.

Tours and Program Group Locations



Curator giving a tour.
Michelle Podkowa

Camps

Year	Attendees
2018	148
2019	167
2020	0
2021	109
2022	192
2023	228

Tours and Programs

Year	#	Attendees
2018	30	628
2019	53	763
2020	25	222
2021	21	304
2022	29	482
2023	28	434



Young visitor watching train. Provided Photo



Cynthia Clampitt presenting at the Culinary Historians of Northern Illinois event.
Michelle Podkowa



Meet Me at the Fair exhibit. WPD Staff

46 Donors Gifted

250+ New Artifacts

Digitization Project

Type	Photos	Total
3D		
Objects	18,024	19,592
Images	4,457	9,941
Archives	1,179	12,115
Books	2,788	2,900
Total	26,448	44,548

Research Requests

Year	Amount	#
2018	\$506	88
2019	\$569	85
2020	\$785	78
2021	\$115	100
2022	\$108	82
2023	\$63	66



Railroad spike. Larry Kmiecik



The Roarin' Elgin exhibit. WPD Staff

Collection

In 2023, 46 generous donors gifted the Museum over 250 artifacts to the permanent, education, and research collections. Staff continues to evaluate artifacts for deaccession in accordance with best practices of the American Alliance of Museums. The Museum is working to make the photograph and artwork collection accessible to the public through the PastPerfect Online Database. Currently, 3,592 artifacts are uploaded and available for community members to view from the comfort of their homes. Digitization of the entire collection continues with the photographing of artifacts.

Voices of DuPage

In Fall 2016, the Museum began an oral history initiative to record DuPage residents' stories for future generations. The Museum focuses on a different theme every year, but oral histories on all topics are accepted. Staff has collected 47 histories on the themes of the Civil Rights Movement, veterans, agriculture, and local histories.

Museum Research and Reproductions

Museum staff provides research services for \$25 per hour with the first 30 minutes free. Reproductions of collection pieces are also available for a fee. For details, see table on the left.

Exhibits

The Museum presented eight exhibits based on collection artifacts supplemented with items from private individuals and area museums.

Black Trailblazers

February 1, 2023 - February 28, 2023

Stories of DuPage: Reading Between the Lines

June 11, 2022 - March 25, 2023

Of Mustaches and Men

August 13, 2023 - June 3, 2023

Grandma's Kitchen

September 17, 2022 - June 3, 2023

The Roarin' Elgin: A Trip on the Chicago, Aurora and Elgin Railway

June 10, 2023 - March 23, 2024

Meet Me at the Fair: The Chicago World's Fairs in DuPage County

July 15, 2023 - April 13, 2024

Planes, Trains, and Automobiles

November 29, 2023 - June 8, 2024

Annual Christmas Trees throughout the Years and Victorian Decorations



Black Trailblazers exhibit. Larry Kmiecik

Institutional Stewardship

Building Preservation

In 2023, the County of DuPage (County) continued to monitor and adjust storage and building conditions to provide the best environment for guests and artifacts. Periodical check-ins occur to ensure these settings are maintained.

In 2021, the Park District and County partnered to submit a proposal to the Illinois Department of National Resources for their Museum Capital Grant Program. This project included stabilization of the masonry and rebuilding the historic gutter system for the building. The grant was awarded in 2022 and the plans finalized for the historic work in Fall 2023. Berglund Company completed the gutter work, stabilization and extra internal stabilization of the trusses in November 2023. As a result of the interior work needed, nearly half of the permanent collection needed to be moved for its protection. Nearly the entire auditorium woodwork was dismantled, labeled and reinstalled after the work.

StEPs and Museum Best Practices

The Museum continues to update and adhere to all museum best practices. To keep updated, the Museum has chosen to work through the American Association of State and Local History's (AASLH) Standards of Excellence Program (StEPs). StEPs is a voluntary training program consisting of five sections of guidelines for best practices as laid out by the American Alliance of Museums (AAM). AAM is the museum accrediting body in the United States. Best practices are being worked into new policies and in daily practice. This will continue as core policies are evaluated and updated.

Many steps are required to update all aspects of the Museum to reflect best practices. The first step is to update the permanent exhibit titled *Enduring Values*. County and Park District has teamed up to partner on hiring a consultant to design new exhibits for *Enduring Values* as well as County's *Heritage Gallery*. A consultant is expected to be hired in spring 2024.

Other building projects should also be undertaken before applying for future accreditation. Some of these projects include tuckpointing the building, more gutter work and downspout replacement, restore windows, rebuild steps and restore original exterior doors. Interior work like restoration of woodwork and repainting should also be considered.

Best practices also requires the Museum to diversify its collections, programming, exhibit coverage, and other areas of operation. Staff continues to focus on building relationships within the community which will cultivate and attract more diversified artifact donations. New programming including the beginning of the Trailblazers branding will focus on marginalized groups to highlight their importance throughout DuPage history.



The Museum remained open during the project.
Michelle Podkowa



A Wheat Penny and Mercury Dime found under the woodwork.
Michelle Podkowa



An exposed beam during the construction project.
Emily O'Brien



Current Enduring Values exhibit. A new permanent exhibit will be designed in 2024.
Michelle Podkowa



Foundation Member Michael Childress, DuPage Foundation Trustee Julie Curran, and Kaitlin Lizik. Submitted Photo

Grants for 2023: \$2,500

Grants for 2024: \$2,500

Total Rental Revenue: \$6,104

Rental Attendance

Event Type	Attendees
Organizations	450
Private Rentals	265
Reindeer Run	1,000
WPD Meetings	330
Total	2,045



Museum staff with County Board Members accepting the Black History Month Proclamation. Evan Shields



July 1 event, The First Shot at Gettysburg. Emily O'Brien

Honors Grants

- History DuPage Fund of the DuPage Foundation, Community Needs Mini Grant for *The Roarin’ Elgin: A Trip on the Chicago, Aurora, and Elgin Railway* exhibit, \$2,500 awarded in 2022 for FY2023.
- History DuPage Fund of the DuPage Foundation, Community Needs Mini Grant for Celebrating Instantly Iconic DuPage 2024 exhibits, \$2,500 awarded in 2023 for FY2024.

Honors and Awards

- DuPage County Board presented the Museum with the February’s Black History Month Proclamation on behalf of County residents for the *Black Trailblazers* exhibit.
- Museum Foundation Member Glennette Tilley Turner earned the 2023 Lifetime Achievement Award from the Illinois State Historical Society.
- Illinois National Guard presented an award of recognition for preserving National Guard history of the area.

Publications

- Frederick, Beth. “History of Hurley Gardens”. *Be Local Western Chicago Magazine*. December 2023.

See grant and award letters and selected publications in Appendix 3.



Museum Rentals

In 2023, the Museum hosted 14 private rentals for individuals and organizations. These clients rent the auditorium for a variety of events, including parties, meetings, and weddings.

The Museum auditorium hosted over 30 Wheaton Park District meetings and events in 2023. Construction in the Auditorium commenced August 14th, 2023, and the Auditorium did not reopen until November 20th. Due to this closure, the Museum was unable to schedule any rentals or events during this period of time resulting in lower-than-average numbers for 2023.

Event Co-hosts and Rental Partners

- Culinary Historians of Northern Illinois
- DuPage County Genealogical Society
- DuPage County Historical Society
- SCORE Fox Valley
- State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company
- Transitions Coaching and Consulting Incorporated
- Wheaton Chamber of Commerce
- Wheaton College Center for Vocation and Career
- Wheaton Community Relations Commission
- Wheaton Park District
- Wheaton Public Library

Personnel

Wheaton Park District Administration

The Museum building functions as the Administrative Office for the Wheaton Park District. Museum Assistants serve in an administrative capacity for the Park District by answering phones, assisting with registration, finance paperwork, and other administrative tasks.

Staff Changes

Museum Assistants Erin Fairhead and Ben Bulpitt resigned to pursue new careers in 2023. The Museum added a seasonal Intern position in 2023. Brady Hagerman held that position. Volunteer Caleigh Mason began as Museum Assistant in July 2023. In November 2023, Cecilia Ringo started as Museum Assistant.

Staff Development

All staff are CPR/AED certified and take yearly online training through the Park District's risk management company. The Museum continues to be listed on the Giant Steps Autism-friendly Directory. In 2023, Curator Emily O'Brien completed Basset Training and PDRMA HELP Training. She also participated in a museum-specific Wet Salvage Disaster Preparedness workshop through the Chicago Alliance for Response Network. Manager and Educator Michelle Podkowa continues to be involved in the AASLH History in Our Parks National Task Force.

Volunteers

In 2023, ten individual volunteers served a total of 370.8 hours. These volunteers are listed to the right; to view a complete list of volunteer hours, see Appendix 4. The DuPage Society of Model Engineers (DPSME) continued to serve the Museum in 2023 by maintaining the model train layout. On the third and fifth Saturdays of each month, they run the trains for patrons. They assist with members-only train hours for the children's Explorer's Club Membership through the Foundation. They also assisted in running the trains for special events or visits during the year. In 2023, DPSME volunteered a total of 846 hours.

A Selection of Volunteer Projects:

- Digitization of archival objects and photographs
- Revising disaster plan
- Assisting with educational programs and events
- Photographing collections and exhibits for records
- Transcribing Voices of DuPage oral histories
- Serving on the Collection Committee
- Videography of events
- Cataloging and indexing collections
- Rehousing collections
- Researching and creating reports and presentations

1,324 Total Hours

Train Engineers: 846

Volunteers: 478

Total Value: \$42,103.20*

*Bureau of Labor Statistics rate, indexed by Independent Sector of \$31.80 per hour.



In memory of Bob Jacobsen (1931-2023), 20 year Museum Foundation board member. Museum Staff

Volunteers

Kaelen Bradford
Alexis Lavin
Caleigh Mason
Sophia Moody
Craig Passley
Blake Podkowa
Kent Smith
Dan Swick
Avry Tower
Michael Wagner

DPSME Members

Forest Andrews
Michael Bauer
Normal Brockmeier
Mark Malik
Bill McGurr
Andrew Mueller
Hans Raab
Tom Schneider
Dan Taylor, Jr.
Kenneth Valentine
Keith Ward



Al Turner, Glennette Tilley Turner, and Michelle Podkowa. Provided Photo

Virtual Videos

Video	Views
Ballots of Power	22
Calligraphy	4
Home Grown	2
Recognizing Trailblazers	48
Together We Win	30
Unique Artifacts	1
Victory Gardens	1
DPSME Lecture	6
Total	114



Museum Assistant Beth Frederick and Foundation member Melody Coleman at Shakespeare in the Park. Michelle Podkowa



Curator Emily O'Brien preparing for the virtual tour of the exhibit Of Mustaches and Men. Michelle Podkowa

Marketing and Communications

In 2023, the Museum focused its attention and communication on new exhibits, programs, special events, and Train Saturdays. Each year an annual marketing calendar is developed that guides marketing staff month by month that identifies content for various initiatives, email blasts, social media posts, newsletters, and appeals.

In 2023, the marketing department distributed five press releases on the following featured topics; Casino Night, Destination Heartland, *The Roarin' Elgin* exhibit, construction completion and Glennette Tilley Turner's Lifetime Achievement Award.

Two annual newsletters were distributed by mail and email that included program and event listings, current Museum topics, staff spotlights, and exhibit announcements.

A total of 42 eblasts were distributed in 2023, with an average open rate of 48.5% and 5.8% click-through rate. These monthly eblasts ranged from promoting Special events, Foundation campaigns, summer camps, programs, exhibit openings and general Museum news.

The Museum communicated effectively about the restoration of the building. This included utilizing social media, email, the website and signage to inform the public about the project, the closure and reopening of the auditorium, the temporary closure of the children's room and updates on construction progress and items that were found during woodwork removal.

Discussions were had about the branding color palette, which was updated for usage starting January 1, 2024.

A partnership was established with *BeLocal* magazine. The Museum had an ad published as well as an article on the Hurley Gardens. More articles are planned every other month with *BeLocal* in 2024. See Appendix 3 for article.

See Appendix 5 for a selection of newspaper articles and marketing materials from 2023.



DPSME volunteer Mark Malik with the model train. WPD Staff

Sponsorship

The Museum received renewed support from First Trust as their primary operating budget sponsor. Event sponsors in 2023 include Mirabella, Kincaid, Frederick, Mirabella LLC, Wheaton Bank and Trust, Fairhaven Wealth Management, Inland Real Estate Group, Arrowhead Golf Club, Wheaton Orthodontic, and First Service Residential.



MIRABELLA,
KINCAID,
FREDERICK &
MIRABELLA, LLC



Social Media

Museum and marketing staff cooperatively maintain Facebook and Instagram. All platforms are updated 3-5 times per week. Posts focus on exhibits, artifacts, events, County history, and facility information. The best performing posts included event promotion for Casino Night and Mad For Plaid. See tables to the right for Facebook and Instagram statistics.

Museum Shop

The Museum shop focuses on unique, hard to find, or local history related objects. It also features items related to current exhibits. Several new books were added to the shop including the new edition of *DuPage Roots*. The Museum held sales and restocked the shop with new items to increase sales. Staff made social media posts of the new items and new photographs of store items were updated on the website. In 2023, the Shop made \$2,594.82, more than doubling 2022.



Staff at Brewfest. Michelle Podkowa



Staff at Night at the Museum. WPD Staff

Facebook

Year	Followers	Ave. Views /Post
2018	1,274	286
2019	1,554	426
2020	1,734	646
2021	2,187	1,493
2022	2,793	945
2023	2,921	840

Instagram

Year	Followers	Ave. Views /Post
2018	599	131
2019	1,012	232
2020	1,095	210
2021	1,238	193
2022	1,282	129
2023	1,436	100

Website

Total Website Visits: 7,920
Total Views: 41,977

Most Viewed Pages:

Home: 13,213
Plan a Visit: 3,721
Collections & Exhibits: 3,579
Santa Express: 2,545
Train Saturdays: 1,733
Upcoming Events: 1,137

Top Referral Sites:

discoverdupage.com
mykidlist.com
mommypoppins.com
calameo.com (newsletter)
patch.com
wheatonparkdistrict.com

PastPerfect Online

Total Searches: 2,588

Common Searches:

1. Wheaton
2. School
3. Farmhouse in Addison
4. Courthouse
5. Wheaton Library
6. Bloomingdale Church
7. Geneva Road
8. Bloomingdale Farm
9. Front Street
10. House Wheaton Main St

2023 Foundation

Marty Keller, President
 Emily Doyle, Vice President
 Mike Benard, Secretary
 Melody Coleman, Treasurer
 Philip Buchanan
 Michael Childress
 Bob Jacobsen*
 Bill Liu
 Troy Rodman
 Samantha Russell**
 David Thiel
 Glennette Tilley Turner
 Dan Wagner

*Passed away November 2023
 **Resigned April 2023



Casino Night. Larry Kmiecik

Membership

Year	Members
2018	196+
2019	41
2020	24
2021	50
2022	59
2023	54

+Membership with Casino Night tickets.



Mad Fore Plaid. Larry Kmiecik



Staff at October Fest. WPD Staff

DuPage County Historical Museum Foundation

The DuPage County Historical Museum Foundation is recognized as a 501©3 by the State of Illinois. Its purpose is to raise funds to support the Museum’s mission. The Foundation meets monthly to review and discuss current fundraising initiatives and special events. Foundation board members work closely with the Development team and Museum staff to solicit donations, grants, sponsorships, memberships and assist with the coordination of their signature fundraising events.

Event and Fundraising Summary

Mad Fore Plaid was held in January 2023, in partnership with the Wheaton Public Library. This collaborative event was popular amongst community members and generated \$9,967 (net) for the Foundation. Casino Night was held at Arrowhead Golf Club and was successful in generating over \$10,000 in net proceeds. October Fest was held in conjunction with the Light the Torch Run at the Central Athletic Complex. With over 2,000 attendees, this event generated over \$7,000 in net proceeds.

The Foundation also receives revenue through working the concessions at Shakespeare in the Park in August and the Night at the Museum Halloween Party in October.

Other fundraising initiatives include the annual spring appeal, Giving DuPage Days, and the year-end appeal. The appeal campaigns include mailed letters, emails, and social media posts. The spring appeal focused on the upcoming exhibits at the Museum, and the year-end appeal theme focused on Loie’s bonnet, an artifact the Museum preserves. The year-end appeal successfully raised \$6,940 for the Foundation. In addition, \$3,350 was raised in memory of board member Bob Jacobsen, who passed away in November 2023.

Additional revenue sources for the Foundation throughout the year included proceeds from Wheaton Park District special events. The Foundation received \$6,112 from the Light the Torch Night Run, and \$1,061 from concession sales at Shakespeare in the Park.

The Museum membership program continues to see small growth each year, with most interest in the Explorers Club membership. At the end of 2023, the Foundation had 54 members.

Other Foundation initiatives included networking luncheons and plans of a new fundraising event to take place in 2024. Board Member Dan Wagner and the Inland Real Estate Group hosted a Mix and Mingle lunch at the Museum in July 2023. The intent was to introduce community leaders to the Museum. This lunch hosted over 50 people.

DuPage County Historical Museum Foundation Budget

All 2023 calculations are preliminary and will be confirmed through a professional annual audit.

Foundation Assets

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
Total Assets	\$156,907	\$137,935	\$117,374	\$129,470	\$108,177	\$92,405
Total Liabilities	\$3,526	\$10,555	\$7,195	\$19,864	\$945	\$2,501
Total Net Assets	\$153,381	\$127,380	\$110,179	\$109,605	\$107,233	\$89,904

Foundation Budget

Revenues	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
Administrative	\$27,139	\$20,429	\$28,266	\$31,645	\$21,158	\$35,428
Mad Fore Plaid	\$26,481	\$0	\$0	\$18,289	\$0	\$0
Casino Night	\$25,078	\$38,493	\$0	\$7,781	\$25,649	\$33,327
October Fest	\$25,454	\$23,264	\$20,383	\$1,000	\$26,895	\$26,480
Night at the Museum	\$986	\$1,210	\$1,004	\$0	\$670	\$700
Memberships	\$2,507	\$2,217	\$1,999	\$817	\$1,289	\$544
Annual Appeal / Donations [^]	\$9,493	\$5,642	\$9,543	\$13,995 [†]	\$3,850	\$2,621
New Events	\$0	\$2,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Revenue Subtotal	\$117,138	\$93,255	\$61,195	\$73,528	\$79,510	\$97,590

Expenses						
Administrative	(\$39,308)	(\$35,104)	(\$46,251)	(\$52,231)	(\$35,365)	(\$40,842)
Mad Fore Plaid	(\$16,514)	\$0	\$0	(\$12,975)	\$0	\$0
Casino Night	(\$14,830)	(\$22,272)	(\$95)	(\$3,075)	(\$11,791)	(\$10,233)
October Fest	(\$18,658)	(\$16,843)	(\$11,601)	(\$197)	(\$12,575)	(\$14,166)
Night at the Museum	(\$592)	(\$796)	(\$528)	(\$395) [‡]	(\$695)	\$0
Memberships	(\$404)	\$0	\$0	(\$289)	(\$588)	(\$130)
Annual Appeal / Donations [^]	(\$457)	(\$212)	(\$2,146)	(\$1,993)	(\$1,166)	(\$568)
New Events	(\$374)	(\$828)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Expense Subtotal	(\$91,137)	(\$76,055)	(\$60,621)	(\$71,155)	(\$62,181)	(\$65,939)

Report Totals	\$26,001	\$17,200	\$574	\$2,373	\$17,329	\$31,651
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[^]Does not include final totals (some expenses and additional revenue in January of the following year)

[†]The 2020 annual appeal saw a 360% increase due to the generosity of patrons during COVID-19 pandemic.


[‡]Night at the Museum was canceled in 2020, however, some expenses were still incurred.

Note for 2017-2019 Budgets: In 2012, Pratapas consulted for the Foundation for \$21,734.74. The amount represented 50%, the rest to be paid in 2017-2019, one-third each year.

Appendix

Appendix 1: Testimonials

January 2023, Google Review



Philip J Boudreau
184 reviews

★★★★★ 3 months ago

Went to meeting there. Small but interesting museum focused on DuPage history. Interesting HO scale train layout/display. Great for kids and adults.

January 2023, Facebook




StoryPoint Romeoville is at DuPage County Historical Museum.

10m · Wheaton, Illinois · 🌐

No photos allowed but we had a great time taking a walk down memory lane during our visit. We enjoyed our great guided tour but our favorite feature was the trains. If you have a moment please visit the DuPage County Historical Museum!

February 2023, Google Review



Mary Schnurr
5 reviews

★★★★★ 2 months ago

Worthwhile trip to this county museum. We especially liked the exhibits on Illinois/ county history and how people lived, mens facial styles through the ages and the trains. Then we walked around the Wheaton downtown area, enjoyed the nearby restaurants and busy coffee shop. Recommend this for an outing. ... [More](#)

February 2023, Email from Birthday Party Parent

Michelle Podkova

From: Alyson S
Sent: Wednesday, February 15, 2023 10:29 AM
To: Michelle Podkova
Cc: Erin Fairhead
Subject: Re: Birthday Party at the DuPage County Historical Museum

Thank you, Michelle.

Everything went beautifully, and I have a thousand thanks and compliments to Erin, who was amazing. She was interested and engaging with the kids, and kept things on pace in an easygoing and flexible way. Erin - your creativity, camaraderie, and work allowed me to focus on the food and welcoming adults who were coming/going, and to take pics. That meant the world to me!

The kids loved the eggs - Caroline is still talking about them. I think they're a great activity, and would definitely be fun for many ages, especially if they get a quick soak before digging. It was a messy adventure for our crew though, and they loved it! Also, the blow-up dinos and toys spread out were a surprising (to me) hit! That gave quieter kids some downtime, which was great. We put the Carolinasaurus poster up in C's room. Such a personal touch and it was a perfect craft for a crew of Montessori kids.

I included a few pics here - Erin, we made a little party photo album for Caroline, and your pic with her made it in! :)

Thank you again. You made an 8-year-old feel special and proud of her first friend party, and that's all I could ask.

Sincerely,
Alyson S.

Appendix 1: Testimonials

March 2023, Email from Birthday Party Parent

Michelle Podkova

From: Justine M
Sent: Sunday, March 5, 2023 7:49 AM
To: Erin Fairhead
Cc: Beth Frederick; Michelle Podkova
Subject: Re: Birthday party request-Forms Attached


Thank you so much for hosting Paxton's party, the birthday boy and all the kiddos had so much fun! Beth, these are the wood trains that I ordered for the kiddos, https://www.amazon.com/gp/aw/d/B07QWSVG23?psc=1&ref=ppx_pop_mob_b_asin_title. They loved them.

Justine M

April 2023, Facebook Mention

 **AIA Illinois is at DuPage County Historical Museum.**
14m · 🌐

The DuPage County Historical Museum is an early example of the adaptive reuse of civic properties. Charles Sumner Frost (1856–1931) designed the building in 1892 as a public library, making it an early Illinois example of this type.



Discover

by: DuPage Historical Museum

April 2023, Facebook Mention

 **KDRMA Passport to Adventure** 31m · 🌐

The trains are running this weekend [DuPage County Historical Museum](#) !

 **DuPage County Historical Museum**
1h · 🌐

This upcoming Saturday (April 29) is a Train Saturday! Stop by from 1:30–3:30 P to see our model trains running thanks to volunteers from the DuPage Society of Model Engineers!



Appendix 1: Testimonials

July 2023, Email from Parent of Young Visitor

Michelle Podkova

From: Emily A
Sent: Thursday, July 27, 2023 1:41 PM
To: Michelle Podkova
Subject: Thank you!!! 🌸🌻🌷

Dear Michelle,

I wanted to let you know how much this morning meant to Leif and our family. Thank you for making such a special and safe experience for him. He literally fell asleep with a smile on the way home!

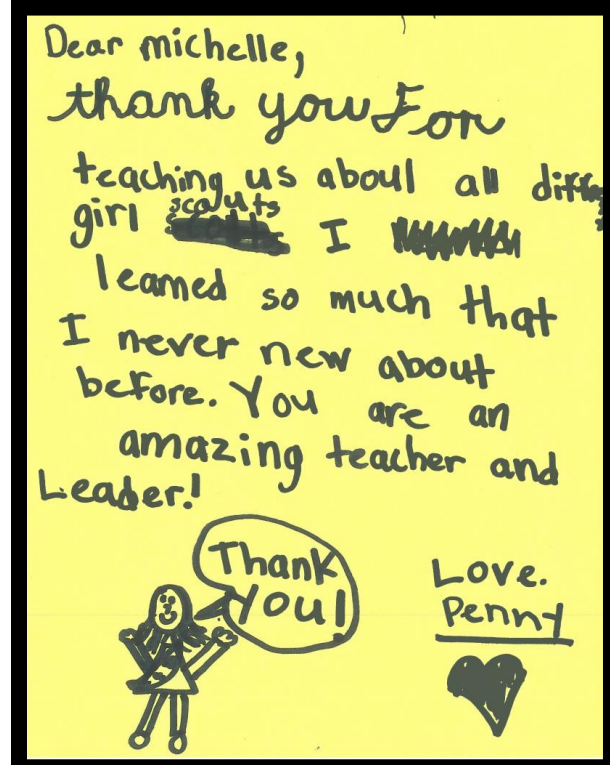
Below are a few photos.

We are praying he continues to stay on track with his treatment and will be able to participate in the train camp next summer.

Thank you again!

Sincerely,
Emily A

December 2023, Card from Girl Scout



Appendix 2: Education

Tour and Program Group Demographics

Group/Organization	Type	Program	Location
StoryPoint Romeoville	Adult Tour	Museum Tour	Romeoville
Wes's Urban Sketchers	Self-Guided	Self-Guided	Lisle
Cub Scout Pack 382	Scouts	Marble Madness	Wheaton
Monarch Services	Self-Guided	Self-Guided	Naperville
Wheaton Rotary	Presentation	Museum Tour	Wheaton
Daisy Girl Scouts	Scouts	Daisy Tea Party	Wheaton
Lombard Place Assisted Living	Self-Guided	Self-Guided	Lombard
Junior Girl Scouts	Scouts	Playing the Past & Social Butterfly	Naperville and Lisle
Brownies	Scouts	Scout Celebration & Making Games	Wheaton
PremierCare MyDay	Adult Tour	Museum Tour	Naperville
DuPage Women's Club	Presentation	DuPage County History	Warrenville
NEDSRA	Self-Guided	Self-Guided	Addison
Churchill Elementary	School	Farming in the Early 1900s	Glen Ellyn
Hanover Twp Depart of Aging	Adult Tour	Museum Tour	Bartlett
Girl Scouts	Scouts	Girl Scouts History - Customized	NA
Girl Scouts	Scouts	Playing the Past	NA
Junior Girl Scouts	Scouts	Social Butterfly	Downers Grove
North Central College	Self-Guided	Self-Guided	Naperville
Anthology Senior Living	Presentation	Home Grown	Wheaton
Junior Girl Scouts	Scouts	Social Butterfly	Warrenville
Eisenhower Junior High	School	STEAM Night Outreach	Darien
Beacon Hill	Self-Guided	Self-Guided	Lombard
Brownie Girl Scouts	Scouts	Girl Scout Celebration	Carol Stream
Brownie Girl Scouts	Scouts	Making Games	Wheaton
Daisy Girl Scouts	Scouts	Daisy and the Girl Scouts	Downers Grove
Daisy Girl Scouts, CUSD 200	Scouts	Daisy Tea Party	Wheaton
Emerson Elementary School	School	Museum Tour/Arch Tour	Wheaton
Lowell School	School	Architectural Walking Tour	Wheaton
Lowell School	School	Architectural Walking Tour	Wheaton
Madison Elementary School	School	Arch Tour/Early DuPage Chores	Wheaton
Information Not Provided	Self-Guided	Self-Guided	NA
Carmel Montessori	Self-Guided	Self-Guided	Warrenville
NEDSRA	Special Rec	Self-Guided	Addison
Fischer Farm Discovery Camp	Self-Guided	Self-Guided	Bensenville
Bensenville Park District	Self-Guided	Self-Guided	Bensenville
Childtime	Self-Guided	Self-Guided	Villa Park
Cedarhurst Retirement Com	Adult Tour	Museum Tour	Woodridge
WSDRA	Special Rec	Self-Guided	Naperville
Gardens, et Cetera	Presentation	Women of DuPage County	Wheaton
Winfield Library	Presentation	Ghost Towns of DuPage County	Winfield
SEASPAR	Self-Guided	Self-Guided	Lisle
Jefferson Elementary School	Scouts	Daisy and the Girl Scouts	Elmhurst
Alto Senior Living by Allergro	Presentation	1917: Catalyst for the Modern Era	Wheaton
Girl Scouts	Scouts	Social Butterfly Tea Party	Naperville
Madison Elementary School	Scouts	Playing the Past	Wheaton
Alto Senior Living by Allergro	Presentation	1917: Catalyst for the Modern Era	Wheaton
Lincoln Elementary School	Scouts	History Detective	Wheaton
IPSD STEPS 204	Self-Guided	Self-Guided	Naperville
Girl Scouts	Scouts	Tea Party	Wheaton

Appendix 2: Education

2023 Educational Programs

- ❖ Valentine Craft To-Go Kit
- ❖ Victorian Valentines x2
- ❖ Embrace Equity: The Intersection of Race, Gender and Housing with DuPage Habitat for Humanity and Wheaton League of Women Voters
- ❖ Destination: Heartland History presented by Cynthia Clampitt with Culinary Historians of Northern Illinois
- ❖ *Of Mustaches and Men* Last Chance Virtual Tour presented by Curator Emily O'Brien
- ❖ Downtown Wheaton Architectural Walking Tour
- ❖ Wheaton's Pop Stars presented by Bob Goldsborough with Wheaton Public Library and Downtown Wheaton Association
- ❖ The First Shot at Gettysburg: History, Reenactors, and Award Presentation with Illinois National Guard, City of Wheaton's Community Relations and Historic Commissions
- ❖ Victorian Crafts
- ❖ Crafting with the CAE x2
- ❖ A History of the Chicago Aurora and Elgin Railway presented by Brian and Joyce Ostberg with BeHistoric
- ❖ Unusual Places to Find Births and Naturalizations presented by Debra Dudek with DuPage County Genealogical Society
- ❖ When a Pebble Starts an Avalanche: Exploring the History and Value of the Illinois Prairie Path presented by Erik Spande with the Illinois Prairie Path
- ❖ Relics of the Chicago, Aurora, and Elgin Railway presented by Brian and Joyce Ostberg with BeHistoric
- ❖ When Trolleys Rode the Prairie Path presented by Steve Hyett
- ❖ *DuPage Roots* Book Signing and DCHS Annual Meeting with DuPage County Historical Society
- ❖ Tragedies and Accidents of the Chicago, Aurora and Elgin Railway presented by Brian and Joyce Ostberg with BeHistoric
- ❖ Second Annual Centennial Award Ceremony presented by the DuPage County Historical Society
- ❖ How the Pioneer Zephyr and the CAE Came to Be with DuPage Society of Model Engineers presentation and craft
- ❖ Holiday Card Craft To-Go Kit
- ❖ Santa Express x5

Appendix 3: Honors



3000 Woodcreek Dr., Ste. 310
Downers Grove, Illinois 60515

630.665.5556

dupagefoundation.org

November 17, 2022

Ms. Emily O'Brien
DuPage County Historical Museum Foundation
102 E. Wesley St.
Wheaton, IL 60187

Dear Emily,

Congratulations! I am pleased to inform you that your grant application has been selected for funding. This year it is being funded through one of DuPage Foundation's donor-advised funds. As part of our Community Needs Grant Program process, the Foundation regularly offers our donor-advisors the opportunity to review the grant applications that we receive. We do this in an effort to inform local donors about the needs in the community, to introduce them to the many organizations that apply to us, and to engage donor-advisors in helping us boost the level of grant support that is provided through our grant process.

This year, in response to your grant application, a donor-advisor recommended a \$2,500 grant from the History DuPage Fund, a donor-advised fund of DuPage Foundation, to support the Roaring Elgin: A Trip on the Chicago, Aurora and Elgin Railway exhibit that explores the history and significance of the railway in DuPage County.

*When you publicize this grant, please list it as a donation from the History DuPage Fund of DuPage Foundation. **Also, if you wish to send a note to the donor-advisor, you may send it to us and we will forward it.***

Please review, sign and upload the grant agreement to your account by November 30 to indicate 1) that there have been no changes in your organization's IRS status, 2) your agreement to the terms of the grant, and 3) that all funds will be spent for charitable purposes.

At the conclusion of your grant or by November 1, 2023, whichever occurs first, you will be required to complete a final report. The final report is an opportunity for your organization to reflect upon the challenges and successes you have experienced related to this grant and will provide DuPage Foundation with valuable information to evaluate the impact of our grantmaking in the community. The Community Needs final report form should be completed and submitted through your online account.

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Megan M. Shebik

President & CEO

David M. McGowan

Appendix 3: Honors

In addition, your organization confirms 1) that this grant does not fulfill the payment of any pledge or other financial obligation, 2) that no goods or services of value will be provided to the donor or to the Foundation as stipulated by Internal Revenue Service regulations and our agreement with the donor, and 3) that, in compliance with the Executive Order 13224 and the Patriot Act, no funds provided by The DuPage Community Foundation, d/b/a DuPage Foundation, will be used to support terrorist activity nor to promote or engage in violence, terrorism, or bigotry

On behalf of the donor-advisor and the DuPage Foundation Board of Trustees, I am pleased to forward this grant and hope it will further your mission. If you have any questions regarding this grant, please feel free to call me.

Sincerely,



Barb Szczepaniak
Vice President for Programs

P.S. Please share the news about your grant on social media and don't forget to tag DuPage Foundation.

Appendix 3: Honors



3000 Woodcreek Dr., Ste. 310
Downers Grove, Illinois 60515

630.665.5556

dupagefoundation.org

November 16, 2023

Ms. Michelle Podkowa
Museum Educator
DuPage County Historical Museum Foundation
102 E. Wesley St.
Wheaton, IL 60187

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Megan M. Shebik

Braden N. Waverley

President & CEO

Michael R. Sitrick

Dear Michelle,

Congratulations! I am pleased to inform you that your grant application has been selected for funding. This year it is being funded through one of DuPage Foundation's donor-advised funds. As part of our Community Needs Grant Program process, the Foundation regularly offers our donor-advisors the opportunity to review the grant applications that we receive. We do this to inform local donors about the needs in the community, to introduce them to the many organizations that apply to us, and to engage donor-advisors in helping us boost the level of grant support provided through this grant process.

In response to your grant application this year, a donor-advisor recommended a \$2,500 grant from the History DuPage Fund, a donor-advised fund of DuPage Foundation, to celebrate DuPage County's rich history of presidential encounters, iconic childhood toys, and coming of age experiences.

*When you publicize this grant, please list it as a donation from the History DuPage Fund of DuPage Foundation. **Also, if you wish to send a note to the donor-advisor, you may send it to us, and we will forward it.***

Please review, sign, and upload the grant agreement to your account by November 28. The terms and conditions outlined in the agreement must be met to receive your grant check and be eligible to apply for future grants. If there are changes in your organization that would affect your ability to carry out the program for which this grant was made, please notify me as soon as possible.

At the conclusion of your grant or by November 1, 2024, whichever occurs first, you will be required to complete a final report. The final report is an opportunity for your organization to reflect upon the challenges and successes you have experienced related to this grant. It will provide DuPage Foundation with valuable information to evaluate the impact of our grantmaking in the community. The Community Needs final report form should be completed and submitted through your online account.

We will distribute grant checks and recognize this cycle's grant recipients at our Grant Open House on Wednesday, December 6 and look forward to seeing you there. See the attached invitation for details. You are welcome to invite a member of your board or staff to join us in this celebration. Please RSVP [online](#) before December 1.

Appendix 3: Honors

On behalf of the donor-advisor and the DuPage Foundation Board of Trustees, I am pleased to forward this grant and hope it will further your mission. If you have any questions regarding this grant, please feel free to call me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Barb Szczepaniak".

Barb Szczepaniak
Vice President for Programs

P.S. A media release and photo will be sent to you after the Grant Open House. In the meantime, please share the news about your grant on social media, and don't forget to tag DuPage Foundation.

Appendix 3: Honors



The 2023 Best of Illinois History Award recipients

2023 Lifetime Achievement Award

Glennette Tilley Turner, Wheaton.

As a teacher, author, public historian, speaker, and consultant, Glennette Tilley Turner has had a long, prestigious, career as the pre-eminent scholar of the Underground Railroad in Illinois. She has received countless accolades and honors for her work—DuPage County's Outstanding Woman Educator; an Illinois General Assembly citation for teaching; the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators Golden Kite Honor Book for Excellence in Children's Literature; and the Wilbur Henry Siebert Award from the National Park Service for excellence in the field of the Underground Railroad, just to name a few. But it is her passion for sharing the history of Wheaton, Illinois's historic Black community that has endeared her to generations of neighbors in her community. As one letter writer wrote, "Her passion for educating children is endless and her impact is far reaching. Her many decades of service to the Wheaton community have encouraged, fostered, and challenged so many of us to understand and think about Illinois history differently." "At 90-years young she continues to be a valuable resource to the community to help shed light on the Black history of Wheaton, beyond the Underground Railroad."



Glennette Tilley Turner with her son Cyril and John Hallwas.

Gregory J. Koos, Bloomington.

Originally hired in 1977 as an archivist and site manager by the McLean County Museum of History under the federal Comprehensive Employment and Training Act, Greg Koos turned that employment opportunity into a lifetime career. Greg quickly learned exhibit planning and display, public promotion, archival and artifact preservation, fundraising, and all the activities that a museum needs, eventually becoming the museum's director. Permanent exhibits were created for the museum's new home in the former county courthouse. Under his leadership an endowment was created to sustain the MCMH, and he spearheaded a 21st century capital campaign to completely revamp and modernize those original exhibits. Greg Koos has dedicated his life to McLean County history, knowing its value as more than amusing local lore. *Knowledge of our common undertakings is a foundation for understanding who we are today.* This has been Greg Koos' life mission. In his retirement years he has written not only one of the best of the "new" county histories but opened a new, oft-neglected field in ethnic studies focusing on rural Irish immigrant communities. Greg is not resting on his laurels, instead plunging into forgotten nooks and crannies of our past that can tell us much about our present and future."



ISHS Lifetime Achievement recipient Gregory Koos and his wife, Carol (center), surrounded by members of the McLean County Museum of History administrative staff.

The Illinois National Guard



Awards this citation to

THE DUPAGE COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM

FOR YOUR DEDICATION IN PRESERVING THE HISTORY OF THE ILLINOIS NATIONAL GUARD AND THE PROUD HISTORY WE SHARE WITH DUPAGE COUNTY AND THE CITY OF WHEATON. THANK YOU FOR COMMEMORATING LT. MARCELLUS JONES' ACTIONS AND THOSE OF THE 8TH ILLINOIS VOLUNTEER CAVALRY 160 YEARS AGO AND FOR YOUR WORK IN HOSTING TODAY'S EVENT. YOUR ACTIONS, COMMITMENT, AND DILIGENCE HONOR THE MEMORIES OF THOSE WHO FOUGHT AND DIED AT GETTYSBURG, ONE OF THE COSTLIEST BATTLES OF THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR AND THE TURNING POINT IN ENSURING THAT THE "GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE, BY THE PEOPLE, FOR THE PEOPLE, SHALL NOT PERISH FROM THE EARTH."

Maj. Gen. Rich Neely, The Adjutant General, Commander
Illinois National Guard

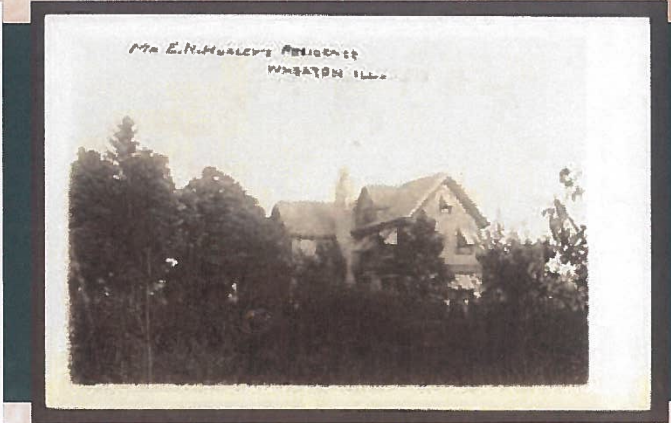


1723 - 2023

300

ILLINOIS NATIONAL GUARD

LOCAL › HISTORY



HISTORY OF Hurley Gardens

By Beth Frederick, DuPage County Historical Museum

Wheaton is home to many notable citizens. One of them is Edward Nash Hurley Sr. He was born in Galesburg, IL on July 31, 1864. He married Julia Keeley in 1891 and had two children, Edward Nash Hurley Jr., and Julian Roger Hurley. Unfortunately, he was widowed when Julia died on October 18, 1900. A few years later, in 1905 he married Florence Amberg and had two additional children, Helen Hurley and John Richard Hurley. His second wife, Florence died when she was involved in an auto-train accident on September 6, 1932.

Hurley Sr. invented the first piston-type pneumatic drill in 1896, similar to the modern-day jackhammer. He retired around 1902 at the age of 38 to his 160-acre estate, called Hurley Farm in Wheaton, IL. His retirement only lasted a few years before he organized and served as the president of the First National Bank of Wheaton. He also founded the Hurley Machine Company which made and sold the first electric washing machine. Additionally, he served on the Federal Trade Commission as Commissioner and Chairman. He was appointed Chairman of the U.S. Shipping Board by President Wilson during World War I, receiving the distinguished service medal for his war service.

The Hurley home which he established during his first retirement was designed by Jarvis Hunt and built in 1902 with renovations done in 1914. A swimming pool, now a reflecting pool, was added to the property in the 1920s. The gardens, gazebo and teahouse on the Hurley Farm were created between 1910 and 1913 by an Italian landscape architect in the Neo-Classical Revival style inspired by the 1893

World's Fair in Chicago. While in Europe, Hurley Sr. was an ambassador for the 1933-34 World's Fair in Chicago. Edward Nash Hurley Sr. died November 14, 1933.

In 1947, The Wheaton Franciscans purchased a large portion of his property, that included the house, from his heirs. The tennis courts were later added in the 1960s. In 1979, Hemphill and Associates donated a 3.20-acre site east of Marianjoy Rehabilitation Center, to the Wheaton Park District when Adare Farms was being developed. In 1991, Hurley Gardens became a Wheaton Historical Landmark and after several years of planning, the restoration of Hurley Gardens was completed in 1992.

This fall the Wheaton Park District reconfigured the Hurley Gardens pool and fountain, removed the pool and added a self-contained fountain that stands taller than the previous one. In the spring, new plants will be placed to bring in additional bright colors and green life to the area. For more information about the Chicago World's Fairs, visit Meet me At the Fair at the DuPage County Historical Museum through April 13, 2024. The exhibit showcases some great artifacts including a commemorative goblet with the inscription, "World's Fair 1893" and a commemorative mug with the inscription, "World's Fair 1934, Swiss Village" on the upper red portion of the glass. In addition, we have a commemorative white ceramic pitcher with gold trim inscribed with, "WORLD'S EXPOSITION, CHICAGO 1893 THE GOVERNMENT BUILDING".



VISIT DUPAGEMUSEUM.ORG FOR EXHIBIT DATES AND MUSEUM HOURS.

Appendix 4: Personnel

Volunteers Hours

Individuals	Started	2023 Hours
Kaelen Bradford	2023	40.75
Alexis Lavin	2023	6
Larry Kmiecik	2015	107
Lucas Martin	2023	22.75
Sophia Moddy	2022	16
Caleigh Mason	2023	28
Blake Podkowa	2010	10.5
Craig Passley	2014	23.25
Dan Swick	2023	166.5
Avry Tower	2016	4
Michael Wagner	2023	45.25
Kent Smith	2021	8
Total		478



Blake Podkowa (Left) and Foundation volunteer Steve Fixler (Right) at Casino Night. Larry Kmiecik



Kaelen Bradford posing for a social media post. Beth Frederick



DPSME Members: Tom Schneider, Mark Malik, Norman Brockmeier, and Forest Andrews.



DPSME Member Tom Schneider.



DPSME Member Forest Andrews.

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Medinah, IL 60157

| Growing Naturally: A Roadmap to Sustainable Edible Garden Design | Sat, Feb 18, 9:30 a.m. Learn to garden in ways that work with nature rather than against it. Cost: \$34/\$27. Morton Arboretum, 4100 Rt 53, Lisle. 630 719-2468

| Growing Edible Native Plants | Sat, March 4, 9:30 a.m. Explore the beauty of native plants and learn techniques for responsible harvest. Cost: \$34/\$27. Morton Arboretum, 4100 Illinois Route 53, Lisle. 630 719-2468

KIDS & FAMILY

| Disney on Ice | Jan 19 – 22 and Feb 2 – 5. Disney on Ice presents Frozen and Encanto. Cost: \$120/\$25. Allstate Arena, 6920 N Mannheim Rd., Rosemont 847 635-6601

| Lemont Ice & Lights Fest | Sat, Jan 21, 3:30-6:30 p.m. Festive holiday lights and ice sculptures in downtown Lemont. Free hayrides (weather permitting), live ice carving demonstration at 4 p.m., and Light Up Dance Party on Front Street starting at 5 p.m. 630 257-1550

| Family Day: Eleanor King Hookham | Sat, Jan 21, 1 p.m. Just like museum founder and artist Eleanor King Hookham, families have the opportunity to use coffee as a painting medium. Elmhurst Art Museum, 150 Cottage Hill Ave., Elmhurst 630 834-0202

| Downtown Downers Grove Ice Festival | Fri – Sun, Feb 3 – 5. Enjoy viewing ice sculptures and live carving demonstrations Sat and Sun 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. Main Street train station. www.downtowndng.org

| The Magic School Bus - Lost in the Solar System | Feb 4 – 5, Sat 10 a.m. and Sun 1 p.m. New musical adaptation based on the original book series presented by TheaterWorksUSA. Cost: \$15/\$10. Pfeiffer Hall at North Central College, 310 E Benton, Naperville. 630 637-7469

| It's Okay To Be Different | Tues, Feb 14, 9:45 & 11:30 a.m. Dynamic puppetry company Mermaid Theatre of Nova Scotia newest production featuring three contemporary stories. Cost: \$8. McAninch Arts Center at College of DuPage, 425 Fawell Blvd., Glen Ellyn. 630 942-4000

| 81st Illinois Plastic Kit & Toy Show | Sun, Feb 26, 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. Buy, sell, trade or browse over 150 tables of cars, trucks, airplanes, military, fire, police, muscle cars of all scales. Cost: \$7/\$3. Past-Time Hobbies, Inc., DuPage County Fairgrounds, 2015 W Manchester Rd., Wheaton. 630 969-1847

| Monster Jam | March 3 – 5, Fri 7 p.m., Sat 1 p.m. & 7 p.m., Sun 1 p.m. & 6:30 p.m. An action-packed motorsports experience for families. Cost: \$110/\$30. Allstate Arena, 6920 N Mannheim Rd., Rosemont 847 635-6601

OTHER

| Paint by Numbers | Thur, Jan 26, 7 – 9 p.m. Paint by numbers while enjoying a beer. Cost: \$20. Naper Settlement, 523 S Webster St., Naperville. 630 420-6010

| Hot Wheels Monster Trucks Live Glow Party | Jan 28 – 29, Sat 12:30 & 7:30 p.m. and Sun 2:30 p.m. Watch your favorite Hot Wheels Monster Trucks live. Cost: \$76/\$33. NOW Arena, 5333 Prairie Stone Pkwy, Hoffman Estates. 847 649-2270

| Professional Championship Bull Riders World Tour Finale | Feb 4 – 5, Sat 7:30 p.m. and Sun 2 p.m. See rising stars and established veteran riders take on the biggest, baddest bovines in an action-packed battle of strength and endurance. Cost: \$63/\$18. NOW Arena, 5333 Prairie Stone Pkwy, Hoffman Estates. 847 649-2270

| St. Valentine's Day Murder Mystery Dinner & Show | Wed, Feb 15, 6 p.m. Play a role in solving a murder mystery in the theatre. Cost: \$65. Arcadia Theatre, 105 E Main St., St. Charles. 630 962-7000

HISTORY

| Stories of DuPage: Reading between the Lines | Through Mar 25 2023, Tues – Fri 10:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. and Sat noon – 4 p.m. Explores the lives and careers of nationally regarded DuPage authors, examining how their roots shaped the stories they told. Cost: \$7.50. DuPage County Historical Museum, 102 E Wesley St., Wheaton. 630 510-4941

| 50th Anniversary Apollo 17 Mission Celebration | Through Mon, April 10. A five-month exhibit featuring varied activities geared to educate young students as well as adults. Cost: \$8/\$5. Triton College, 2000 5th Ave., River Grove. 708 583-3100

| Debra Ann Miller as Agatha Christie: A Body of Evidence | Sun, Jan 15, 3 p.m. A portrayal of Agatha Christie in the Spring of 1950, accompanying her husband, archeologist Max Mallowan, on a trip to Iran. Cost: \$15/ \$10. Norris Cultural Arts Center, 1040 Dunham Rd., St. Charles. 630 584-7200

| In Pursuit of Happiness: Immigrants in our Communities | Through May 14, Sun, Tues, Fri 1 – 5 p.m. and Sat 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. The personal stories of area immigrants and their descendants as told through first-person accounts, photographs, treasured objects, video and more. Elmhurst History Museum, 120 E Park Ave., Elmhurst. 630 833-1457

FOOD & DRINK

| Whiskey Dinner | Fri – Sat, Jan 20 – 21, 6 p.m. Enjoy a five course meal paired with whiskey tastings, live music, and a view of Meadow Lake. Cost: \$105/\$95. Morton Arboretum, 4100 Illinois Route 53, Lisle. 630 725-2065

| Westmont Restaurant Week | Jan 19 – 29. More than 20 eateries in Westmont will offer special discounts and prix fixe menus drawing inspiration from the theme "Taste Around the World." www.westmontchamber.com

| Naperville Restaurant Week | Jan 20 – Feb 5. A showcase of Naperville restaurants offer a prix fixe menu with discounts on featured menu choices. www.dinenaperville.com

| Wheaton Restaurant Week | Jan 21 – 29. Week-long celebration of the downtown Wheaton culinary scene featuring special menu offerings and discounts. www.downtownwheaton.com

| Geneva Restaurant Week | Jan 23 – 29. Savor the specials and dining discounts at some of Geneva's best restaurants. www.genevachamber.com

| Chocolate Weekend | Sat – Sun, Feb 4 – 5, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.



DUPAGE CHILDREN'S MUSEUM
Awesome Water Exhibit



FRANK LLOYD
WRIGHT HOME
AND STUDIO
The Drafting Room

NOT-SO-COMMON KNOWLEDGE

by Jay Copp

Whether you are looking for a respite from cabin fever, an educational outing for the family, or just an opportunity to exercise a little intellectual curiosity, the western suburbs diverse museum offerings can provide an ideal change-of-pace outing.

Reflexively, when in a museum mood, most of us opt for a museum in Chicago. But our local museums, while not as big by any measure as their urban counterparts, offer a wide variety of top attractions, free and ample parking, free or inexpensive admission, and often a west suburban-centric experience.

What you can learn and how much you enjoy yourself partly is tied to who you are and where you are from. So here are more than a dozen ways to brighten your mind and lighten your days.

FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT HOME AND STUDIO, OAK PARK

You can't go wrong with Wright, America's most celebrated architect. His home and studio for two decades remain one of the most wondrous spaces in U.S. architecture. Tourists worldwide come here to gawk. They also walk or drive through the surrounding Historic District, bursting

The many surprising collections, unusual exhibits and distinctive attractions to be found at the western suburbs wide range of museums

with the splendor of Wright's fertile architectural imagination as well as other stunning homes.

Top Attraction: The Home and Studio is clearly the focal point. This was the birthplace of Wright's vision for a new American architecture. Wright designed more than 150 projects in his Oak Park Studio, establishing him as the visionary architect of his Prairie style. The sites that Wright designed throughout his life, whether larger in scale or more advanced in technology, are based on design concepts he developed here.

Overlooked? Well, misunderstood.

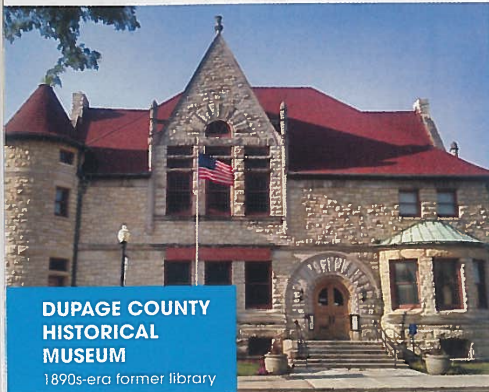
His first home was constructed in the Shingle style, a style more commonly seen in affluent communities out east, according to publicist Christine Trevino. He set the home far back on the site to create a rustic natural setting, a characteristic of his domestic architecture throughout his career.

Nature was a constant influence on Wright's work and philosophy of architecture, adds Trevino. For the exterior materials of his home, Wright chose brick and wood shingles in a palette of earth tones that harmonize with the natural landscape, discreetly integrating the house into its site. The Ginkgo tree in the courtyard is over 200 years old and predates the construction of Wright's Home and Studio. In his home, Wright's simple, earth-toned color palette provides a seamless transition from outdoors to interior spaces. A passageway was built around an existing willow tree that stood on the site; its branches extended through the building.

Cool Item: The barrel-vaulted Children's Playroom is one of the great spaces of Wright's early career, says Trevino. It served as the site of Catherine Wright's kindergarten for neighborhood children, and it was a playroom for the Wright children. The tiered gallery was used

Appendix 5: Marketing

LOCAL MUSEUMS



DUPAGE COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM
1890s-era former library

jades as part of his interest in cutting and polishing precious stones for jewelry. His collection grew to include pieces made of amber, ivory, coral, agate and other gemstones. An Elmhurst resident, he opened a museum in the city's Wilder Park in 1962. The museum was relocated in 2019.

Top Attraction: The collection of Chinese jade carvings is world class. The pièce de résistance is a five-foot-high jadeite pagoda, possibly the largest jadeite carving outside of China. The pagoda was featured in the 1933 Chicago World's Fair.

No. 2 Draw: the rock and mineral educational aspect of the museum. The museum is a unique blending of both the art and science of gems and minerals.

Overlooked: "The Florentine and Roman mosaics made of stone are usually overlooked," says Dorothy Asher, director. "Most people think they are paintings. They have to really look close to see they're made of over a thousand pieces of natural stone."

New: An exhibit called On The Cutting Edge: Contemporary Gemstone Sculpture, which features 10 artists representing gem carving trends in the 21st century.

Annual Visitors: Projected 22,000.

CERNAN EARTH AND SPACE CENTER, TRITON COLLEGE, RIVER GROVE

Walking into the vast, darkened planetarium here, you may find it hard to resist summoning your inner Captain Kirk and saying to yourself, "Space, the final frontier!" Yep, it's here in suburbia that the majesty and splendor of space is revealed. Befitting its location at a college, the space center, small but impactful, offers education

and entertainment focused on astronomy, space exploration and earth science.

Top attraction: The planetarium is a round room with a hemispherical dome screen, 44 feet wide. The museum is adept at adapting a relatively old technology like a planetarium with digital technology: visitors are treated to sweeping shows not only of the planets and constellations but also seascapes and glimpses of the past. Recent shows include Dawn of the Space Age; Forward!, To the Moon, and A Trans-Siberian Christmas. Cosmic light shows feature lasers, stars and other visual effects accompanied by music of Pink Floyd (of course!), the Beatles, Queen, Lady Gaga, Prince and others. Another draw are free Star Parties with telescopes set up outside.

No. 2 Draw: A NASA moon rock collected during the Apollo 17 Mission in 1972. The lunar sample was collected during Gene Cernan's Apollo 17 mission, NASA's final Apollo mission to the moon. The rock, a literal rock star, sits atop a lighted pedestal provided by NASA to Triton. Adjacent exhibits examine lunar geology, the origin of the moon, equipment needed for living in space and Apollo in popular culture.

New/Coming: An interactive exhibit, "Colonize Mars" lets participants develop

a colony on Mars. Coming this year is Stellar Playground, another touch table where visitors can build a planetary system or create a black hole.

DUPAGE COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM, WHEATON

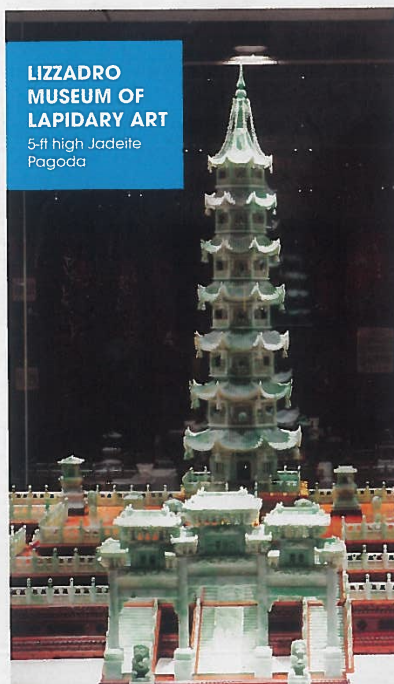
County museums, in small towns throughout the nation, are a dime a dozen. Not so in DuPage. The museum is a concrete, compelling testament to the talented and important people who helped build our region.

Top Attraction: "It's the building itself," says Michelle Podkova, museum manager. The building was formerly the Adams Memorial Library built in 1890 in memory of Marilla Adams by her husband, John Quincy Adams. A distant cousin of the president with the same name, Adams lived across the street from the library in what is now Adams Park. Adams' daughter, Katherine Wells was a librarian here. One of the first in the state to use the Dewey Decimal System, it was one of two libraries open to the public in the county in 1891. The building is "a beautiful example of Richardson Romanesque," says Podkova. Architect Charles Sumner Frost was known for his work on railroad stations in the Midwest and Navy Pier.

No. 2 Draw: the 57-year-old model railroad on the lower level. The DuPage Society of Model Engineers took nearly two years to build the layout in the 1960s and agreed to run the trains for the public. The trains still run on designated Saturdays.

Overlooked: the children's tea set that made the journey with some of the earliest settlers in the 1830s; the desk belonging to Judge Frank Earl Herrick, a poet, given to him by Judge Elbert Gary, a member of a founding family in Wheaton; and the stunning Margaret Dunton Auditorium on the second floor. "It's a beautiful and peaceful place for students and visitors to sit and study," says Emily O'Brien, curator.

Cool Item: An exhibit called Stories of DuPage: Reading Between the Lines focuses on local authors in DuPage County and includes a map showing where they lived. Visitors can get their own sticker at the front desk and add their own home



LIZZADRO MUSEUM OF LAPIDARY ART
5-ft high Jadeite Pagoda

Free Valentine's Day

Victorian Valentines at DuPage County Historical Museum in Wheaton

FEBRUARY 04 - 11, 2023 @ 1:00 PM - 3:30 PM



Photo credit: Adobe Stovk/srubina

SHARE THIS EVENT

LOCATION

DuPage County Historical Museum

102 E. Wesley St.

Wheaton, IL 60187

[VIEW MAP](#)

DESCRIPTION

Create a Victorian style Valentine for someone special using feathers, beads, and bits of fabric. Registration required.

Event cost: Free; \$3/suggested donation

Event time: 1-3:30 p.m. Feb. 4, 11, 2023

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Website: <https://dupagemuseum.org/calendar/>

Age recommendation: Early Elementary (K-3), Late Elementary (4-5), Preschool, Tweens

Neighborhood: Western Suburbs

<https://www.chicagoparent.com/events/victorian-valentines-dupage/>

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Casino Night to raise funds for DuPage County Historical Museum Foundation

Recommended for You



Trending News

By Ann Piccininni Wheaton Park District

Posted February 28, 2023 10:00 pm

A night out at a Las Vegas-themed club is in the cards on Friday, March 10 when the DuPage County Historical Museum presents Casino Night 2023 at Arrowhead Golf Club in Wheaton.

For the second consecutive year, the golf club's welcoming environs will host an evening of playing the odds for the benefit of the DuPage County Historical Museum Foundation. The evening is presented by Fairhaven Wealth.

Come take your chances on the roulette wheel or try your hand at blackjack or craps. Attendees can also join in on a game of Texas Hold'em or take the money wheel for a lucky spin.

"This annual event is an amazing experience. Having fun for a great cause is hard to beat. I bet you will love it," said Marty Keller, president of the DuPage County Historical Museum Foundation.

The evening begins at 7 p.m. with appetizers, an open bar, a raffle drawing and a silent auction.

Auction items up for bid will include golf foursomes, dining certificates, wine and spirit packages, event tickets and more.

Individual tickets for Casino Night 2023 are \$125. A group of 10 tickets is priced at \$1,000. A premium group of 10, which includes sponsor signage, is \$1,200.

Each ticket holder will receive \$50 in charity chips. All ticket holders must be at least 21 years old.

For more information and to reserve your tickets, visit dupagemuseum.org.

Follow facebook/dupagemuseum.



Women's History Month is a dedicated month to reflect on and celebrate the often-overlooked contributions of women to history, culture and society. Wheaton's Community Relations Commission encourages the community to learn more about Women's History Month and to join in the celebration through participation in some of the local events offered for the community throughout March.

History of Women's History Month

Women's history month has been observed annually in the month of March in the United States since 1987. In the 1970s, local groups and municipalities began celebrating Women's History Week with one of the most notable celebrations organized in Santa Rosa, California in 1978. A few years later, the idea caught on within communities, school districts, and organizations across the country. In 1980, President Jimmy Carter issued the first presidential proclamation declaring the week of March 8 as National Women's History Week. The U.S. Congress followed suit the next year, passing a resolution establishing a national celebration. In 1987, Congress declared March 1987 as the first official Women's History Month.

- Sources: [CNN](#), [History.com](#)

Meet Some of Wheaton's Phenomenal Women

Women have played an important role in helping to make Wheaton what it is today. In 2021, the Community Relations Commission compiled a range of profiles of women (past and present) so the community can get to know some of the incredible women in our town.

[View the Women of Wheaton webpage.](#)

We invite the community to post on social media using #WomenofWheaton about a female (past or present) whom they'd like to celebrate and recognize during Women's History Month.

Women's History Month Local Events

We Are Women Art Exhibit

March 1 - 31st 2023



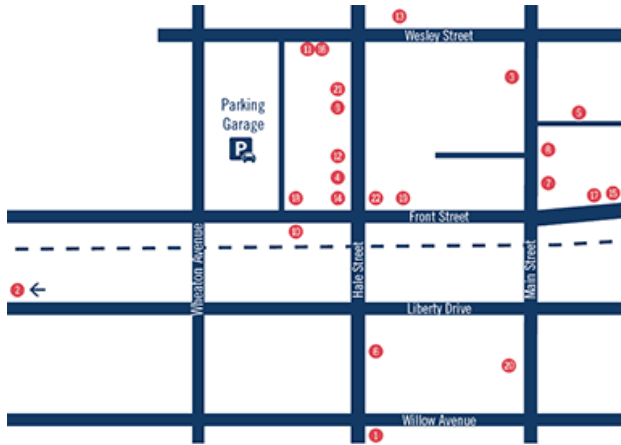
In partnership with the DuPage Art League and Downtown Wheaton Association, we are excited to display 30+ pieces of artwork from local women artists from the DuPage Art League, St Michael's School, Wheaton North High School, Clare Woods Academy, and Inklude Studio at some of Wheaton's women-owned or - managed businesses.

Appendix 5: Marketing

3/29/23, 11:24 AM

Women's History Month | Wheaton, IL

[Wheaton Art Walk Map of Participating Businesses and Artists & Suggested Walking Itinerary \(PDF\)](#)



Embrace Equity | Stronger Together: A Look at Female Allyship **Wednesday, March 8th - 7P at the DuPage County Historical Museum**

Celebrate International Women's Day on March 8 with DuPage Habitat for Humanity, the League of Women Voters of Wheaton, and the Museum for a panel on Embracing Equity: The Intersection Of Gender, Race and Housing Affordability. Panel begins at 7P, networking at 8:30P. For more information, email Michelle Podkova at mpodkova@wheatonparks.org.

Women of Wheaton

Tuesday, March 21st - 7P at the Wheaton Public Library

Wheaton historian and journalist Bob Goldsborough will share the history and accomplishments of some of Wheaton's notable women who have made an impact at the local or national level. Co-Sponsored by the Community Relations Commission, League of Women Voters of Wheaton, and the Wheaton Public Library. [Register here.](#)

Living History: Beatrix Potter

Wednesday March 22nd - 7P

Meet this beloved author and illustrator whose skills went far beyond Peter Rabbit. Beatrix Potter overcame barriers that kept women out of business and science and worked to preserve the landscape and culture of England's Lake District.

This is a hybrid event. Choose to attend in person or virtually. [Register here.](#)



UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS PRESS

University of Illinois Press Events Calendar



[↩ View Full Calendar](#)

Cynthia Clampitt at DuPage County Historical Museum in Wheaton, IL

Event Type	Lecture
Sponsor	DuPage County Historical Museum
Location	102 E Wesley St, Wheaton, IL 60187
Date	Mar 23, 2023 7:00 pm
Views	3

Cynthia Clampitt, author of *Destination Heartland*, will be signing books and speaking at DuPage County Historical Museum about her new book.

1325 South Oak Street
Champaign, IL 61820-6903
217-333-0950

Appendix 5: Marketing



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Your DuPage County District 1 News

DuPage County, Illinois sent this bulletin at 04/06/2023 08:50 AM CDT

Spring 2023 newsletter for DuPage County Board District 1



DuPage County News



DuPage County Issues Disaster Declaration After Addison Tornado

DuPage County Board Chair **Deborah Conroy** issued a disaster proclamation for DuPage County on April 3 in response to damage that occurred during a tornado in Addison on March 31.

"Issuing a disaster declaration allows County residents impacted by the storm to seek any state or federal resources that may become available to assist in their recovery efforts," Conroy said. "We will do everything we can to help anyone who may have been affected by this storm."

On April 1, Governor **J.B. Pritzker** issued a disaster declaration for counties struck by a series of tornadoes throughout the state, including DuPage. The National Weather Service reported that an EF-1 tornado traveled 1.6 miles from Lombard to Addison beginning at 8:17 p.m. Friday evening. The area the tornado hit includes at least 18 properties with varying levels of damage, according to the Village of Addison. Most common are reports of damaged roofs, downed trees, and power lines.

DuPage's disaster declaration allows for County emergency procedures to go into effect, allowing the County to help procure items or services necessary to assist the community's storm response.



County Celebrates Women's History Month

DuPage County celebrated women elected officials – including County Board Chair **Deborah Conroy**, Board member **Cindy Cronin Cahill**, judges, and staff on March 14 during the presentation of a proclamation recognizing March as Women's History Month.

Appendix 5: Marketing

merger of the two railways. The Surface Transportation Board approved the merger on March 15, despite objections.



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County Recognizes Black History Month

Chair **Deborah Conroy** presented a proclamation recognizing February as National Black History Month to Board member **Michael Childress**; **Michelle Podkova** and **Emily O'Brien** with the DuPage Historical Museum; and **Bernie Kleina**, who had first-hand experience with the Civil Rights movement. Childress provided some of his personal collection to the Museum for its Black Trailblazers Exhibit.

DuPage County Announces 2023 Scholarship Program

The DuPage County Department of Community Services is offering college and occupational training scholarships for low-income individuals with high academic potential.

The Community Services Block Grant scholarship supplements the cost of tuition, books, supplies, and other school-related items for a semester or a quarter to offset the student's needs. This scholarship is funded and designed in cooperation with the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity.

Applications are available at the DuPage County Department of Community Services Office, 421 N. County Farm Road, Wheaton, or online at www.dupagecounty.gov/CSBG under "Other Resources." Completed applications and supporting documents must be received by 4:30 p.m. May 5.

For more information, contact the DuPage County Department of Community Services at 630-407-6500, or call the toll-free number at 800-942-9412.

Appendix 5: Marketing

5/16/23, 7:22 AM

Warhol-Inspired Mural To Be Unveiled In Wheaton | Wheaton, IL Patch

Warhol-Inspired Mural To Be Unveiled In Wheaton

The mural, which draws inspiration from College of DuPage's Andy Warhol exhibit and features famous figures, will be unveiled May 22.

 Lisa Marie Farver, Patch Staff

Posted Fri, May 12, 2023 at 1:39 pm CT

Reply



The mural, which draws inspiration from College of DuPage's Andy Warhol exhibit and features famous figures, will be unveiled May 22. (Caren Lissner/Patch)

WHEATON, IL — A mural featuring Andy Warhol-inspired images of famous Wheaton figures is set to be unveiled at the Wheaton Public Library May 22. The mural, created by Geoff Bevington, will span a width of 20 feet and stretch seven feet high on a wall near the west plaza of the library.

The colorful piece will be comprised of four pop art portraits of local figures that were chosen by members of Wheaton's Chamber of Commerce's Arts, Business, and Culture Committee. The identity of the chosen subjects will remain under wraps until the unveiling.

The following individuals will be on hand to unveil the photos:

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- Wheaton Mayor Philip Sues
- Wheaton College President Dr. Philip Ryken
- DuPage County Historical Museum Foundation President Marty Keller
- Director of the McAninch Arts Center Director Diana Martinez

The public art installation coincides with [Andy Warhol Portfolios: A Life in Pop](#), which is set to open at College of DuPage's Cleve Carney Museum of Art June 3.

What: Warhol-Inspired Public Art Unveiling

When: May 22 at 4:30 p.m.

Where: Wheaton Public Library, 225 N. Cross St., Wheaton



The Chicago, Aurora and Elgin Railway was one of the first known attempts at making an electric railway between Chicago and Aurora. The "Roarin' Elgin" exhibit will open Saturday, June 10, at the DuPage Historical Society Museum in Wheaton. (Courtesy of DuPage Historical Society Museum)

By Ann Piccininni
Wheaton Park District

Updated 6/3/2023 1:00 AM

The establishment and growth of cities and towns have long been influenced by proximity to railroads.

To get a close-up view of how DuPage County responded to the many twists in the story surrounding the Chicago, Aurora and Elgin Railway, visit the DuPage County Historical Museum's newest exhibit, titled "The Roarin' Elgin: A Trip on the Chicago, Aurora and Elgin Railway," opening Saturday, June 10.

The exhibit will display several authentic artifacts, including a kerosene lantern used on the electric train in the 1920s and a conductor's ticket punch. Come explore the now-closed railroad's past via these and other items that have been preserved for more than 100 years.

The exhibit will remain on display at the museum, 102 E. Wesley St. in Wheaton, until March 2024.

"I am incredibly excited to be working on The Roarin' Elgin exhibit this year. I always enjoy exhibits that highlight areas of history that I don't necessarily specialize in and it gives me the opportunity to learn more about DuPage County history as a whole," said Emily O'Brien, museum curator.

"This exhibit will showcase the various ways in which The Roarin' Elgin, the first interurban electric railroad between Chicago and the suburbs, impacted DuPage County residents during its period of operation," O'Brien said. "The Roarin' Elgin' gives me the perfect opportunity to educate the public on the Chicago, Aurora and Elgin railway in a fun, interactive way as I simultaneously learn about it as well!"

'The Great Third Rail'

The railway was chartered in 1899 and began service in 1902. After several changes in ownership, the railway entered bankruptcy in 1932, going into receivership. The railway was taken over by a publicly held company in 1946. Passenger service continued until 1957, with freight service ending in 1959.

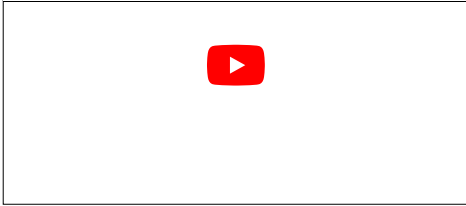
The Wheaton station for the Chicago, Aurora and Elgin was located at Main Street and Liberty Drive.

Half of the wood and brick building was used as the headquarters for the superintendent of transportation and the trainmaster's offices. The other half served as the ticket office and waiting room for passengers.

Appendix 5: Marketing

6/5/23, 10:56 AM

Take a ride through time via The Roarin' Elgin



In 1963, the Chicago Tribune published a letter from May Theilgaard Watts detailing her vision of the unused electric line.

Her letter gained so much public support that a group of volunteers formed the nonprofit Illinois Prairie Path.

By 1966, the Illinois Prairie Path leased the right of way in DuPage County. The Illinois Prairie Path now consists of 62 miles of trails in DuPage, Kane and Cook counties.

Special programs

To bring the railway's past to life more fully, the museum is planning several programs.

- Historians Brian and Joyce Ostberg of BeHistoric will present a history of the railway, which was chartered in 1899, went through several name changes, weathered economic challenges and service modifications, and finally was closed in May 1961.

The program, titled "A History of the Chicago, Aurora and Elgin Railway," is a free program that will be presented at 1 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 26 in the museum auditorium.

- "Crafting with CA&E," a craft workshop class, will lead participants in the crafting of a trolley from Popsicle sticks and the making of puppet people to ride along with those trolleys. This free program event is scheduled for 1 to 3 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 19. and Saturday, Sept. 16 in the museum auditorium.

- The Ostbergs will return at 1 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 30 to present "Relics of the Chicago, Aurora and Elgin Railway," a free program in the museum auditorium.

Attendees will learn about what remains in the wake of the railway's discontinuation, including the Illinois Prairie Path, which was built adjacent to the railroad. The program will cover how to find remaining stations, substations, bridges and overpasses along the more than 61 miles of the Illinois Prairie Path and the Fox River Trails.

- At 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 26, the Ostbergs will present "Tragedies and Accidents of the Chicago, Aurora, and Elgin Railway" in the museum auditorium. There is no admission charge for this event.

This presentation will investigate the many accidents and tragedies that befell railway workers, passengers, automobile drivers, and pedestrians over the decades -- as they worked, lived their lives, and coexisted alongside the sometimes dangerous Chicago, Aurora and Elgin electric railway.

The museum is open Tuesdays to Fridays from 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. and noon to 4 p.m. Saturdays. Admission is free. Donations are greatly appreciated to help create new exhibits and keep our facility open and operating.

More programs related to the new exhibit will be added. For more information, visit dupagemuseum.org (<http://dupagemuseum.org>).

The exhibit is supported by a \$2,500 grant from the DuPage Foundation through the foundation's History DuPage Fund.

"DuPage Foundation has been very supportive of the museum's exhibits and community projects," said Michelle Podkova, museum manager and educator. "We could not present as many new, themed exhibits without their help every year. We'd like to thank them for their continued dedication to the history of the county."

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Appendix 5: Marketing

The Museum was featured in Terra Costa Howard's July 4th Newsletter:

FW: Fourth of July Parades | Fireworks! | Lombard needs volunteers

Beth Frederick <bfrederick@wheatonparks.org>

Thu 6/29/2023 3:21 PM

To: Emily O'Brien <eobrien@wheatonparks.org>

From: State Rep. Terra Costa Howard <reptch42@gmail.com@ccsend.com>

Sent: Thursday, June 29, 2023 2:40 PM

To: Michelle Podkows <mpodkows@wheatonparks.org>

Subject: Fourth of July Parades | Fireworks! | Lombard needs volunteers



TERRA COSTA HOWARD
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
DISTRICT 42

Dear Michelle,

This Tuesday is Independence Day, and it's time to celebrate our nation's birthday. There will be parades and other events throughout our district, and I hope you'll join me and my staff in taking part in our local Fourth of July festivities.



The First Shot at Gettysburg: Wheaton history, reenactors, and awards SATURDAY

Captain Marcellus Jones, a Wheaton resident, made history 160 years ago when he fired the first shot at Gettysburg. You can learn more about his fascinating story from local historians this Saturday, July 1, at the DuPage Historical Museum, 102 E. Wesley St., and in Adams Park, 303 W. Wesley St.



From 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Civil War reenactors will put on displays at Adams Park, and artifacts from the Museum will be on view. At 1 p.m., there will be a presentation and a small awards ceremony at the Museum.

This event celebrates the 300th anniversary of the Illinois National Guard, which is co-hosting along with the Illinois Military Museum, the City of Wheaton Historic and Community Relations Commissions, and the DuPage County Historical Museum.

(And for my fellow history nerds – this anniversary celebrates the date in 1723 when residents of Kaskaskia, in Southern Illinois, formed a militia under French command. Over the centuries, that militia evolved to become the Illinois National Guard.)

You can click [here](#) to register for the Wheaton event. Call 630-510-4941 or email [here](#) for more information.

Wheaton historian recognized for Underground Railroad research

By Shaw Local News Network

🗨️ Expand



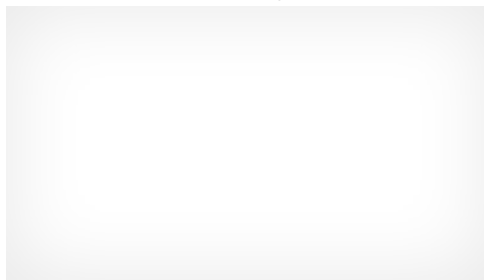
Wheaton resident Glennette Tilley Turner did much of her research on the Underground Railroad at the DuPage County Historical Museum. (Photo provided)

August 19, 2023 at 4:00 pm CDT

Wheaton resident Glennette Tilley Turner was recently recognized for her work as a historian by the Illinois State Historical Society with a 2023 Lifetime Achievement Award.

Turner was presented with award at an April 29 ceremony for the “Best of Illinois History” award winners at the Hoogland Center for the Arts in Springfield. Awards were presented at the society’s 124th annual meeting.

ADVERTISING



“The Best of Illinois History awards are the society’s annual recognition of achievement in public history throughout the state,” ISHS Executive Director William Furry said in the release. “History brings out passion in people, passion for the past and the lives of those who came before us. It also gives us hope, reminding us of hardships

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Appendix 5: Marketing

Turner, 90, has devoted much of her life to researching the history of the Underground Railroad, which the National Park Service defines as “the resistance to enslavement through escape and flight, through the end of the Civil War”.

“It’s such an important recognition of my work,” Turner said in a news release. “History is so important. It gives a sense of place like nothing else. When you study history, you have a greater appreciation for where you live.”



A Wheaton resident since 1968, Turner is a public historian, teacher, author, lecturer, consultant and community activist. Currently serving on the DuPage County Historical Museum Foundation board and the DuPage County Historical Society, she taught primary grades at Longfellow Elementary School for many years while exploring the area’s history.

Turner has been honored with numerous awards over the years for her work which has centered on the previously little-known history of the Underground Railroad in Illinois. She has had a long-time interest in the African-American community in Wheaton.

Her accolades include being named DuPage County’s Outstanding Woman Educator by the Illinois General Assembly. She was also honored with the Golden Kite Honor Book for Excellence in Children’s Literature by the Society of Children’s Book Writers and Illustrators and the Wilbur Henry Siebert Award from the National Park Service in recognition of her excellence in the field of Underground Railroad research.

She has written 12 children’s books about history and the Underground Railroad. Some of her works are available in the museum shop.

“The Illinois Underground Railroad has all the surprise of a spellbinding mystery, the excitement of a great adventure and, best of all, it happened here,” Turner said in the release.

Turner was born in Raleigh, N.C., and moved to Illinois to live with relatives while she attended Aurora West High School, then Lake Forest College, and earned her masters degree at Goddard.

She said she began her research into Underground Railroad activity in Wheaton after a neighbor made a chance remark claiming such involvement. Glennette could not imagine this because she’d “always thought it was something that took place east of Illinois,” she said. Her first stop was the DuPage County Historical Museum and where she consulted with the Museum’s then-curator, Margaret Dunton.

Turner said she is currently working on a next book which is about abolitionist Harriet Tubman. She said she once had the opportunity to meet Harriet Tubman’s grand-niece, who shared stories of her great-aunt’s heroic efforts to free slaves.

Wheaton

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Historian Glennette Tilley Turner and her work on the Underground Railroad was recognized by the Illinois State Historical Society with the 2023 Lifetime Achievement Award. Also pictured is her son, Cyril, left, and John Hallwas, president of the Illinois State Historical Society. (Courtesy of DuPage County Historical Society)

By Margie Wilhelmi
DuPage County Historical Museum

Updated 8/15/2023 11:31 PM

One of Wheaton's very own, Glennette Tilley Turner, was recently recognized for her work as a historian by the Illinois State Historical Society with a 2023 Lifetime Achievement Award.

Turner, 90, has devoted much of her life to researching the history of the Underground Railroad which the National Park Service defines as "the resistance to enslavement through escape and flight, through the end of the Civil War."

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Appendix 5: Marketing



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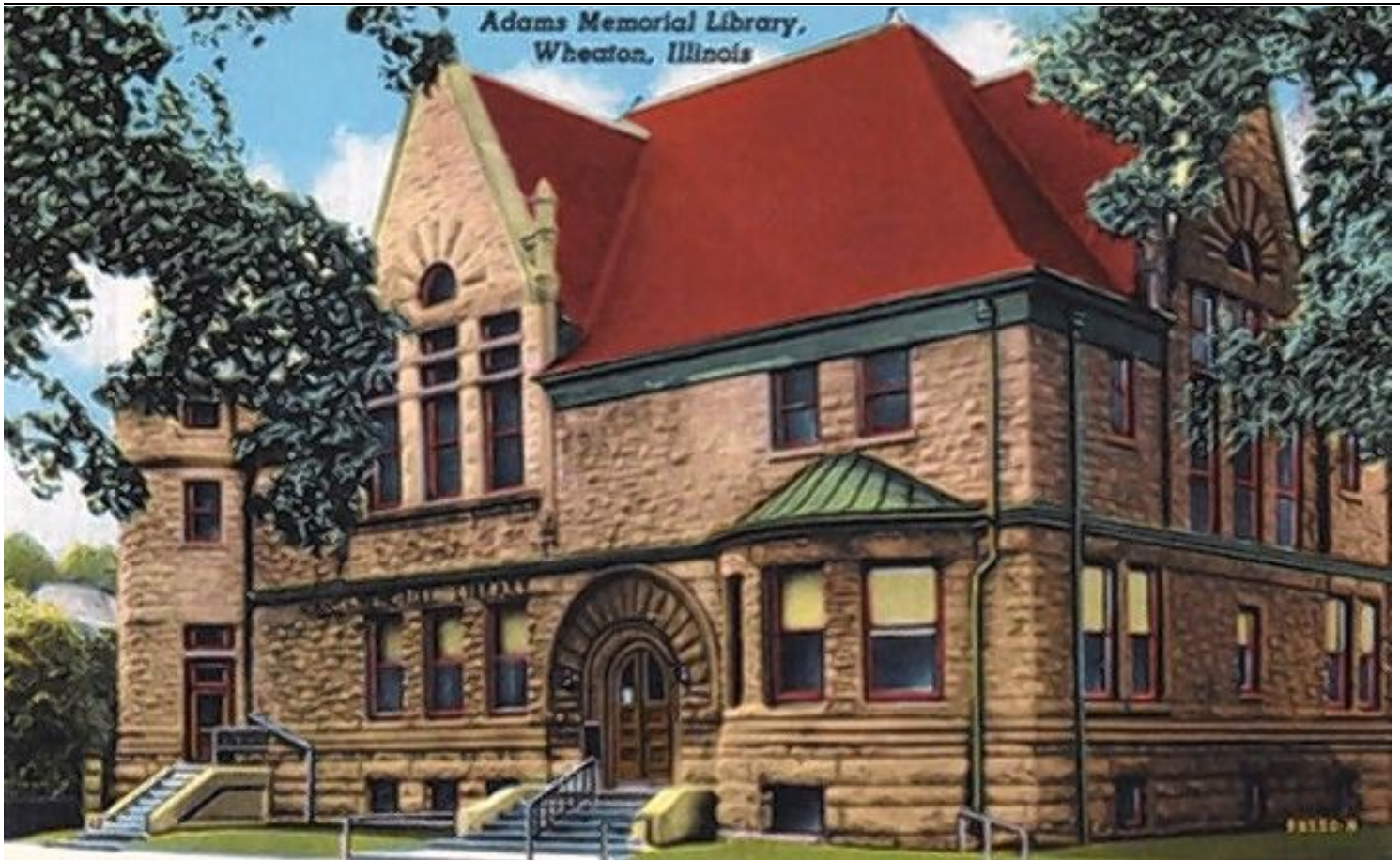
"The Best of Illinois History awards are the Society's annual recognition of achievement in public history throughout the state," said William Furry, executive director of the Illinois State Historical Society. "History brings out passion in people, passion for the past and the lives of those who came before us. It also gives us hope, reminding us of hardships others endured to prepare us for the storms we might face in the future."

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The DuPage County Historical Museum building was once the home of the Adams Memorial Library, the town's first free library, which operated under an endowment fund. In 1923, the city voted to levy a tax to establish the Wheaton Public Library District. *(Courtesy of Wheaton Public Library)*

Submitted by Wheaton Public Library Posted 9/20/2023 5:20 PM

Wheaton Public Library District is celebrating its 100th anniversary as a tax-supported city public library this fall.

During the month of October, an exhibit focusing on the library's history will be featured in the Arts & Culture Center, including a comprehensive timeline and historical artifacts.

On Saturday, Oct. 14, Wheaton Public Library is hosting a "Cheers to 100 Years" celebration event from 6:30 to 9 p.m. in the library.

Tickets for this 21-or-older event are \$50.

Tickets include appetizers by Angeli's, wine and craft beer by Tasting deVine, and music by jazz ensemble Beyond Standard. All attendees will receive a special celebration gift.

Present and past residents are encouraged to share their favorite memory of the Wheaton Public Library via the library's website or social media accounts to be shared with the community.

The Wheaton Public Library is also hosting several 1920s and jazz-themed programs which are free and open to the public.

Appendix 5: Marketing

According to the library's "Cheers to 100 Years" website, the town's first library was created in 1891 by Wheaton resident John Quincy Adams in memory of his wife. A descendant of the Adams line which produced two presidents, he came to Chicago in 1851. He created an endowment fund for the library.

The building, now the DuPage County Historical Museum, was a free library for the town of about 3,000 residents. The library operated for 32 years with money received from the Adams Memorial Trust. But as the town grew, the need for library materials and services increased, along with the need for additional funding. In 1923, the City of Wheaton voted to levy a tax to operate the library, and Mayor Marion J. Pittsford appointed the first board of library directors.



The Wheaton Public Library District is hosting a "Cheers to 100 Years" celebration event. Present and past residents are encouraged to share their favorite memory of the library. - Daily Herald file photo, 2014

The current library building was first built in 1965, on a site a block east of the Adams Memorial Library. In 1979, the library building underwent a 40,000-square-foot addition.

In late 2004, there was a groundbreaking for an addition and renovation project. A three-story addition followed by renovation of the old library was completed in February 2007.

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An excerpt from an article in *My Suburban Life*.

October 13, 2023



mySuburbanLife.com

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Casket races to a living cemetery. There's no shortage of Halloween events in DuPage County

By Melissa Rubalcaba Riske

Halloween is just two weeks away and there's certainly no shortage of celebrations throughout DuPage County to enjoy the spooky holiday. From the casket races in Westmont to the Living Cemetery in [Downers Grove](#), the family friendly activities abound. Check out the Fall Family Fest in [Hinsdale](#) or the Zombie Pub Crawl in [Westmont](#). Here's a look at many of upcoming activities in your communities.

Oct. 20

Cosley Zoo Spooktacular

5:15-8:30 p.m.; 1356 N. Gary Ave., Wheaton

Cost: \$12.95 per person

Cosleyzoo.org

Stroll through the zoo with your Halloween costumes and make time to decorate a pumpkin, and enjoy other activities. Advance ticket purchase required.

Oct. 20

Night at the Museum Halloween Party

6-8 p.m., DuPage County Historical Museum 102 E. Wesley St., Wheaton

Cost: \$18 per person

Dress in a Halloween costume and join a flashlight scavenger hunt, crafts and more. Advance registration required. Visit Dupagemuseum.org for details.

Appendix 5: Marketing

12/13/23, 4:40 PM

DuPage historian, canning industry executive Robert Jacobsen dies at 92

Chicago Tribune

ADVERTISEMENT

OBITUARIES

Robert Jacobsen, DuPage County historian, canning industry executive, dies at 92

By Bob Goldsborough
Chicago Tribune • Published: Nov 20, 2023 at 12:18 pm



Robert Jacobsen of Wheaton in an undated photo. (Robert J. Wittebort Jr.)

Robert Jacobsen was a local history enthusiast who was the driving force behind three museum exhibits in DuPage County and a variety of other history efforts.

Jacobsen spent two decades chairing the Milton Township Cemeteries Authority, which restored three long-neglected pioneer cemeteries near Wheaton.

Appendix 5: Marketing

“Bob Jacobsen exemplified how to live a fully engaged life by celebrating history, being a voracious reader and most importantly, being a doer of deeds to make the world a better place,” said DuPage County Historical Museum board member and Illinois Chamber of Commerce Chair-Elect Dan Wagner, a longtime friend.

Jacobsen, 92, died of complications from a stroke and cancer on Nov. 4 at the AccentCare hospice center in Naperville, said his wife of 67 years, Caroline. He had been a Wheaton resident since 1971.

Born on Staten Island in New York City, Jacobsen was the son of Norwegian immigrants. He graduated from Port Richmond High School on Staten Island, where he played basketball and excelled in golf. Jacobsen earned a bachelor’s degree from Brown University in 1953, and then served in the Army for two years during the Korean War.

In 1955, Jacobsen took a job in the packaging industry at Continental Can Co., where he was an executive for more than 30 years. During his tenure at Continental Can, Jacobsen helped develop the first pull-top for beverage cans, and he also worked from 1983 until 1987 for the company in South Korea, where he introduced beverage cans and vending machines to that country. Jacobsen later held an executive position at U.S. Can Corp., and then consulted for DS Containers until his death.

A history aficionado, Jacobsen served on the board of the DuPage County Historical Museum Foundation from its inception and was one of the driving forces behind the Wheaton Center for History’s golf exhibit, “Fairways, Greens & Clubs,” which highlighted the private 131-year-old Chicago Golf Club, just outside Wheaton, to which Jacobsen had belonged since 1973. The exhibit also paid tribute to the seven other golf courses that had existed at one time or another in Wheaton, and spotlighted the Chicago area’s influence on the evolution of golf in the Midwest.

“Once I understood the history out there, I really wanted to bring it back home to Wheaton, so the whole community could enjoy it, and the young people can see what our history is all about,” Jacobsen told the Tribune in 2006.

Appendix 5: Marketing

Later, working with the DuPage County Historical Museum, Jacobsen wrote the book “Wheaton, Illinois: Golf History Starts Here,” which the museum published in 2018. In conjunction, Jacobsen helped assemble a golf exhibit that now is displayed at Arrowhead Golf Club in Wheaton.

One of Jacobsen’s greatest achievements started about 2000, when he became the chairman of the newly formed Milton Township Cemeteries Authority. Under state law, townships have the right to declare cemeteries abandoned and then take control of them, and in the late 1990s, Milton Township, which includes unincorporated areas just outside Glen Ellyn, Wheaton and Carol Stream, formed a cemetery authority to take over and restore three abandoned cemeteries, Jewell Grove, Pleasant Hill and St. Stephen.

Jacobsen recruited volunteers to help him restore the cemeteries, including clearing overgrowth, adding signage, fixing headstones and planting prairie grasses. Jacobsen also began holding annual family remembrance days at each cemetery.

“Bob brought dignity and history to those families buried there,” said Wheaton Bank and Trust President Bob Hutchinson, a longtime friend and former neighbor. “He cared deeply about our local history and engaged with many stakeholders to preserve it.”

“In these cemeteries are the pioneers that built our community,” Jacobsen told the Tribune in 2010. “I really believe in my heart that people in our community want to know about our history, and it’s just a question of how do you get them involved. The joy of this cemetery activity is that so many people have gotten involved, and so many people have supported a love of history. Volunteers can’t do it all, and you need institutions to lead the way for volunteers to step up.”

Marty Keller, a former Milton Township trustee, called Jacobsen “a generational character who both accomplished much and inspired many.”

“His dedication to preserving our history led him to write books, restore cemeteries and participate in countless Milton Township activities,” Keller said. “Bob reminded us that few things worth fighting for can be completed quickly. It

Appendix 5: Marketing

takes time and commitment by many citizens to create a lasting impact. He was a warm and caring man who possessed a strength of character that will be greatly missed.”

Jacobsen and his wife also helped assemble a 2013 exhibit of about 100 items such as weather vanes, pottery, decoys and whirligigs at the DuPage County Historical Museum called “Early Illinois Folk Art 1825-1925.” The folk art exhibit included six paintings by itinerant 19th-century portrait painter and DuPage County resident Sheldon Peck. In 2019, Jacobsen was the primary force behind the Lombard Historical Society’s exhibit of more than a dozen portraits painted by Peck from 1825 until 1848, titled “Sheldon Peck: Footsteps of His Life.”

In recent years, Jacobsen marshaled a group of local historians to nominate golf course architect and onetime Wheaton resident Herbert J. Tweedie to the Illinois Golf Hall of Fame. Tweedie was inducted in 2021.

Jacobsen also served as a Milton Township Republican committeeman.

In addition to his wife, Jacobsen is survived by a son, Bob; a daughter, Jennifer; and six grandchildren.

Services were held.

Bob Goldsborough is a freelance reporter.

2023 Polar Express Train Rides, Holiday Express, Santa Trains, and Santa Trolleys

By: Jondra Davis Updated: August 10, 2023

INDOOR PLACES TO GO WINTER

All aboard! If you believe in the magic of Christmas, throw on your best holiday pajamas and round up your family and friends to embark on a magical [Christmas experience](#) unlike any other. These rides are a memorable way for kids to visit with Santa and the perfect opportunity to create a holiday train ride tradition with your family. Many of these rides include story time with the kids, meals or themed snacks, holiday crafts, and music.

These events tend to fill up *very* quickly and tickets are limited. Please check out the list below if you're hoping to snag a ticket before the train leaves the station!

This article is sponsored by the Magical Santa Experience from Pixels by Emily.

Magical Santa Experience with Pixels by Emily



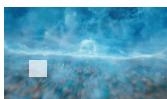
Magical Santa Experience

Pixels by Emily
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Pixels by Emily's [Magical Santa Experience](#) combines a wonderfully interactive private experience with Santa with iconic Norman Rockwell-style Christmas portraits. Santa's Magic Workshop and a Cozy Fireside Living Room delight children with authentic props and whimsical details for an unforgettable experience.

Before the session, children will be mailed a special Golden Ticket invitation. The 45-minute session includes milk and cookies with Santa, telling Santa their wish list, storytime, finding their name on the Nice List, tales of the North Pole and the story of the Reindeer Calling Bells, wish list transport to the elves at the North Pole using Santa's Magic Box, wooden toy painting with "magic" paint, searching the globe with Santa to find home, a vintage small bottle of Coca-Cola in the toy shop scene, and more!

[Book your session for the Magical Santa Experience](#), with options in September, October, and November.



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2023 Best Summer Camps for Kids in Chicago's Western Suburbs

Wheaton Santa Express

December 8-10, 2023 | 9:45 (December 8 only), 9:15 and 11:15 departures (December 9 and 10)

Depart from the Wheaton Train Station for a magical experience which includes a story, holiday music, and treats. Each registered child receives a small gift from Santa and a goody bag. Tickets went on sale October 3 at 8:00 am. \$22/person.

Winfield Polar Express

December 16, 2023 | 5:00 pm

Hop aboard the train, departing at the Jon Duerr Forest Preserve for cookies, hot chocolate, and the re-telling of the famous Polar Express. Train tickets cost \$45/residents or \$47/non-residents.

Oak Park Santa Trolley

December 3 and 10, 2023 | 9:15am, 10:15am, 11:15am, 12:15pm, 1:15pm and 2:15pm

The annual event starts and ends at the Oak Park Conservatory. Games, fun activities, cookies, songs and a visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus can be expected at this event. Tickets are \$23 for Oak Park residents and \$28 for non residents.

Mount Prospect Polar Express

December 18 – 20, 2023 | 1:20pm – 4:00pm

Departing at Mount Prospect, the train will bring you for a journey with a stop at the North Pole for more winter fun. Children 11 months and under are free, but must still be registered to participate. Priced at \$22 per ticket.

Holiday Express at Blackberry Farm

Thursday – November 30, December 7 and 14, 2023 | 5:00pm to 8:00 pm

Friday – December 8 and 15, 2023 | 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm

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Restoration of DuPage County Historical Museum complete

By Shaw Local News Network

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(Photo provided)

December 12, 2023 at 1:20 pm CST

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12/13/23, 11:35 AM

Restoration of DuPage County Historical Museum complete – Shaw Local

The historic 1891 building located at 102 E. Wesley St., Wheaton, houses historical exhibits, artifacts and archives that tell the story of the county's history. The project included masonry stabilization and gutter restoration.



The grant was issued through the IDNR's Museum Capital Grant Program. This program funds public museum projects to restore historic buildings or build new exhibits. The museum received this grant in 2021. The museum is operated by the Wheaton Park District while being owned by DuPage County through an intergovernmental agreement. Restoration projects always including both the park district and the county in planning and execution.

"The building is an important part of the county's history as one of the first libraries in the county. It currently houses more than 40,000 artifacts telling DuPage County history," Michelle Podkova, museum manager and educator said in a news release. "This project was coordinated through a team that the county put together. WSP USA Inc. as the architect, Carsello Engineering Inc. as the structural engineers, and Berglund Construction completed the work with county and park district staff overseeing the project.



"The team fully understood the historic nature of the building and the project had two experts in preservation on it – one from the architect and one from the construction company – to ensure that the historic integrity of the building was considered when creating the designs for structural reinforcement needed for the masonry repair."

"Berglund specializes in historic restoration and preservation and this project is exactly the type of work we love to do because it's both complex and delicate," Sarah Horton, preservation manager with Berglund Construction said in the release. "The project required reworking of structural supports and meticulous restoration of wood trim on the building interior, while on the exterior our masons reset large decorative pieces of limestone and replicated the historic tooled mortar joints, working closely with our skilled roofer, Waukegan Roofing, who made repairs to the copper gutters, with all the work being completed sensitively to ensure the historic integrity was preserved, " "This work requires a lot of planning and skill but thanks to the entire team, the project was a success and aids in preserving the building for future generations."

Berglund Construction was awarded the contract by the county after the company's successful bid. Work began after the conclusion of summer camps and necessitated the temporary closure of the auditorium and the Inside History gallery. Both the auditorium and gallery are now open. The "Planes, Trains, and Automobiles" exhibit opened in the Inside History gallery Nov. 29.

"The much-needed building repairs to the DuPage County Historical Museum, enabled by this generous grant from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, will allow county residents and visitors to continue benefitting greatly from the Museum's exemplary programs and exhibits for years to come," said Mike Benard, executive director of the Wheaton Park District.

Several interesting items from the past were recovered during the construction process. Among the finds were a Mercury dime, which ceased production in 1945, a Sugar Babies wrapper that appears to be from the 1960s, books, photographs, a bookmark and library punch cards.

DuPage County

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WINTER 2023-2024

NEWSLETTER



WHEATON'S OWN GLENNETTE TILLEY TURNER RECOGNIZED WITH AWARD

Longtime historian has tirelessly researched the Underground Railroad.

Wheaton resident Glennette Tilley Turner was recently recognized for her work as a historian by the Illinois State Historical Society with a 2023 Lifetime Achievement Award.

Turner has devoted much of her life to researching the history of the Underground Railroad.

"It's such an important recognition of my work," said Turner. "History is so important. It gives a sense of place like nothing else. When you study history, you have a greater appreciation for where you live."

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She was presented with the Illinois State Historical Society's 2023 Lifetime Achievement Award on April 29, 2023 at a ceremony for the "Best of Illinois History" award winners at the Hoogland Center for the Arts in Springfield during the society's 124th annual meeting.



VISIT THE MUSEUM SHOP

Check out the new merchandise in the Museum Shop! A toy train was added to the engine and caboose. A Tic-Tac-Toe game and puzzle are perfect to keep the kids entertained during holiday travels.

STAY CONNECTED!

[f dupagemuseum](#) [@ dupagemuseum](#)

102 East Wesley | Wheaton, IL 60187 | 630.510.4941 | dupagemuseum.org
email: dupagemuseum@wheatonparks.org



Trains, Trains, Trains!

Join us each month when the DuPage Society of Model Engineers operates the entire railroad. The detailed layout covers more than 2,000 feet of track and highlights some of DuPage County's railroads and landmarks in a landscape full of surprises. See if you can spot Superman and the Batmobile.



2023 TRAIN SCHEDULE

Train hours are 1:30-3:30P on the third (and fifth) Saturday of each month.*

January 21	July 15&29
February 18	August 19
March 18*	September 16* & 30
April 15 & 29	October 21
May 20	November 18
June 17*	December 16* & 30

Interested in operating the railroad? The engineers are always looking for new volunteers. Contact Ken Valentine at 630.668.6017 or sq_rigger@msn.com.

*Explorer's Club Members get an extra hour with the train.



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Learn more at dupagemuseum.org



Education and Exploration

Memberships are available for everyone and include numerous benefits like free or discounted access to other historical institutions.

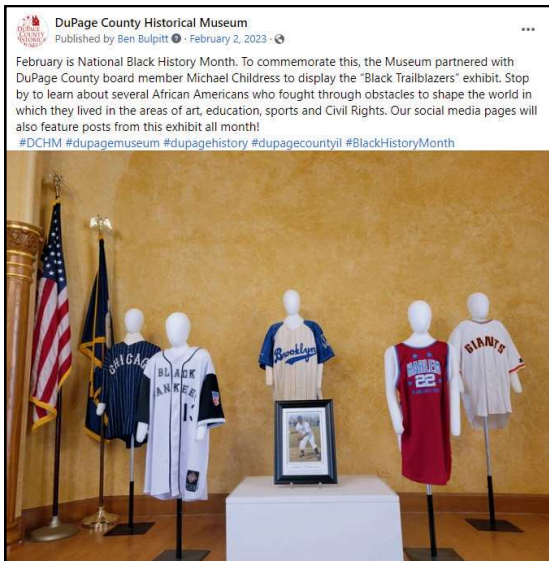
Visit Us on Train Saturdays!

102 E. Wesley St.
Wheaton IL
dupagemuseum.org


Free Admission

Appendix 5: Marketing

Social Media




Eblasts



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SANTA EXPRESS TICKETS ON SALE

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3 | 8A



The Santa Express ticket sale will open to the public on October 3 at 8A. Tickets sell out in minutes and are on a first-come, first-serve basis. Tickets are nonrefundable. For more information, [click here.](#)

Santa Express will take place:

- Friday, December 8 at 9:45A
- Saturday, December 9 at 9:15A
- Saturday, December 9 at 11:15A
- Sunday, December 10 at 9:15A
- Sunday, December 10 at 11:15A



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OCTOBER FEST

Family Friendly Event!

Saturday, September 30
3-9P

Prost! Raise your glass and say "Cheers!" at October Fest - a family-friendly fundraiser hosted by the DuPage County Historical Museum Foundation!

Central Athletic Complex
500 S Naperville Rd., Wheaton

OCTOBER FEST ACTIVITIES*



Beer Garden

- Samuel Adams Oktoberfest
- Revolution Brewing Oktoberfest
- Angry Orchard
- Seltzers
- Wine



Themed Food

- Brats
- Burgers
- Pretzels
- Rainbow Cone Food Truck
- Pierogi Rig Food Truck



Kids Crafts & Rides

- Pumpkin painting
- Face painters (5-7:30P)
- Crafts with the DCIM staff
- Giant slide and inflatables/kids rides



Live Entertainment

- 2:30-4:15P - Vest Dance Troupe
- 4:30-6P - The Wayouts
- 6:30-8:30P - Worst Case Scenario

*\$5 suggested donation per person. All proceeds benefit the DuPage County Historical Museum Foundation.

[Learn more](#)



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LEGO® Minecraft™ Engineering

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