



VIRGINIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Story of Virginia

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New Virginia Historical Society Education Facility to be Named Carole and Marcus Weinstein Learning Center

Education is at the heart of the VHS mission

Richmond, VA— The Virginia Historical Society (VHS) is proud to announce that its new Learning Center will be named for Richmond philanthropists Carole and Marcus Weinstein.

VHS President and CEO Paul Levengood said, “The Weinstains are widely known for their generosity and civic engagement. They have been great supporters of the Virginia Historical Society over the years, and Carole is currently a member of our board of trustees.”

“The overriding theme in all their philanthropic efforts has been education. Both Carole and Marcus have played leading roles in the development of our educational programs, particularly teacher education. That they have chosen to help make our new Learning Center truly world-class is just one more example of the depth of their commitment to future generations of scholars, students, and engaged citizens.”

The new Carole and Marcus Weinstein Learning Center will complement and build upon both our permanent and temporary exhibitions. It will be a real center of learning that will make extensive use of our collections, our on-site experts, and the latest historical research.

And, rather than separating the classroom from the exhibition space, the Carole and Marcus Weinstein Learning Center will incorporate a learning gallery. This innovative concept will make learning about history in a museum setting more fun and more relevant and give our on-site scholars the opportunity to discover Virginia’s history in an entirely new way. Also in the new learning center will be classrooms, a teacher resource room, a studio for our distance learning initiative, and a connection to the existing Halsey Lecture Hall. In all, more than 5,000 sq. ft. will be dedicated to programming for a growing audience.

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The Carole and Marcus Weinstein Learning Center is part of the society’s “Story of Virginia Campaign.” The \$38-million effort includes the complete redesign and reinstallation of an 11,000 sq. ft. *Story of Virginia* exhibition, easier access to all of our collections through digital imaging, and a new series of nationally touring exhibitions selected to present history in unexpected ways—and in some cases to present unexpected history. The redesign of public spaces and main entrances will allow for the display of even more of the society’s collections as well as the hosting of more and larger special events and lectures. More than \$30 million has been committed to the effort to date.

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The **Virginia Historical Society** (VHS)—a privately funded nonprofit organization—collects, preserves, and interprets the Commonwealth’s history, linking past with present to inspire future generations. Visitors may connect with the 8.5 million objects in the VHS collection through the research library, a variety of programs, and a recently redesigned website to learn more about the unparalleled story of Virginia. Exciting plans are underway to expand and improve VHS exhibitions in 2014 to offer visitors a better experience. The transformation of gallery spaces will create even more vibrant, accessible, and engaging gateways to America’s past. The VHS is located at 428 North Boulevard in Richmond’s Museum District. Admission is free. Hours are Monday–Saturday 10 a.m.–5 p.m. for the library, museum shop and a variety of programs. The VHS is closed on Sunday. For more information, call (804) 358-4901, visit www.vahistorical.org, or connect with the VHS on Facebook and Twitter.