



SENATOR JOHN HEINZ

# HISTORY CENTER

IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

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## **History Center to Launch Civic Season on June 12**

***–The museum is partnering with the Smithsonian and a nationwide network of museums to inspire young Americans to learn more about history and civics–***

PITTSBURGH, May 20, 2025 – The Senator John Heinz History Center, the Smithsonian’s home in Pittsburgh, will join 500+ museums and organizations nationwide for the Fifth Annual Civic Season, held in partnership with the Smithsonian and the History Made By Us coalition.

Civic Season is a new summer tradition focused on utilizing the country’s past to prepare for the future. This period of time unites the nation’s newest holiday, Juneteenth, with its oldest holiday, the Fourth of July, and is co-designed with Gen Z learners, thought leaders, and historians.

Gen Z is the generation stepping into adult citizenship on the cusp of the United States’ 250th birthday in 2026, and Civic Season invites them to have a voice in the conversations that will shape it.

In Pittsburgh, the History Center will host several programs during Civic Season, including a trivia night with free pizza, an in-person film screening for Juneteenth, and more.

### **Civic Season 2025 Programs**

- **Slice of History Trivia Night**  
**June 12 • 6:30-8:30 p.m. • Heinz History Center**  
Enjoy free pizza provided by Pizza to the Polls and test your knowledge of American history and pop culture in a trivia night that will test your knowledge of our nation’s past.
- **From Slavery to Freedom Film Series: “American Coup”**  
**June 17 • 5:30-8:30 p.m. • Heinz History Center**  
Join the African American Program for a free in-person screening of “American Coup: Wilmington 1898” which tells the little-known story of a deadly race massacre and carefully orchestrated insurrection in North Carolina’s largest city in 1898 — the only coup d’état in the history of the United States.
- **Flag Folding Ceremony**

**June 26 • 1-1:30 p.m. • Heinz History Center**

Participate in a ceremony featuring the unfurling and folding of a giant 36-foot American flag in the Great Hall. Reflect upon the civic democracy and history that the flag represents while learning the history of the adoption of the nation's flag.

- **Independence Day Celebration**

**July 4 • 10 a.m. • Meadowcroft Rockshelter and Historic Village**

Step into the past and experience the roots of American history with a day full of festive fun at Meadowcroft. Enjoy hands-on historical demonstrations, try your hand at traditional games, and discover how early Americans lived, worked, and celebrated.

- **Fourth at the Fort**

**July 4 • 11 a.m. • Fort Pitt Block House and Fort Pitt Museum**

Join the Fort Pitt Museum for its annual Fourth at the Fort event in Point State Park. Fort Pitt Museum staff, scouts, and local veterans will help kick off the Fourth of July holiday by raising a 36-foot American flag. The ceremony will commence in the Fort Pitt Block House yard thanks to an ongoing partnership with the Pittsburgh Chapter of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, owners of the Fort Pitt Block House – the oldest building in the region.

For more information and to register for programs, visit [heinzhistorycenter.org/events](https://heinzhistorycenter.org/events).

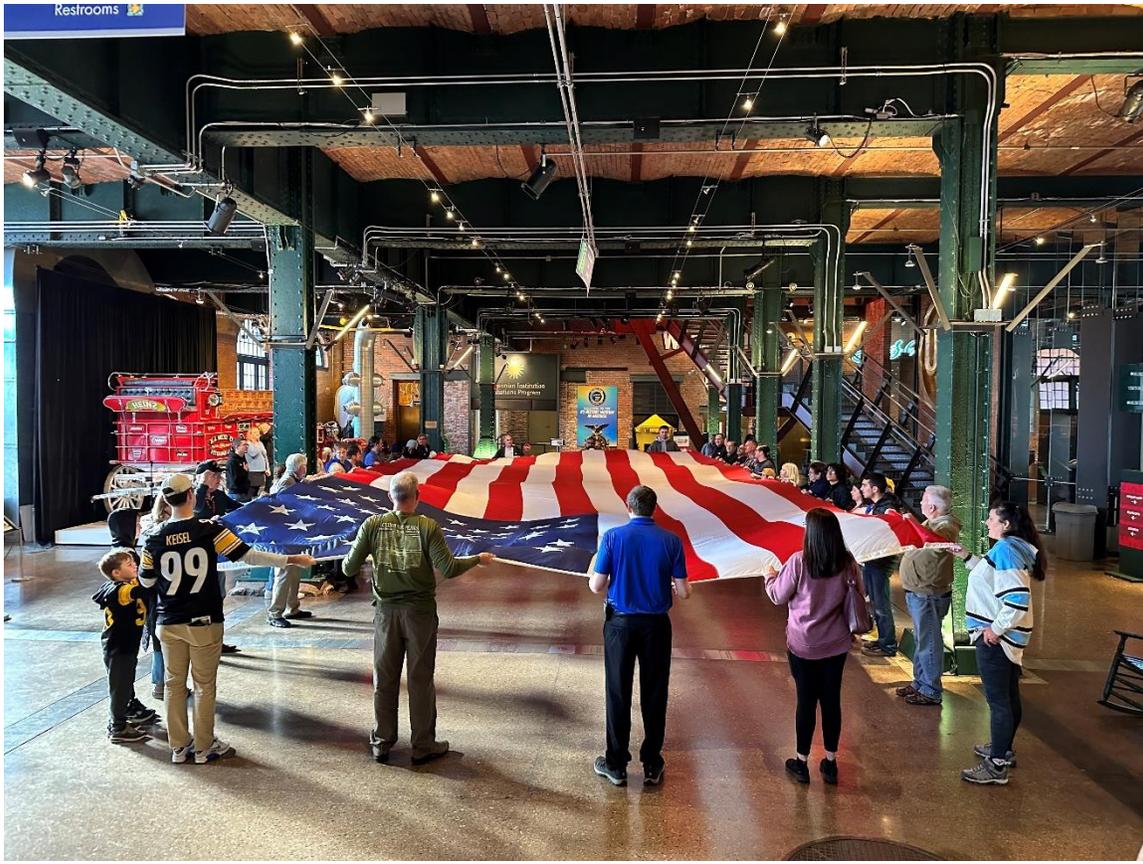
The Civic Season in Pittsburgh is supported by the **Nimick Forbesway Foundation** and **Grable Foundation**. It is part of the History Center's **America 101** history and civics initiative which engages the public to learn American history through public programs, special exhibitions, digital learning tools, and educational curriculum.

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](https://heinzhistorycenter.org).

**MADE BY US**

POWERING OUR FUTURE WITH HISTORY

**CIVIC  
SEASON**



The Heinz History Center will join 500+ museums and organizations nationwide for the Fifth Annual Civic Season, held in partnership with the Smithsonian and the History Made By Us national coalition. Photo: The History Center will host a flag folding ceremony during Civic Season.

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