

NEWS AND UPCOMING EVENTS



Sharing History to Promote Community



Thank you to everyone who has donated so far to our Annual Appeal. We are 88% of the way to our goal, but there is still time to help us. A generous friend of the SCHC has offered to match new donations up to \$1500, so your contribution will be doubled.

[Please Donate to the 2024 Annual Giving Campaign Here](#)

All of us here at the Saratoga County History Center invite you to join our institution through membership. Members make our goal of educating the community and preserving its rich history a reality. We offer several tiers of membership, one of the most popular being the \$100 level which includes a North American Reciprocal Museum (NARM) membership. This gives you free access to over a thousand museums all across North America, including the Clark Art Institute and the Adirondack Experience. Thank you to all who have already renewed your membership.

[Register for or Renew Membership Here](#)

Help Needed:

Do you have, or do you know anyone who has, "old school" knowledge of and the ability to work with electronics? We are looking for some help with a possible project to enhance our exhibits. Please get in touch if you can help.

***Saratoga's Black Heritage: A Guidebook* written by Field Horne, a new 64-page book that tells**

previously unknown stories of Black achievers, is now available free of charge to SCHC members and the general public.

Underwritten by Business for Good and the Adirondack Trust Company, the book contains thirty tales, each with an illustration. They range from the 1702 construction of mills at the present Schuylerville by enslaved Africans to the lively Spuyten Duyvil nightclub that operated near the track until 1986. All have been researched in primary sources or reliable secondary sources.

Copies may be picked up at Brookside Museum during open hours (winter: Saturday and Sunday, noon to 4 p.m.; beginning April, daily except Monday, noon to 4 p.m.) or available soon for mail-ordered from our website at the cost of shipping for \$6.00.

Order Your Copy of *Saratoga's Black Heritage: A Guidebook* [Here](#)

Requests for use of the library may be made to research@brooksidemuseum.org.

Upcoming Events:

Frida Kahlo and the bravest Niña in el Mundo: an interactive children's opera

Saturday, March 8th, 2pm

Brookside Museum, 21 Fairground Ave. Ballston Spa

Together with Ballston Spa Committee on the Arts, Saratoga County History Center is proud to present a performance by Opera Saratoga composed by Joe Illick with libretto written by Mark Campbell. The story is about Mariana, a young girl living in Mexico City in the late 1940s. Mariana's family encourages her to have her portrait painted by the renowned artist, Frida Kahlo. Mariana is initially frightened, but is emboldened and charmed by Kahlo, the animals in her household including a monkey, a parrot and a dog, and a visit by the exuberant artist Diego Rivera. As Mariana sits for her portrait, she learns all about Frida's life, and begins to understand the meaning of bravery. The 45-minute opera explores the art of Frida Kahlo as well as themes of courage and family.

Reservations are strongly recommended as seating is limited. This opera is appropriate for ages 5-11. All children must be accompanied by a responsible adult. The concert is open to the public and free, though donations are always appreciated, either online or at the event.

Register for *Frida Kahlo and the bravest Niña in el Mundo: an interactive children's opera*

Historian Tea Talk - Ruby Marcotte on "Love Your Neighbor"

Wednesday, March 19th 3pm

Brookside Museum, 21 Fairground Ave. Ballston Spa

For the first of the 2025 season of Historian Tea Talks, Saratoga County History Center will host Ruby Marcotte, a 4th generation traditional artist of Abenaki Native American and Quebecois French heritage, and previously Town Historian for the Town of Day, who will present a program, "Love Your Neighbor", about her life growing up in an informal, out of the way community, "on the mountain",

west of Corinth, a community with a rich, long history of connectedness. Tea and cookies will be served. Registration is free and recommended, but a donation of \$5 per registration, online or at the event, would be appreciated to support the programs of Saratoga County History Center.

Register for Historian Tea Talk "Love Your Neighbor"

Historical Sewing Sessions for Reenactors and those Looking to Volunteer at Saratoga 250 Events: Bedgowns & Wrapping Gowns/Banyans

Saturday, March 22, 1-4 pm

Brookside Museum 21 Fairground Ave. Ballston Spa.

Join us for an afternoon of stitching, tea, and camaraderie as we share information, resources, and ideas for clothing that can be worn during upcoming events related to the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution. All are welcome to attend these free gatherings, but **pre-registration is required. Email aclothier@SaratogaCountyNY.gov to sign up.** Participants can work on any project, but these will be the subjects of focus for anyone wanting additional help and guidance. Options will be included for men's, women's, and children's garments. Limited fabric selection available with advance notice. Beginners are welcome!

Historian Tea Talks: Saratoga in the Gilded Age and the Lost Park

Wednesday, April 2, 3:00-4:30pm

Brookside Museum 21 Fairground Ave. Ballston Spa.

Come and enjoy a presentation given by the acclaimed local author and storyteller, Hollis Palmer, in conjunction with the Saratoga County History Center. Tea and cookies will be served. Registration is free and recommended, but a donation of \$5 per registration, online or at the event, would be appreciated to support the programs of Saratoga County History Center.

Register for Historian Tea Talk "Saratoga in the Gilded Age and the Lost Park"

Well Dressed: Gowns of the 1770s – Public Program & Workshop by Emily Stringham

Friday, April 4, 7:00-8:30pm

Brookside Museum 21 Fairground Ave. Ballston Spa.

Learn about the importance of the garment that was worn by women of all classes. This program will cover the social history and construction of the garment as well as include an opportunity to view an original gown from the 18th century. This program is free and open to the public however registration is highly encouraged.

Register for Well Dressed: Gowns of the 1770s – Public Program & Workshop by Emily Stringham

Traveling the Mother Road: America's Route 66

Thursday, April 10, 7:00-8:30pm

Brookside Museum 21 Fairground Ave. Ballston Spa.

Joanne and Rick Reynolds will be sharing the story of their personal and professional road trip from the beginning to the end of America's Route 66 – from Chicago, Illinois to Santa Monica, California. This presentation is not a travelogue but an examination of the story of this road. Full of stories,

pictures, and an emphasis on preservation of the past for all to experience now and into the future. The presentation is free to attend, but donations are always welcome and appreciated, either online or at the event.

Register for Traveling the Mother Road: America's Route 66

Don't forget to check our website for the latest updates on our event schedule!

Saturday, April 12, 1-4pm

Opening for Spring/Summer Hours. Tuesday through Sunday from Noon to 4pm

Debut of the new portrait exhibit "Portraiture: Faces and Legacies" as well as the opening of the new family learning space, the History Hunters Hangout.

Saturday, April 12, 9:30-11:30am

Random Acts of Poetry: Writing Workshop

Wednesday, April 16th, 3pm

Historian Tea Talk - Anne Clothier - "Women of the Saratoga Campaign"

Other Upcoming Saratoga County History Events:

Brown Bag Lunch Series

Thursday, March 13, Noon-1pm

**H. Dutcher Community Room Saratoga Springs Public Library
or Online with Zoom**

In celebration of Women's History Month, join us for an inspiring panel discussion featuring three distinguished women leaders who have made significant contributions to education, mentorship, and leadership. These women have dedicated their lives to uplifting others, and will share their insights and experiences. Their commitment has not only created lasting impacts on their communities but has also served as a beacon of inspiration for generations past and present. This event promises to empower attendees and highlight the vital role of women in shaping the future through education and leadership. This event is free but registration is required as seating is limited.

Register for Brown Bag Lunch Series

Heritage Hunters Meeting

Saturday, March 15, 1pm

Saratoga Town Hall, 12 Spring St., Schuylerville

Join Debra Bruno, a lifelong journalist based in Washington, D.C. as she discusses her book *A Hudson Valley Reckoning: Discovering the Forgotten History of Slaveholding in My Dutch American Family*.

The Washington Post called the book "deeply moving," and "an excavation of the carefully

constructed cultural fiction that paints the North as an innocent bystander to America's original sin." Copies of the book will be available for purchase, through cash or check, for \$35, tax included. Checks must be made out to Virginia Humphrey.

Life in a 19th Century Tavern

Friday, April 4, 7pm

Grooms Tavern 290 Sugar Hill Rd, Rexford, NY 12148

Historian John Scherer will give a powerpoint presentation about the various inns and tavern's that flourished in Clifton Park and the people they served. Learn about the important roles early taverns served in their communities and the services they provided to travelers.

Programs are free unless otherwise indicated. Submit events to press@brooksidemuseum.org. SCHC Events and News is a collaborative effort. We count on the contributions of the historic community of Saratoga County and others for the entire content of this page. The SCHC Events and News are available on our [website](#).

Saratoga County History Center

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Ballston Spa, NY 12020
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