



Media Contacts:

Brady Smith
412-454-6459
bmsmith@heinzhistorycenter.org

Kim Roberts
412-454-6382
kmroberts@heinzhistorycenter.org

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

***-Smithsonian curator Paula Johnson will discuss wine and Prohibition in conjunction
with the History Center's Italian American program and American Spirits exhibit-***

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 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.



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.

#