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## Fort Pitt Museum to Temporarily Close in January for Updates -The museum will re-open on Feb. 1 following exhibit upgrades and additions-

PITTSBURGH, Dec. 26, 2019 – The Fort Pitt Museum, part of the Senator John Heinz History Center museum system, will temporarily close from Jan. 1-31, 2020 for exhibition maintenance and updates. The museum will re-open to the public on Saturday, Feb. 1.

During the temporary closure, curators will clean the museum's iconic diorama depicting 18th-century Pittsburgh, which has been on view since the Fort Pitt Museum opened in 1969. Several newly acquired 18th-century powder horns will also be added to the museum's second-floor exhibition.

Fort Pitt Museum staff will also prepare for a full schedule of 2020 events, which will include living history demonstrations during the summer months, the annual Fort Pitt Museum Speaker Series featuring special guests including authors William Hogeland and Dr. Colin Calloway, and a day-long women's history seminar in July celebrating the centennial of the passing of the 19th amendment.

The museum's featured exhibition is *Pittsburgh, Virginia*, which explores how Pittsburgh nearly became a permanent part of Virginia and features a rare carved powder horn believed to be one of the earliest objects made in Pittsburgh.

One of the most affordable family-friendly cultural experiences in the region, the Fort Pitt Museum attracted more than 55,000 visitors last year.

Admission to the museum is just \$8 for adults, \$7 for senior citizens, \$2 off admission for retired and active military, and \$4.50 for students with a valid ID and children ages 6-17. Children under 5 and History Center members get in free.

**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**.



The Fort Pitt Museum will temporarily close from Jan. 1-31, 2020 for exhibition maintenance and updates, including a cleaning of the museum's iconic diorama of 18th-century Pittsburgh that has been on view since the museum opened 50 years ago.