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Fort Pitt Museum to Commemorate 240th Anniversary of Treaty of Fort Pitt

-The historic treaty was the first official treaty between the U.S. government and an American Indian nation-

PITTSBURGH, Sept. 19, 2018 – The Fort Pitt Museum, part of the Smithsonian-affiliated Senator John Heinz History Center museum system, will present its **Treaty of Fort Pitt: 240th Anniversary Commemoration** on Saturday, Sept. 29 beginning at 11 a.m.

To commemorate the anniversary of the historic Treaty of Fort Pitt, the museum will host a day of special living history programming that will feature visiting members of the Delaware Tribe of Indians, whose ancestors lived in Western Pennsylvania and participated in Treaty of Fort Pitt negotiations in 1778.

Throughout the day, visitors can watch reenactments of treaty negotiations and interact with historical interpreters to learn about 18th century life and diplomacy at Fort Pitt.

In an evening presentation entitled “First in Peace: The Delaware Indian Nation and its 1778 Treaty with the United States,” Dr. David Preston will discuss how Indian nations and frontier issues shaped the American Revolution, as well as the significance of the Treaty of Fort Pitt and why it deserves to be remembered today.

Tickets for the lecture are \$20 for adults and \$15 for History Center members and students. Purchase tickets online at www.heinzhistorycenter.org/events.

Following Dr. Preston’s lecture, visitors can participate in traditional stomp and social dances led by members of the Delaware Tribe of Indians.

All outdoor living history presentations are free and open to the public.

History of the Treaty of Fort Pitt

In September 1778, the Treaty of Fort Pitt (also known as the Delaware Treaty or the Treaty of 1778) became the first official treaty between the newly formed United States of America and an American Indian nation.

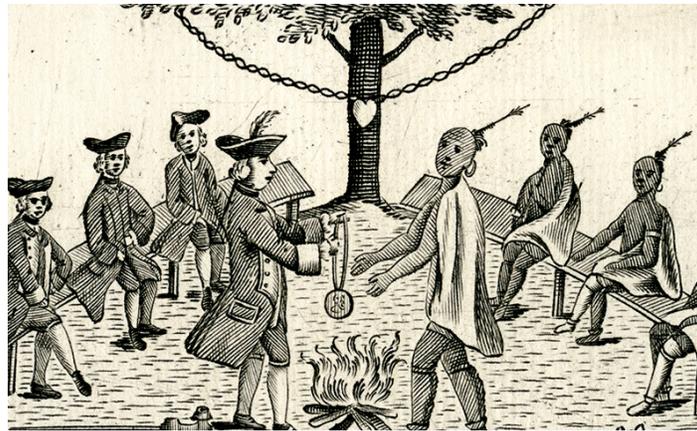
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Fort Pitt, a strategic military outpost built in 1759, hosted many treaties between the colonial government and native people living in what was known as the Ohio Country in the 18th century.

The Treaty of Fort Pitt sought an alliance with the Delaware Indians, including access for the U.S. military through the Ohio Country to attack the British at Detroit.

The treaty ultimately failed within months of its signing, leading to a doomed military campaign for the U.S. This split the allegiance of the Delaware Nation and further strained relationships between the U.S. and American Indians in the Ohio Country.

The **Fort Pitt Museum**, built in a recreated bastion of the British fort originally constructed in 1759, focuses on the critical role that Western Pennsylvania played during the French & Indian War, the American Revolution, and the founding of Pittsburgh. The Fort Pitt Museum is located in Point State Park in downtown Pittsburgh. The Senator John Heinz History Center, an affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution, operates the Fort Pitt Museum in partnership with the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC). For more information, please visit www.heinzhistorycenter.org/fort-pitt.



The Fort Pitt Museum will commemorate the 240th anniversary of the Treaty of Fort Pitt, the first official treaty between the U.S. government and an American Indian nation, on Saturday, Sept. 29 beginning at 11 a.m.



The Fort Pitt Museum's commemoration of the Treaty of Fort Pitt on Sept. 29 will include reenactments of treaty negotiations featuring visiting members of the Delaware Tribe of Indians.

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