From Merlot to Moscato: History Center to Host a Smithsonian Conversation on Wine

PITTSBURGH, April 18, 2018 – The Smithsonian-affiliated Senator John Heinz History Center will host Smithsonian curator Paula J. Johnson for In Vino Veritas: A Smithsonian Conversation on Wine on Sunday, May 6 at 2 p.m.

Wine aficionados can enjoy a fascinating conversation about the history of wine, food, and Prohibition in conjunction with the History Center’s Italian American Program and the American Spirits: The Rise and Fall of Prohibition exhibition.

Johnson will discuss her curatorial work documenting American wine history at the Smithsonian’s National Museum of American History, where she is responsible for the food technology and marine resources collections and is the project director and co-curator for the Smithsonian’s new “FOOD: Transforming the American Table, 1950-2000” exhibit.

The program will also feature a conversation on the influence of home winemaking in Pittsburgh history with Johnson and local home winemaking guru Ron Casertano of CFP Winemakers.

Following the program, attendees can enjoy tasty wine samples from Pittsburgh Winery and local family winemakers and explore the American Spirits exhibit.

A traveling exhibit from the National Constitution Center, American Spirits brings the roaring ’20s to life as it explores Prohibition-era America through rare artifacts, immersive displays, and interactive activities. The exhibit will be on display through June 10.

Admission is $20 for the general public and $10 for History Center members. Tickets include full access to the museum following the program. Space is limited, so advance registration is required at www.heinzhistorycenter.org/events.
The Heinz History Center’s Italian American Program will host a conversation on wine and the influence of home winemaking in Pittsburgh history with Smithsonian curator Paula J. Johnson on Sunday, May 6 at 2 p.m.

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