Reservation Information

Planning Your Program
Let our education staff help you plan your program. All groups must have a reservation. Please schedule as early as possible. Call 610-692-4800 x 203 or e-mail csamuelson@chestercohistorical.org or vmckeefery@chestercohistorical.org.

Teachers arranging an educational program are invited to visit the museum free of charge for a preview. Please call in advance for complimentary admission.

We Need to Know
• Preferred date and time (with two alternatives)
• Program title
• Name and e-mail of teacher accompanying each class
• School address and phone number
• Grade level and class size (Please note maximum number of students that can be accommodated in program descriptions)
• Information about students with special needs

Museum Visits
$5.00 per student
Payment is due on arrival. If paying in advance, no refunds can be issued.

Classroom Outreach
$10 per student. A single program can be repeated up to five times a day to accommodate an entire grade level. Payment is due on the day of visit.

Traveling Trunks
$40 per trunk
Payment is due at pick-up. Rentals are for a 2-week period. Return on Saturday before noon and pick-up on Saturdays between 12:30-4:30.

One chaperone for every ten students is required and admission is free. Walking tours require one chaperone for every five students. Extra chaperones are welcome, but will be charged the student fee for their visit.

Special needs groups can call for a waiver of this fee. CCHS is accessible for all persons with wheelchairs.

Space for eating lunch on-site is available with prior arrangement. There is no on-site food service.

Programs generously supported by individuals, corporations and foundations.

Please contact our Development Office at 610-692-4800 x 267 to learn more about how you can help support CCHS.
Choose the Program That Fits Your Curriculum

Early Settlement

The Lenape Children
This trunk introduces students to the lives of Lenape children. It includes reproduction artifacts that focus on the cultures of Lenape children, including games and how play related to daily life, food and religion. Teacher’s guide included.
• Primary & Intermediate

Growing Up in Colonial Chester County
After an introductory A/V presentation, students discover how children prepared for their life’s work 250 years ago. As apprentices, students try reproduction clothing, assemble a Chippendale chair, construct a line and berry table, churn butter, and weigh butter cakes on a balance scale.
• 2½ hours
• Intermediate
• Maximum 60 students

Daily Life in Colonial Pennsylvania
This program explores a day in the life of a colonial boy or girl, using objects and clothing to demonstrate choices, learning and fun.
• 1 hour
• Intermediate
• Maximum 60 students

Underground Railroad

American Revolution

War Comes to Chester County, 1777-1778
When American and British soldiers converged on Chester County in the fall of 1777, few could imagine the dramatic impact on soldiers and civilians alike. Besides artificial exploration, role-play, and practicing a military drill, students also examine and analyze original documents in the CCHS library.
• 2½ hours
• Intermediate
• Maximum 60 students

Quilted History

The American Revolution in Your Own Backyard
What was it like for soldiers as well as the residents of Chester County when war was fought in their backyards? The impact of the American Revolution is seen through the eyes of soldiers and local residents whose stories live on in letters, artifacts, diaries and public documents. Choose from several activities to recall the dramatic experiences of 1777.
• 1 hour, Intermediate
• Maximum 5 classes/classroom outreach

The American Revolution in Chester County
A hankerchief, a wooden trunk, and a parchment piece present the war from three distinct viewpoints: British soldiers, Continental soldiers and Chester County civilians. Rich with objects, this kit provides a five-day series of engaging activities using artifacts and documents. Teacher’s guide included.
• Intermediate

Bayard Rustin: Civil Rights Race Pippin: Artist

Improving the Land: The People of Chester County's Industrial Revolution

• Primary

Women and Reform
• Secondary

• Improving the Land: The People of Chester County’s Industrial Revolution

Teacher Services

Teachers have the opportunity to meet with museum educators or curators to learn about the society’s rich teaching resources and permanent or temporary exhibits. To arrange for a visit please contact Education and Public Programs at 610-692-4800 ext. 203.

Teacher Open House at CCHS
Free Event: Registration Required 10/23/13. 4:00 - 5:30pm

Underground Railroad, the Civil War, and the 1800s

Just Over the Line: Chester County and the Underground Railroad
Because Chester County is just over the Mason-Dixon line, dramatic slave escapes and kidnappings took place in our own backyard. An introductory video, role-play activities, and a decision-making challenge help students understand the complexities of the slavery issue in the years leading up to the Civil War.
• 2 hours
• Intermediate
• Maximum 60 students

The Underground Railroad in Chester County
This trunk documents the County’s role in the Underground Railroad, showing the history of slavery in Chester County and the activities of its early abolitionists. A variety of primary sources identify the people, places and organizational network that helped as many as 50,000 fugitive slaves travel to freedom. The trunk also includes an A/V presentation, photographs and a teacher’s guide.
• Intermediate

The American Revolution in Your Own Backyard

A Walk Through History
West Chester becomes an outdoor museum for students. The experience includes a 30-minute A/V orientation, which presents six classes to finding the old among the new in an urban environment. Then students use the classes during a 90-minute guided walk through the historic county seat. For this activity, the student/chaperone ratio is one chaperone for every FIVE students.
• 2 hours
• Intermediate & Secondary

Voices from the Past: Chester County and the Civil War
This trunk focuses on the impact of the Civil War on Chester County, its people, and community resources. It includes reproduction soldiers’ gear, photographs, copies of diaries, letters, broadsides, government records and secret decoder Cipher Wheel. Teacher’s guide included.
• Secondary

The American Revolution in Chester County

Tall Case Clocks/Time Telling
What makes a clock tick? Students learn about the mechanisms that run classic tall clocks in the CCHS galleries and participate in time-related games and activities.
• 1 hour
• Primary
• Maximum 30 students

Quilts Tell Stories

The Underground Railroad in Chester County

Quilts of Many Colors
People tell stories about quilts and quilt tell stories about people. Colors, shapes, patterns, and signs of wear and tear provide clues to the lives of real people who made or owned quilts in Chester County. Students hear a quilt story, examine quilt fragments, and design their own quilt squares.
• 1 hour
• Primary & Intermediate
• Maximum 30 students

Changing Exhibits at CCHS

Faces of Chester County: 200 Years of Painted Portraits
On view through June 2014

Profiles: Chester County Clothing in the 1800s
On view: November 23, 2013- September 13, 2014
Funded By: The Coby Foundation, Ltd.

Other Available Trunks

• Women and Reform - S
• Chester County’s Industrial Revolution - S
• Bayard Rustin: Civil Rights Leader - I & S
• Horace Pippin: Artist - I & S
• Improving the Land: The People and Places of Chester County - S
• Quilted History - I & S

Key:
1= Intermediate
S= Secondary

NEW THIS YEAR! Government and Citizenship Trunk
This trunk is dedicated to the memory of John H. Ware 3rd, (1908-1997) an elected public official from Chester County who worked at all three government levels: local, state and national. It includes five sections: the rights and responsibilities of citizens, government structure at multiple levels, major issues in government and citizenship, famous people in government and citizenship, and the role of media in government. Lesson plans, activities, and teacher background information are included to make this an easy and interesting resource to enhance the study of government and citizenship for intermediate students. This trunk is available at no cost thanks to the generous funding from the 1675 Foundation.