



WHAT'S NEW IN HISTORIC ALEXANDRIA

In honor of the 286th anniversary of George Washington's birth, the Office of Historic Alexandria celebrates Alexandria's most famous resident with four unique events. Come to dance classes, Revolutionary War Day, Presidents' Day Open Houses, and a lecture examining myths about Washington. For a comprehensive listing of the Office of Historic Alexandria's George Washington events, please visit our [website](#).

For information on the George Washington Parade, please visit [here](#).



EVENTS

February 13 Historic Alexandria Resources Commission (HARC)

The Uptowner Cafe, 1609 King Street

10 a.m.-12 p.m.

Historical Restoration and Preservation Commission (HARC) Advocacy Subcommittee Meeting

February 14 Historical Restoration and Preservation Commission

Lloyd House, 220 N. Washington Street

8-10 a.m.

Regular Monthly Meeting

February 15 Historic Alleys Meeting

Lloyd House, 220 N. Washington Street

7-8 p.m.

Public Meeting

February 15 Fortune's Fool: The Life of John Wilkes Booth

The Athenaeum, 201 Prince Street

7-9 p.m.

In *Fortune's Fool*, Terry Alford provides the first comprehensive look at the life of an enigmatic figure whose life has been overshadowed by his final, infamous act. Alford offers a nuanced picture of Booth as a public figure, performer, and deeply troubled man. Alford reveals the tormented path that led Booth to conclude that the only way to revive the South and punish the North for the war would be to murder Lincoln--whatever the cost to himself or others.

Tickets \$15 can be purchased [here](#).

February 15 Birthnight Ball Dance Class

Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal Street

7:30-9:30 p.m.

In preparation for the Birthnight Ball on the 17th, learn 18th century English country dancing from expert dance instructors. Cost: \$12 per class or \$30 for the series. Reservations are recommended: online at Alexandriava.gov/Shop or by calling 703.746.4242.

February 17 and 24 Special Weekend Hours at Freedom House Museum

Freedom House Museum, 1315 Duke Street

1-5 p.m.

The Office of Historic Alexandria and the Northern Virginia Urban League are excited to announce a collaboration for Black History Month. On Saturdays during February, Freedom House Museum will be open from 1 to 5 p.m. at 1315 Duke St.

Admission is \$5 per person. Tickets can be purchased [online](#), or by cash or check at the door. Space is limited and reservations are recommended. Groups of 7 or more should contact 703.746.4739 at least one week in advance to arrange a time to visit.

February 18 Revolutionary War Day

Fort Ward Park, 4301 West Braddock Road

10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Learn about the army life and fighting tactics of Revolutionary War soldiers in this annual Fort Ward Park event presented in conjunction with Alexandria's George Washington Birthday Weekend. The program features a Colonial encampment and a tactical skirmish between British and Colonial troops at 2 p.m. Free.

February 19 Friendship Veterans Annual Breakfast Meeting

Crowne Plaza Hotel, 901 N. Fairfax Street

9 - 11:30 a.m.

This three-course hearty breakfast meal is hosted by the Friendship Veterans Fire Engine Association. The program includes:

- Reverend Ben Lynt Distinguished Service Award (surprise presentation to an Alexandria resident)

- Recognition of 2018 Alexandria Living Legends (first public showing of these selectees)
- Special Recognition of Alexandria First Responders
Alexandria Fire Department
Alexandria Police Department
Office of the Sheriff
Department of Emergency Communications
(for gallantry at Simpson Baseball Field incident)

For more information, please visit [here](#).

February 19 Presidents' Day Open House

As part of the parade festivities, visit the following museums for free! All are open 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

Friendship Firehouse Museum, 107 S. Alfred Street

Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal Street

Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum, 105-107 South Fairfax Street

February 20 Homeschool Program: Citizen Firefighters

Friendship Firehouse Museum, 107 S. Alfred Street

Session 1: 10-11:30 a.m.; Session 2: 1-2:30 p.m.

Join the bucket brigade and learn how community volunteers fought fires in colonial and early 19th-century Alexandria. Not only will students learn more about Alexandria and firefighting, but good citizenship and volunteerism today. Designed for family groups, recommended for ages 5 and up. Cost is \$8 per child, adults free. Reservations required: online at Alexandriava.gov/Shop.

February 22 Lecture: I Cannot Tell A Lie: Myths about George Washington that Should be Discarded

Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal Street

7:30 p.m. Doors open at 7:00 p.m.

Abigail Adams said that truth was George Washington's best eulogy. Professor Peter Henriques examines the myths that keep us from better understanding the remarkable individual who was our first president.

Cost: \$12 per person or \$10 for Society members and volunteers. Reservations recommended: online at Alexandriava.gov/Shop. or by calling 703.746.4242

February 23 Late Shift at the Factory – Uncovering the Waterfront

Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union Street

7 – 11 p.m.

Alexandria's past comes to life with help from the Alexandria Archaeology Museum. Artists and innovators team up for a night of unearthed secrets, music, and trivia celebrating our region's rich history. Presented in collaboration with the Torpedo Factory Art Center. Free. No registration required. For more information, please call 703.746.4399.

February 24 Veteran’s Meet and Greet

*The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington Street
10-11:30 a.m.*

All veterans are invited to join the Office of Historic Alexandria for a meet and greet reception at the Lyceum: Alexandria’s History Museum. Between 10 and 11:30 a.m., enjoy coffee, tea, and pastries while catching up with old and new friends. Browse the exhibits for free, including the recently opened World War I exhibit, and hear about plans to honor all veterans during the World War I 100th anniversary commemoration. For more information, please call 703.746.4739. No reservations required.

February 24 Kepi to Cartridge Box: Outfitting Billy Yank

*Fort Ward Museum and Historic Site, 4301 West Braddock Road
11 a.m. to 3 p.m.*

Museum interpreters in Union uniform will describe the clothing, military accessories and equipment of the Federal soldier, using hands-on reproduction items and original objects on exhibit. Free.

Photo Caption: Photograph of the Two Union Soldiers courtesy of the Library of Congress.



February 24 Under the Same Roof: Enslaved and Free Servants at the Lee-Fendall House

*The Lee-Fendall House, 614 Oronoco Street
2-3:30 p.m.*

Explore the Lee-Fendall House from the perspectives of the enslaved and free African Americans who lived and worked in the home as domestic servants, both before and after the Civil War. This tour will include parts of the house not normally open to the public. Space is limited so advance tickets are recommended.

Tickets are \$8 in advance, \$12 at the door, members of Lee-Fendall House are FREE. Tickets can be purchased [here](#).

February 24 An Evening of Music with Tom Teasley and Charles Williams

*Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe Street
4–5:30 p.m.*

Join us for a concert featuring musicians and artists Tom Teasley and Charles Williams. This concert highlights the works of Langston Hughes, James Weldon Johnson, and other important African American figures. In addition to the February concert, the project also includes a video instillation to run the entire Black History Month in one of the museum’s galleries. This concert is funded in part by an Alexandria Commission for the Arts Grant for 2018. \$10. For more information please call 703.746.4356

February 25 Girl Scout Program: Wonders of Water Tea

Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal Street

2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Explore the many uses of water, both past and present, and how we can better care for this amazing resource! The afternoon includes 18th century tea with Martha Washington and a troop scrapbook to take home. Meets most of the requirements for the Brownie Girl Scout It's Your Planet—Love It! Wonders of Water journey. Troops should complete the take action portion on their own.

Cost: \$25 per person (child or adult). Reservations required: online at Alexandriava.gov/Shop or by calling 703.746.4242

February 25 Movement and Sound with Jane Franklin Dance

The Athenaeum, 201 Prince Street

7:30-9:30 p.m.

A performance by Jane Franklin Dance in cooperation with Form and Void, visual art show by Ellyn Weiss A "Gallery Workout" heightens the perception of visual art with movement and sound that leads to a greater understanding of the art itself. Visual artist Ellyn Weiss's show "Form and Void" includes a large abstract mural (12 ft long) called "Night Comes". The forms in this mural and throughout the exhibition began with Ellyn's consideration of extremophiles, organisms that live in the most hostile environments on earth—extreme heat and cold, toxic materials, radioactivity, without oxygen, etc. Welcome to an exciting exploration of visual art interpreted by the moving body in an overarching connection to environment.

Also on the program, Jane Franklin Dance combines with Forty+ to reminisce and laugh along with the inter-generational Shorthanded, a performance piece that revisits technology pushed away over time: cassette tapes, VHS, paper dolls, IBM 3033, and other blips on the relentless march of cultural change.

Tickets \$15 and can be purchased [here](#).

ONGOING PROJECT

The Poppy Project

While the first round of knitting is done, we still need more poppies! As part of the World War One centennial commemorations, the Office of Historic Alexandria is honoring veterans then and now by collecting knitted or crocheted red poppies. Drop-off or mail completed poppies to

Gadsby's Tavern Museum or the Lyceum: Alexandria's History Museum. All poppies must be turned in by the Fourth of July for use in a community art project on display

For poppy patterns and more information about Alexandria during WWI visit alexandriava.gov/93363.

NOW ON EXHIBIT

Now on Exhibit – Shield of Earth: Defending the Heart of the Union

Fort Ward Museum, 4301 West Braddock Road

This exhibition covers both the formidable task of building the defense system, which made the Federal capital one of the most protected cities in the world, and some of the men who were assigned to duty in the Washington area. Highlights of the exhibition include military passes issued by Provost Marshal's Office, construction tools, and original photographs of some of Washington's defenders, including a profile of Francis E. Brainerd, a soldier in the 1st Wisconsin Heavy Artillery who was stationed at Fort O'Rourke, not far from the present-day site of the Huntington Metro Station. Free! Tuesday through Saturday from 10 am to 5 p.m., and Sundays from noon to 5 p.m. For more information, please call 703.746.4848 or visit www.fortward.org/.

Now on Exhibit – Alexandrians Fight the Great War

The Lyceum, Alexandria's History Museum, 201 South Washington Street

This new exhibition traces the experiences of local people during the first World War. The homes, hospitals, factories and shipyards of wartime Alexandria come back to life through the use of rare images, archival and modern-day video clips, quotes from participants, original objects including weapons, period music, and scale models. Open Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sundays 1 to 5 p.m. For more information call 703.746.4994, or visit www.alexandriahistory.org/.

Now on Exhibit – Before the Spirits are Swept Away: African American Historic Site Paintings

Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe Street

This exhibition, featuring 20 of Sherry Sanabria's African American historic site paintings, is made possible by the Sanabria family, who generously donated 23 of her paintings to the Alexandria Black History Museum. These paintings are part of Sanabria's "Sites of Conscience" series, which has as its focus African American heritage, prisons, concentration camps, and mental hospitals. The Sites of Conscience series takes viewers to places of horror, places of pain and suffering, places we want to forget, but never should.

Robert Sanabria, Sherry's husband, feels this series "... demonstrates the widespread practice of bondage in the American South and the determination of the enslaved to survive and maintain their connection with their creator. It is especially fortuitous to have these works together where they will be valued and available for the appreciation of generations to come..."

Tuesday to Saturday: 10 a.m.- 4 p.m., Sunday and Monday: Closed. Free, but donations are appreciated. For more information, please call 703.746.4356.

Now on Exhibit- Form and Void /Ellyn Weiss

Exhibit: January 11 – February 25, 2018

The Athenaeum, 201 Prince Street

Form and Void is both an experiment with materials and a reflection on survival and regeneration. The imagery is inspired by the forms of extremophiles, organisms that live in the most inhospitable environments on earth. The materials include tar, wire, liquid plastic, printing on acrylic and large-scale drawing. Open Thursday through Sunday, 12 noon-4 p.m. For more information, please visit www.nvfaa.org or call 703.548.0035.

No longer on Exhibit- Who These Wounded Are: The Extraordinary Stories of the Mansion House Hospital

Carlyle House, 121 N. Royal Street

After two years of exhibiting the fascinating and extremely popular story of Carlyle House during the Civil War, the second floor of the museum has returned to its eighteenth century Carlyle-era interpretation. Come see some original Carlyle family heirlooms, and learn how the younger members of the Carlyle household lived.

THIS WEEK IN ALEXANDRIA HISTORY

On February 13, 1897, it was announced that there would be no public celebration of the birth of George Washington in the City of Alexandria that year. Due to the very difficult economic times, potential contributors to the celebration preferred that their funds be used instead to help the poor, and a large number of out-of-work firemen stressed that they did not have money for the appropriate “trimmings” associated with being in a proper parade.

ON SALE NOW



WWI Lecture Series: "The Hello Girls" for 3/1/2018

The Lyceum

201 S. Washington St.

Doors open at 7 p.m., Lectures begin at 7:30

The Lyceum WWI Lecture Series

March 1: "The Hello Girls" lecture and book signing by Elizabeth Cobbs.

March 15: "'Doing Our Bit' (While Having a Bit of Fun): American Nurses in World War I" by Marian Moser Jones

March 22: "Sowing the Seeds of Victory: The Women's Land Army of America in Virginia and Washington DC, 1917-1920" by Anna Kiefer

March 1: On the eve of American involvement in World War I, the Selective Service Act drafted 2.8 million American men to do their part for home and country. Three hundred remarkable women known as "The Hello Girls" were selected to operate the vital communications network that helped the Allies win. Each came from a different geographic and economic background, but they were united in their fierce patriotism and determination to prove that women had a role to play on the war front, not just the home front. In time for the centennial of WWI, acclaimed historian and author Elizabeth Cobbs, Ph.D., has written the defining account of the first women to serve in the U.S. Army Signal Corps. Set against the backdrop of the suffrage movement and the communications revolution, *The Hello Girls: America's First Women Soldiers* summons a time when women possessed citizenship only through their fathers and husbands; but their story remains a potent key to comprehending how American women became soldiers—and eventually leaders—of their nation.

Tickets for each lecture are \$10. A combination ticket for the full series (March 1, 15, and 22) is available for \$25. Reservations are recommended.

Reservations recommended: online at Alexandriava.gov/Shop or by calling 703.746.4356.