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Smithsonian Affiliate

Experience life through the lens of Pittsburghers with the new exhibition, #Pixburgh: A Photographic Experience. Beginning on Dec. 17, visitors can transport themselves back in time to see what makes Pittsburgh unique through the History Center’s extensive collection of photographs.

Starting with the first daguerreotype “selfie” in 1839 to the nearly two billion digital images taken daily today, photography connects generations and remains one of the most popular means of self-expression. #Pixburgh showcases Pittsburgh’s passion for photography by utilizing nearly 400 images dating from the 1850s to 1960s culled from the History Center’s extensive photo vault of nearly one million images.

Each photograph provides visitors with new ways of exploring and connecting with the lives of Pittsburghers – their families, their work, their pastimes, and the communities we call home.

The photographs reflect a wide variety of subjects and time periods, from turn-of-the-century police mugshots to the 1960 World Series, from the 1936 Flood to the Westinghouse Skybus, and from early daguerreotypes to Polaroids, all while exploring Pittsburgh’s cycle of change and renewal.

Subjects include:
• The faces of Pittsburgh, showing the racial, ethnic, and religious fabric of our region;
• Famous landmarks, major events, and iconic images of the Point, the Kaufmann’s Clock, and Three Rivers Stadium that help to give us a sense of place;
• Pittsburgh at work, highlighting the cross section of workers that help to keep the city growing;
• Leisure activities that show how Pittsburghers enjoy their time off, from vacations and holiday parties to cookouts and happy hours; and
• A special area focusing on dogs and other pets.

Several Smithsonian artifacts are featured in the exhibit, including a nine lens wet plate camera from the 1880s that was used to take multiple images at the same time and the first commercially available Polaroid camera from 1948 (see page 2). The Smithsonian objects show the evolution of lower-priced, faster-paced camera technology.

Interactive activities encourage visitors to act like a curator and help date historic photographs; leaf through family albums to explore the everyday lives of local residents; enjoy a Pittsburgh time machine video come face-to-face with Pittsburghers through large-scale murals; and play a special photo matching game designed for children.

The exhibit explores how Pittsburghers’ motivations for taking and sharing images has continued to grow as technology has made photography more accessible.

From the darkroom to the digital era, #Pixburgh provides visitors with a compelling glimpse into how Pittsburghers chronicle their city and their own lives in a format that’s more popular than ever.


For more information, including behind-the-scenes photos and a full lineup of public programs, please visit www.heinzhistorycenter.org.

The History Center is proud to be an affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution.

The History Center is open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is $16 for adults, $14 for seniors (age 62+), $6.50 for military, $6.50 for students and youth (age 6-17), and free for children (age 5 and under) and History Center members. For more details, please visit www.heinzhistorycenter.org.
The innovation and STEAM-focused exhibit (science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics) is currently in its testing phase on the museum’s third floor. The 3,000-square-foot learning space allows young learners to explore the invention process in a setting where creativity, science, and history merge.

As part of the Engineering Playground, kids can build bridges across Pittsburgh’s three rivers or design structures using massive foam building blocks. Other innovation stations allow kids to explore sound and tempo, design a piece of pop art on the Everbright machine, create new products using aluminium, and more!


We’re eager to hear how young visitors are enjoying the exhibit, so please share your feedback by contacting Mariruth Leftwich at 412-454-6390 or maleftwich@heinzhistorycenter.org.
The annual 1879 Founders’ Circle Dinner, hosted by David and Wendy Barensfeld and the Compton Family, recently honored and celebrated the members of the Chairman’s Circle, Director’s Circle, Museum Circle, and special friends of the History Center. This year’s dinner featured tours provided by History Center President and CEO Andy Masich.

Six distinguished Pittsburghers will be recognized for their exceptional contributions to the history of Western Pennsylvania, the nation, and the world as part of the 25th Annual History Makers Award Dinner on Friday, May 12, at the Westin Convention Center.

The annual black-tie benefit dinner, chaired by David J. Heberle, president of BNY Mellon of Pennsylvania, and Daniel K. Fitzpatrick, president of Citizens Bank for Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Delaware, and presented by BNY Mellon and Citizens Bank, honors outstanding men and women whose achievements, while rooted in Western Pa., transcend geographical bounds.

Participants at the inaugural Sporting Clay Classic at the luxurious Nemacolin Woodlands’ Shooting Academy competed through 15 shooting stations as part of this event that benefitted the Fort Pitt Museum.

For more information on next year’s event, please contact Angela Ford at 412-454-6405 or agford@heinzhistorycenter.org.
Hold the Fort: Museum to Close in January for Upgrades

The Fort Pitt Museum will temporarily close from Jan. 1 through Jan. 27 for exhibition maintenance and updating. Museum staff will clean and upgrade the museum’s exhibitions and displays, including the first-floor diorama depicting the Point in the mid-1700s, and prepare for a robust schedule of activities in 2017, featuring living history programs, scout workshops, and an expanded lecture series.

Last year, the Fort Pitt Museum attracted more than 50,000 visitors and hosted engaging living history programs featuring colonial re-enactors, live musket demonstrations, and firings of the 18th century British six-pounder cannon.

Located in historic Point State Park in downtown Pittsburgh, the Fort Pitt Museum is the most affordable family-friendly cultural experience in the region. Admission to the museum is just $7 for adults, $6 for seniors, $4 for retired and active military, and $3.50 for students with a valid ID and children ages 6-17. Children under 5 and History Center members get in free.

Stay tuned to www.heinzhistorycenter.org/fort-pitt for the latest exhibit information, event schedules, and more. For additional information, please contact Mike Burke at 412-454-6417 or miburke@heinzhistorycenter.org.

Preserve Your Family Heirlooms at the Museum Conservation Center

The History Center’s Museum Conservation Center provides visitors with access to the same high-quality conservation treatments as museums provide for their own collections. Trained staff will discuss your needs and evaluate the goals for the care and conservation of your objects. After a condition assessment, professional conservators will provide a proposal for treatment and suggestions for long-term display, handling, and proper methods of storage. Meet one-on-one with professionals to learn more about the care, storage, and treatment of your heirlooms. Or bring your group to the Museum Conservation Center for an on-demand workshop. Topics include digitizing your photographs, textile care, preserving your family archives, and more. Please contact Barb Conner at bjconner@heinzhistorycenter.org or 412-454-6450 to schedule a group workshop.

Bridging the Past: Meadowcroft Preserves Iconic Covered Bridge

As the oldest remaining covered bridge in Washington County, the Pine Bank Covered Bridge at Meadowcroft Rockshelter and Historic Village serves as an important slice of local history. Meadowcroft recently completed a comprehensive preservation project to conserve the 35-foot-long Pine Bank Covered Bridge for future generations. The work addressed existing structural deficiencies, corrected drainage issues, and restored the appearance of the bridge to be more consistent with its original 1871 construction.

Completed by Fitzgerald’s Heavy Timber Construction, Inc., the project was funded through grants from the Washington County Local Share Account, the Washington County Tourism Grant Program, and the Keystone Historic Preservation Grant Program.

For more details, please call 724-587-3412 or visit www.heinzhistorycenter.org/meadowcroft.

50 Years of Penguins Hockey Remembered in New Photo Show

As the Pittsburgh Penguins celebrate their fourth Stanley Cup victory, the Western Pennsylvania Sports Museum recently launched a new photo show honoring 50 years of hockey in Pittsburgh.

The new show includes more than 60 iconic images from the team’s first season in 1967 through their history-making run in the 2016 Stanley Cup Finals.

As part of the show, the Western Pennsylvania Sports Museum recently unveiled a new life-like figure of Penguins legend Mario Lemieux.

The 28-year-old Lemieux is shown triumphantly hoisting an exact replica of the Stanley Cup, which features every championship team and player, on the History Center’s fourth floor Campbell Gallery. To learn more, please visit www.heinzhistorycenter.org/sports.
Flag Folding Ceremony
Wednesday, Dec. 7, 2016 • Noon - 12:30 p.m.
Join U.S. veterans, History Center staff, and museum visitors to help unfurl a giant 36-foot American flag in the museum’s Great Hall as part of a moving and patriotic ceremony. After properly folding the flag, sing an emotional rendition of the National Anthem and honor those who served our country. The American flag folding ceremonies are included with regular museum admission.

Naturalization Ceremony
Friday, Jan. 27, 2017 • 11 a.m. to noon
Welcome new citizens as part of a special U.S. naturalization ceremony, presented in partnership with the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services. The ceremony is free to attend but does not include museum admission.

For more information on the History Center’s America 101 programs, please contact Caroline Fitzgerald at 412-454-6373 or ccfitzgerald@heinzhistorycenter.org.

We thank Bob Randall and the Charity Randall Foundation for their support of these programs.

The History Center’s Books in the ‘Burgh series provides a forum for authors and literary enthusiasts to share their passion for Western Pennsylvania’s most current storytelling, scholarship, and research.

“50 Great American Places”
By Brent Glass
Wednesday, Jan. 25 • 7 – 8:30 p.m.

“The Last Boy and Girl in the World”
By Siobhan Vivian
Tuesday, Feb. 21 • 7 – 8:30 p.m.

“Civil War in the Southwest Borderlands”
By Andy Mastich
Wednesday, March 8 • 7 – 8:30 p.m.

Visitors will enjoy book readings, discussion, and signings with the authors in a variety of settings, from intimate meet-and-greets to large-scale engaging forums.

All Books in the ‘Burgh events are free, although admission to the full museum is not included. For information, contact Caroline Fitzgerald at 412-454-6373 or ccfitzgerald@heinzhistorycenter.org.

The Western Pennsylvania Sports Museum is challenging you to flex your muscles and your brain before the big game at the fifth annual NFL PLAY 60 Training Camp, presented by DICK’S Sporting Goods and in partnership with the Pittsburgh Steelers.

Parents and children of all ages will enjoy five floors of fun football-related activities, including: a mini NFL Combine with a 40-yard dash, shuttle run, and more; “Ask a Dietitian” and “Fruit and Veggie Twister” activities from Let’s Move! Pittsburgh; healthy cooking demonstrations from local chefs; agility and quickness drills; tours of the Western Pennsylvania Sports Museum; and a touchdown dance contest.

Admission to the museum is free for all children age 17 and under on Jan. 28, courtesy of DICK’S Sporting Goods, and included with regular History Center admission for adults.

Please visit www.heinzhistorycenter.org for more information or contact Caroline Fitzgerald at 412-454-6373 or ccfitzgerald@heinzhistorycenter.org.

Celebrate Pittsburgh history in style at the History Center’s fifth annual Vintage Pittsburgh event, presented in partnership with The Neighborhood Flea.

Shop ‘til you drop with more than 40 local vendors selling genuine vintage and homemade fashion, accessories, housewares, vinyl, home décor, artwork, books, toys, small furniture, and collectibles. Then check out the History Center’s six floors of exhibition space to explore how the past influences the present.

Vintage Pittsburgh is included with regular admission and free for History Center members. For the most-up-to-date list of vendors and event details, please visit www.heinzhistorycenter.org.

For more information, please contact Caroline Fitzgerald at 412-454-6373 or ccfitzgerald@heinzhistorycenter.org.

Join Irish genealogy experts from the Ulster Historical Foundation in Belfast and representatives from the Detre Library & Archives to discover how to research your family’s Irish history.

Designed for beginners and seasoned genealogists alike, this in-depth workshop will examine historic records and electronic resources that will enrich your Irish genealogy research. Visitors are also encouraged to explore the History Center’s Irish American collection in the fourth floor Special Collections Gallery.

For more information and to RSVP for this workshop, please visit www.heinzhistorycenter.org/events or contact Sierra Green at 412-454-6361 or sgreen@heinzhistorycenter.org.

This workshop is offered in partnership with the Westmoreland County Historical Society.
This spring, the History Center is bringing Western Pa. history to an elementary school near you as part of the Pittsburgh Imagineers afterschool program. Imagineering, an approach created by the Alcoa Company in 1942, encourages innovators to ask good questions, consider possible solutions and consequences, and ultimately communicate and act upon those learnings.

The museum’s educators will help students explore the impact that Pittsburgh imagineers at Alcoa, the American Bantam Car Company, and Westinghouse Company had on American history and see how they used the imagineering process to develop new solutions to challenges.

For more information about the full lineup of History Center educational offerings, please contact Mari ruth Leftwich at 412-454-6390 or maleftwich@heinzhistorycenter.org.

**PHOTO:** Local students prototyping bridge designs as part of the Pittsburgh Imagineers afterschool program at the History Center.

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### Journey through 250 years of African American History

February is National Black History Month and there is no better place to learn about the African American experience in Pittsburgh than the History Center.

The *From Slavery to Freedom* exhibition, presented by BNY Mellon, chronicles the anti-slavery movement, the Underground Railroad, and the impact of 19th century activism on the modern quest for civil and human rights in Western Pa.

Through six interactive touchscreen stations, visitors can virtually explore 19th century Underground Railroad safe houses in Western Pa., or scroll through digitized copies of manumission, indenture, and freedom papers that help to tell previously untold stories about slave ownership and freedom in Western Pennsylvania.

The *From Slavery to Freedom* microsite features new historical research, images, and audio files that highlight slavery in America, abolitionism, and the modern struggle for freedom. Take a more in-depth look by visiting www.heinzhistorycenter.org/fromslaverytofreedom.

For more information, please contact Samuel W. Black, director of African American programs, at 412-454-6391 or swblack@heinzhistorycenter.org.

**PHOTO:** A Martin Delaney re-enactor educates visitors about the abolition movement inside the *From Slavery to Freedom* exhibition.

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### Top 5 E-Store Gifts for the Holidays

Shop for the history buff in your life from the comfort of your home by visiting shop.heinzhistorycenter.org. The History Center’s online shop carries a wide array of Pittsburgh history-themed gifts.

**1 Heinz History Center keystone t-shirt ($14.95):** Show your History Center pride with this soft, 100% cotton t-shirt that is sure to become your go-to every time you visit the museum.

**2 Camera tote bag, zipper pouch, and pencil case ($12.00, $6.50, and $5.50):** Strike a pose with the History Center’s new #Pixburgh exhibit and these 90% post-consumer recycled bags that are perfect for any photographer.

**3 “Pittsburghese: From Ahn to Yinz” ($6.99):** Looking for the perfect stocking stuffer for the yinzer in your life, n’at? This charming guide is a handy resource to speaking or interpreting the local dialect.

**4 “Mister Rogers’ Neighborhood” sweater changing mug ($13.00):** Start the day off right in your neighborhood! Add hot water and Mister Rogers changes from a suit jacket into his signature cardigan sweater.

**5 Heinz History Center cog ornament ($20.00):** Celebrate the season with this two-inch metal ornament featuring the History Center’s cog logo and a festive red ribbon that’s ready to hang on any tree.

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### Education Station: History Hits the Road

This spring, the History Center is bringing Western Pa. history to an elementary school near you as part of the Pittsburgh Imagineers afterschool program.

Imagineering, an approach created by the Alcoa Company in 1942, encourages innovators to ask good questions, consider possible solutions and consequences, and ultimately communicate and act upon those learnings.

The museum’s educators will help students explore the impact that Pittsburgh imagineers at Alcoa, the American Bantam Car Company, and Westinghouse Company had on American history and see how they used the imagineering process to develop new solutions to challenges.

For more information about the full lineup of History Center educational offerings, please contact Mari ruth Leftwich at 412-454-6390 or maleftwich@heinzhistorycenter.org.

**PHOTO:** Local students prototyping bridge designs as part of the Pittsburgh Imagineers afterschool program at the History Center.

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### Make Your Next Event Historic

From multi-floor wedding receptions to intimate corporate retreats, the History Center’s facility rental program delivers outstanding service in a historic setting. The museum’s central location, award-winning exhibitions, and commitment to outstanding customer service makes it the ideal setting for events ranging from birthday parties to corporate celebrations. With top-notch service from Common Plea Catering and a variety of unique room options, the facility rental staff will help create an event that won’t soon be forgotten. All facility rental revenue directly benefits the History Center, its exhibitions and programs, and the preservation of our collections for future generations. For additional information and room rates, please visit www.heinzhistorycenter.org/rentals or contact Maura Minteer at 412-454-6435 or mminteer@heinzhistorycenter.org.

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**PHOTO:** A Martin Delaney re-enactor educates visitors about the abolition movement inside the *From Slavery to Freedom* exhibition.
Pittsburgh's Hidden Treasures Reveals History of Family Heirlooms

Enjoy items ranging from antique Civil War swords and Allegheny Arsenal artifacts to Lenox presidential glass and vintage baseball cards signed by Babe Ruth as part of the ninth season of “Pittsburgh’s Hidden Treasures.”

The popular television show, which airs on KDKA on select Mondays throughout the year, features a variety of unique items local residents brought to the History Center this summer.

In addition to the professional appraisals, each show provides viewers with engaging tips on how to preserve their priceless family heirlooms along with a variety of fun facts related to Pittsburgh history.

Make sure to tune in to KDKA at 7:30 p.m. for each upcoming show:
- Monday, Jan. 30
- Monday, Feb. 20
- Monday, March 6
- Monday, April 17

For more information, please visit www.heinzhistorycenter.org/events.

History Center's Top Blog Posts of 2016

Visit the History Center’s blog at www.heinzhistorycenter.org/blog to read these and other top stories.

1. The Mystery of Pittsburgh’s Ghost Bomber

60 years ago, at the height of our nation’s Cold War frenzy, an American military plane crashed into the icy Monongahela River, sparking one of our city’s most enduring unsolved mysteries.

PHOTO: The Mystery of Pittsburgh’s Ghost Bomber. In association with the Smithsonian Institution.

2. Raise Your Glass! Documenting Pittsburgh’s “Watering Holes”

Leslie Pevnyj

Pittsburgh has traditionally been known as a “shot and a beer” kind of town. These watering holes are where people gathered, debated, and celebrated and they tell us much about our city’s past.

3. The Heinz Passover Ad Campaign

David Schilt

Every spring, in time for Passover, readers paging through the mid-century Pittsburgh Jewish newspapers could expect to see an advertisement with a variety of fun facts related to Pittsburgh history.

PHOTO: County Commissioner Tom Foerster joins Myron Cope and Steelers owner Art Rooney to commemorate the team’s Super Bowl victory in 1980.

4. Quiz: Which Pittsburgh Innovator Are You?

Sarah Beck

Commemorate the Pittsburgh: A Tradition of Innovation exhibition by taking the quiz to find out which Pittsburgh innovator you are most like: Nellie Bly or Rachel Carson, George Westinghouse or Andy Warhol.

Winter 2016 Making History
#ThrowbackThursday

Children of Edgar Thomson steel workers in Braddock leave the main office building with their Christmas gifts, 1920s. Gift of Kenneth Brooks.

This image and others that showcase life in Pittsburgh’s neighborhoods is featured in the #Piburg: A Photographic Experience exhibition.

For weekly #throwbackthursday photos, please follow the History Center on Facebook and across social media.

Exhibitions

FIRST FLOOR
NEW! #Piburg: A Photographic Experience
UPMC SmartSteps
Senator John Heinz: A Western Pennsylvania Legacy

Riddikul (mezannine)

Vintage Vehicles

SECOND FLOOR
Western Pennsylvania Sports Museum

NEW! Discovery Place
Rediscovers Lewis & Clark:
A Journey with the Rooney Family
Prine Collection of Woodworking Planes

OUTDOOR ADVERTISING

FOURTH FLOOR
NEW! 50 Years of Hockey in Pittsburgh

Visible Storage Gallery
Special Collections Gallery
(Featuring “Mister Rogers’ Neighborhood”)

Heinz
From Slavery to Freedom
Glass: Shattering Notions

FIFTH FLOOR
NEW! The Gift of Art: 100 Years of Art From the Pittsburgh Public Schools Collection

Empire of Empires: The British, French, & Indian War, 1754-1763

SIXTH FLOOR
Wrought Metal Treasures from the Blum Collection

Calendar of Events

Docent-led Tours of #Piburg
Sunday, Dec. 18 • 1 – 2 p.m.
Visit www.heinzhistorycenter.org/events

Books in the #Burgh: 50 Great American Places, by Brent Glass
Wednesday, Jan. 25 • 7 – 8:30 p.m.
See page 5 for details.

Naturalization Ceremony
Friday, Jan. 27 • 11 a.m. to noon
See page 5 for details.

NFL PLAY 60
Saturday, Jan. 28 • 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
See page 5 for details.

Pittsburgh’s Hidden Treasures on KDKA-TV
Monday, Jan. 20 • 7:30 p.m.
Monday, Feb. 20 • 7:30 p.m.
Monday, March 6 • 7:30 p.m.
Monday, April 17 • 7:30 p.m.
See page 7 for details.

Cocktails & Conversation: Behind the Scenes of #Piburg
Wednesday, Feb. 15 • 6 – 9 p.m.
See page 2 for details.

History Uncorked: #Piburg
Thursday, Feb. 16 • 7 – 11 p.m.
See page 3 for details.

Galentine’s Day Yoga
Friday, Feb. 10 • 10 – 11 a.m.
Visit www.heinzhistorycenter.org/events

Black History Month Lecture
Wednesday, Feb. 15 • 6 – 8 p.m.
Visit www.heinzhistorycenter.org/events

Preserve Your Wedding Dress Clinic
Thursday, Feb. 16 • 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 18 • 10 a.m. to noon
Visit www.heinzhistorycenter.org/events

Flag Folding Ceremony
Monday, Feb. 20 • Noon – 12:30 p.m.
See page 5 for details.

Book in the #Burgh: The Last Boy and Girl in the World, by Siobhan Vivian
Book in the #Burgh: Civil War in the Southwest, by Andy Manisic
Learn more about the Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania, A Program of the Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania, on our website.

For weekly #throwbackthursday photos, please follow the History Center on Facebook and across social media.

Please visit our website at www.heinzhistorycenter.org for a complete list of upcoming events and detailed exhibition information.