



Contact: Ned Schano  
412-454-6382  
[nschano@heinzhistorycenter.org](mailto:nschano@heinzhistorycenter.org)

Brady Smith  
412-454-6459  
[bmsmith@heinzhistorycenter.org](mailto:bmsmith@heinzhistorycenter.org)

**History Center and KDKA-TV to Host Seventh Annual  
Pittsburgh's Hidden Treasures Appraisal Event on Aug. 17**  
*-Nearly 30 professional appraisers and conservators, including an expert from the  
Smithsonian Institution, will meet with visitors at this year's event-*

PITTSBURGH, Aug. 4, 2014 – Nearly 1,500 visitors are expected to bring their most prized possessions to the Senator John Heinz History Center and meet with professional appraisers at the seventh annual **Pittsburgh's Hidden Treasures** event with **KDKA-TV** on **Sunday, Aug. 17**, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Nearly 30 appraisers will assess the historical significance of visitors' items and provide a verbal assessment of potential monetary value.

KDKA-TV's Dave Crawley, Kimberly Gill, and Mary Robb Jackson will roam the History Center seeking the most interesting items for interviews. The most unique items will be featured as part of special 30 minute programs on KDKA-TV later this year, hosted by KDKA's Ken Rice and History Center President and CEO Andy Masich.

Appraisers at the Pittsburgh's Hidden Treasures event have expert knowledge on a variety of antique items, including books, china, militaria, coins, collectibles, furniture, glass, jewelry, paintings, photographs, quilts, silver, sports memorabilia, toys, and much more.

In addition to the appraisals, conservator Antje Neumann from the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of African American History and Culture and experts from the History Center's new Museum Conservation Center will be on hand at the event to provide tips on how to preserve visitors' items.

The event is free for History Center members and included with regular admission for non-members: \$15 for adults, \$13 for seniors (age 62+), \$6 for students and children (age 6-17), and free for children (age 5 and under).

**Special Access for History Center Members**

During the Pittsburgh's Hidden Treasures event on Aug. 17, History Center members will be allowed to enter the event at 9 a.m., one hour before the museum opens to the public, to attend a special "members only" appraisal session. During this session, History Center members will have exclusive access to meet with professional appraisers and conservators.

For more information about becoming a History Center member, please contact Shirley Gaudette at 412-454-6436 or [sagaudette@heinzhistorycenter.org](mailto:sagaudette@heinzhistorycenter.org). Representatives from the History Center's membership department will also be on hand throughout the event.

-more-

## **Museum Conservation Center Set to Open in September**

The increasing public demand for conservation education has encouraged the History Center to open a new building that will become a hub for conservation services in Western Pa.

Beginning Saturday, Sept. 20, the Museum Conservation Center – located behind the History Center at 1221 Penn Avenue – will provide visitors with expert advice on how to preserve their antiques and family heirlooms, including works of art, photographs, wedding dresses, furniture, and much more. The Museum Conservation Center will also connect visitors with conservators should their heirlooms require professional repair.

A series of regular conservation workshops in the new building are being planned throughout the year in which visitors can learn museum-quality techniques for preserving their cherished heirlooms.

When the Museum Conservation Center opens this fall, the History Center will be one of the first museums in the nation to provide professional conservation services directly to the public.

Visitors to Pittsburgh's Hidden Treasures on Aug. 17 can meet with professionals from the Museum Conservation Center and learn more about the services offered in the new building.

**The Senator John Heinz History Center**, an affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution and the largest history museum in Pennsylvania, presents American history with a Western Pennsylvania connection. The Western Pennsylvania Sports Museum is a museum within a museum, comprehensively presenting the region's remarkable sports story through hundreds of artifacts and interactive experiences for visitors of all ages. The History Center and Sports Museum are located at 1212 Smallman Street in the city's Strip District, and are open every day from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The History Center's museum system includes the Sports Museum; the Fort Pitt Museum in historic Point State Park; and Meadowcroft Rockshelter and Historic Village, a National Historic Landmark located in Avella, Pa. in Washington County. More information is available at [www.heinzhistorycenter.org](http://www.heinzhistorycenter.org).



Nearly 1,500 visitors will bring their most prized possessions to the History Center and meet with professional appraisers at the seventh annual Pittsburgh's Hidden Treasures event with KDKA-TV on Sun., Aug. 17.



The most unique items at the History Center's Pittsburgh Hidden Treasures event will be featured as part of special 30 minute programs on KDKA-TV later this year, hosted by KDKA's Ken Rice and History Center President and CEO Andy Masich (pictured above).



Visitors to Pittsburgh's Hidden Treasures on Aug. 17 can meet with professionals from the History Center's new Museum Conservation Center and learn more about the conservation services offered to the public.

###