



HISTORYCONNECTS

LIFELONG LEARNING CATALOG

HistoryConnects Lifelong Learning Programs are \$125 for a single site connection. These hour-long programs can be delivered to single site or multiple sites within a community at once. There is a \$75 fee for each additional site connecting during a single program appointment.

PROGRAMS OFFERED:

Tobacco: The Crop that Created the Commonwealth	Fresh Paint: Murals Inspired by the Story of Virginia
Photography in Virginia	Humor with Edge: Exploring Political Cartoons
Food for Thought: Tidbits from Virginia's Culinary History	18th Century Chocolate Making
Pocahontas: Her Life and Legend	Colonial Wars and Early Military Conflict in Virginia
The Pursuit of Liberty: The Revolutionary War and the Founding of America	Letters from a '49er: A Virginian's Journey to find California Gold
The Civil War: An American Turning Point	Eye of the Storm: A Civil War Odyssey
Death & Memory and the Civil War	Picture This: Virginia in the Twentieth Century
Commonwealth and the Great War	The Great War Songbook: Sheet Music & WWI
Dream Deferred: African American Military Service in WWI & WWII	Civil War to Civil Rights
When the Cold War Gets Hot	What's Your Sign? Ephemera & Women's Activism
Virginia House: An English Manor in Virginia	Oh, Shenandoah: Landscapes of Diversity
History of Thanksgiving	History of the Holidays

Full program descriptions are provided on the following pages.



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Tobacco: The Crop that Created the Commonwealth

First grown by Virginia Indians, tobacco was already a part of the Commonwealth's history before the arrival of the English. In search of new sources of revenue, colonists eventually found one through the cultivation of a plant that came to dominate the economy and determine new settlement patterns. The labor-intensive crop also led to a society based on slavery and the destruction of Virginia's once fertile soil by the mid-19th Century. This program will tell the complicated story of tobacco from the colonial era to the present through the manuscript and artifact collections of the Virginia Museum of History & Culture.

Fresh Paint: Murals Inspired by the Story of Virginia

Fresh Paint features murals inspired by Virginia's history. Ten of Virginia's most talented mural artists were provided unrestricted access to the museum's vast collection of books, letters, maps, artwork, photographs, and objects. Each artist chose objects that interested them and used those stories as inspiration for an original painting reflecting the Commonwealth's diverse history. Throughout the program, participants will explore the role of history in art, engage in a discussion about artistic process and influence, analyze artist statements & artwork, and develop an appreciation for artistic interpretation & historic events.

Humor with Edge: Exploring Political Cartoons

For more than two centuries, whenever there has been a debate in the United States, political cartoons have taken part, and in some cases, pushed the debate to its limits. Political cartoons began as a street-level phenomenon. In the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, they were often posted on walls or passed from person to person, as well as being published in newspapers. By the end of the nineteenth century, they were an important part of the growing popularity of newspapers and magazines, and the intense competition for readership made provocative cartoons a valuable selling point. At the beginning of the twenty-first century, political cartoons appear in a wide range of online publications and can still stir up controversy.

Photography in Virginia

Photography has documented and interpreted life in Virginia for more than 150 years. This program will survey this visual record, using only work made in Virginia. Included will be daguerreotypes, panoramas, amusement-park tintypes, lantern slides, photogravure, early experiments in color, and aerial photography.

Food for Thought—Tidbits from Virginia's Culinary History

From Berkeley Plantation's claim to have held the true First Thanksgiving, to Richmond's modern allure as one of the best food cities in the country, Virginia's culinary history spans more than 400 years of European, African American, and Virginia Indian influences. We will explore items from our collection that speak to the way food has played an active role in our history, as a community anchor and economic driver.



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18th Century Chocolate Making

Join us on a journey through history and discover the ways in which chocolate was prepared and enjoyed in 18th-century Virginia. In addition to tracing the history of early chocolate consumption by Virginians, participants will see a live chocolate making demonstration using reproduction cooking tools and equipment. *(Participating centers can purchase chocolate samples, hot chocolate mix, or baking squares that follow the 18th century recipe to sample before, during, or after the program. Contact Hailey Fenner at hfenner@VirginiaHistory.org for more information on purchasing these materials.)*

Pocahontas: Her Life and Legend

The study of Pocahontas is an excellent exercise testing the strength of primary versus secondary sources. This program examines historical evidence of six episodes of her life that are recorded by English settlers and compares those accounts to the mythology created after her death, when artists manipulated her story to support causes that they wanted to advance.

Colonial Wars and Early Military Conflict in Virginia

For 169 years prior to the American Revolution, Virginia was a part of England, which by 1707 had become the United Kingdom of Great Britain. During that time Virginians followed, and sometimes led, their country into wars for a variety of causes and beliefs against an array of enemies. This program will examine those conflicts and what motivated the participants on both sides. From the Powhatan Indians resisting an English invasion to a colonial border war with France started by a young Virginian named George Washington, learn how violent conflict impacted Virginia before she became one of the original thirteen States.

The Pursuit of Liberty: The Revolutionary War and the Founding of America

Virginians played an essential role in the creation of the new American nation. From actions during and following the American Revolution to ideas and documents that established the new country, Virginians were involved at every point. During this program participants will learn more about the lives of Virginia's founding fathers, such as George Washington, Patrick Henry, Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, and George Mason, while also examining some of the most important documents in American history: The Declaration of Independence, the Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom, the Virginia Declaration of Rights, and the United States Constitution.

Letters from a '49er: A Virginian's Journey to find California Gold

In 1849, John Robertson Maben traveled to California in search of gold. In this program, participants will join Maben on his journey. In a series of thirteen letters, Maben describes his travels to his wife, Sarah. These letters are especially vivid as Maben was witness to events both momentous and mundane. He wrote of the cholera epidemic of 1849, the great St. Louis fire that same year, and the excitement and brutality of the California gold fields.



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The Civil War: An American Turning Point

From 1861 to 1865 the country was in a military and social revolution. How we define freedom, liberty, patriotism, and nation today is directly related to the diverse experiences of the individuals who participated in the Civil War. This program will discuss various aspects of the Civil War, including life on the battlefield, life on the home front, the roles of medicine and technology in the Civil War, and the parts that African Americans, American Indians, women, and children played in the war.

Eye of the Storm: A Civil War Odyssey

Eyewitness accounts and images from the Civil War memoir of Union soldier, cartographer, and Confederate prisoner of war Robert Knox Sneden are showcased during this program to provide a unique and mesmerizing perspective on the Civil War. His descriptions and depictions of combat, capture, imprisonment, and deliverance provide a pictorial record of the war that puts the viewer in the shoes of a Union soldier as nothing else can.

Death & Memory and the Civil War

The goal of this program is to better understand how the country dealt with the deaths of over 620,000 people during the Civil War. Participants will use primary sources such as photographs and letters to analyze how the fatalities were felt on the home front. They will leave with a more comprehensive knowledge of how the Civil War changed America's mourning customs and perspectives of war and death.

Picture This: Virginia in the Twentieth Century

New and rapidly developing technologies allowed the twentieth century to be the more visually documented than any previous era. Movies, photography, and new printing methods recorded the sweeping changes that occurred as people moved from the countryside to cities and as the Industrial Revolution came to dominate the new rhythms of life. Join us as we explore themes of urbanization, social change, and politics represented by the photograph, manuscript, and museum collections of the Virginia Museum of History & Culture.

Commonwealth and the Great War

In 1917, Virginia-born President Woodrow Wilson brought the nation into war against the German, Austrian, and Ottoman empires. The Commonwealth and the Great War tells the stories of individual Virginians who carried the state's proud military tradition to the battlefield during World War I. 100,000 of them served; 3,700 died. Many more were injured. Thirty-nine percent of the draftees in 1918 were African Americans. Hundreds of Virginia nurses and doctors followed soldiers to Europe. Military facilities established in Virginia became essential centers for the war effort. Thousands labored at home to produce vital war supplies, and families tended "Victory Gardens" and rationed food to "make the world safe for democracy."



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The Great War Songbook: Sheet Music & WWI

This program uses sheet music from the early 20th Century to examine the evolution of national sentiment during the Great War. From anti-war songs (“I Didn’t Raise My Boy To Be A Soldier”) to those bolstering support of the war effort (“Over There”), it is clear that songs are more than a form of entertainment; they are cultural touchstones used to convey ideas, inspire patriotism, reward sacrifice, and encourage loyalty.

Dream Deferred: African American Military Service in WWI & WWII

Historically, the African American struggle for equality has been fraught with irony. This has been especially evident in times of war, when African Americans have fought for freedom and democracy even as they endured violence and racism. *A Dream Deferred* details the contributions of African American men and women to the war effort during WWI & WWII. It also will consider the meaning and importance of the "Double V" campaign in Virginia, which sought victory abroad and at home for Black Americans and gave impetus to the postwar Civil Rights Movement.

Civil War to Civil Rights

Emancipation and the end of the Civil War brought promises of equality for African Americans in Virginia and throughout the South. It took the better part of a century for those promises to begin to be realized. This program will identify and examine the effects of segregation and “Jim Crow” on life in Virginia for whites, African Americans, and American Indians. Participants will also discuss the social and political events in Virginia linked to desegregation and Massive Resistance and their relationship to national history.

When the Cold War Gets Hot

From the fires and ash of World War II emerged a new global conflict that pitted the economic ideologies of capitalism and communism against each other in a competition for the hearts and minds of humanity. Few states felt the impact as severely as Virginia. With its proximity to Washington D.C., the state developed rapidly as the federal government expanded into northern Virginia and military bases and installations grew and expanded. This program will examine the competition between the United States and the Soviet Union, how it affected the home front, as well as the “hot” conflicts the Cold War produced in Korea, Vietnam, and beyond.

What's Your Sign? Ephemera & Women's Activism

This program uses ephemera to examine women’s rights movements in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. From protest signs to political buttons, participants will analyze how demonstrations evolve over time. Participants will engage in a discussion about what defines a progressive movement and how women shape the country’s political, social, and economic environment/state.



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Virginia House: An English Manor in Virginia

Designed by Alexander and Virginia Weddell, Virginia House is situated on a hillside overlooking the historic James River and was constructed from the materials of a sixteenth century English manor house. Although Virginia House was a blend of three romantic English Tudor designs, it was for its time a thoroughly modern home. Mrs. Weddell's appreciation of style is evident as the visitor moves through rooms decorated with English and Spanish antiques, silk draperies, Oriental carpets, and fine silver and china. The house has been preserved much as it was when the Weddells resided there. During this program, participants will learn the history of both the home and homeowners.

Oh, Shenandoah: Landscapes of Diversity

Across a spectacular natural setting that extends some 200 miles from the Potomac to the James River, the story of our country's multi-cultural nature can be seen in Virginia's Shenandoah Valley. Oh, Shenandoah: Landscapes of Diversity is a display of 48 plein air paintings by contemporary artist Andrei Kushnir representing the communities, farmlands, waterways, and historical sites of the Shenandoah Valley. A full-time painter since 1980, Kushnir captures the extraordinary beauty and richness of the Valley as well as the qualities that enticed pioneers—and those that followed—to settle and remain there.

History of Thanksgiving

Most agricultural societies developed prayers of thanks and ceremonies to celebrate harvests and other special occasions, so what do we mean when we ask, "who held the first Thanksgiving?" This program will examine the origin of the holiday, from Native American harvest ceremonies to the competing claims of who had "the first" ranging from the Spanish in Florida, to the English in Virginia, and of course, the Pilgrims at Plimoth (Plymouth) Plantation. From the proclamations of George Washington to Abraham Lincoln establishing it as a national holiday we will examine how various traditions that were often regional in nature coalesced to form the holiday now celebrated throughout the United States.

History of the Holidays

This program traces the history of winter holiday season in Virginia. By looking at broadsides, music, catalogs, cards, and letters we will learn about at holiday traditions throughout the Commonwealth.