



SENATOR JOHN HEINZ

HISTORY CENTER

IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

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History Center to Host Program on History of American Girl Dolls
-The program will include a family-friendly book lecture, doll making, and more-

PITTSBURGH, March 17, 2025 – The Smithsonian-affiliated Senator John Heinz History Center, in partnership with the University of Pittsburgh’s Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences, will celebrate Women’s History Month with “American Girlhood: A Window into History,” a program examining the history and impact of America’s favorite historical dolls this Saturday, March 22.

The program includes a sold-out lecture featuring authors Connie Porter (ADDY WALKER® series), Jackie Greene (REBECCA RUBIN™ series), and Wendy Wan-Long Shang (CORINNE® series), who will share their experiences writing the powerful narratives of these beloved characters.

The trio will discuss how they framed important historical events and issues for younger audiences while also imparting lessons of resilience, friendship, and empowerment throughout.

From 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., visitors can design a paper doll with the University of Pittsburgh’s Book Making Club, view girlhood-inspired artifacts in the Detre Library & Archives, learn about the American Girl Doll Lending Program at local libraries, participate in a themed scavenger hunt, and browse the Riverstone Books pop-up shop.

These activities are included with regular museum admission.

Kids are encouraged to bring their American Girl dolls to the museum.

Admission is free for kids, thanks to the generosity of community sponsor **UPMC** and **UPMC Health Plan**.

The program’s author lecture and tea party are sold out.

For more information and the purchase tickets, visit 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 History Center was voted as the #1 history museum in America

by readers of USA TODAY (2024, 2025) and “Pittsburgh’s Best Museum” by Pittsburgh Magazine (2022, 2023, 2024). The History Center and Sports Museum are located at 1212 Smallman Street in the Pittsburgh’s Strip District. The History Center’s family of museums includes the Sports Museum; 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 heinzhistorycenter.org.



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