



## WHAT'S NEW IN HISTORIC ALEXANDRIA

### Spring2ACTion: Support Historic Alexandria Museums



Support all of Alexandria's museums with a generous donation through Spring2ACTion. Donate today, or join us for special events on April 25, 2018. Donate to specific museums or to the group. Spring2ACTion is an online giving day, hosted by ACT for Alexandria, created to support the nonprofits doing great work in our community. Thanks for your support!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Thursdays-Sundays Freedom House Museum open

*Freedom House Museum, 1315 Duke St.*

*1-5 p.m.*

See a powerful exhibit in the basement of the building, which was once part of a larger complex used by the slave trading firm Franklin and Armfield. Through first-person accounts of enslaved men and women and details from the business, encounter the harsh reality of the domestic slave trade and Alexandria's role. For more information, please visit [here](#). Admission \$5 per person.



**April 19, 26 Jane Austen Dance Classes**

*Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St.*

*7:30-9:30 p.m.*

In preparation for the Jane Austen Ball on April 28, learn 18th-century English country dancing from expert dance instructors. Reservations recommended. Tickets are \$12 per class or \$30 for the series of three and can be purchased on [shop.alexandriava.gov](http://shop.alexandriava.gov)

**April 19 Spring2Action Happy Hour at The Light Horse**

*The Light Horse Restaurant, 715 King St.*

*5:30-7:30 p.m.*

Drop in and show your support for the Lee-Fendall House Museum while enjoying drinks at [The Light Horse](http://TheLightHorse.com), 715 King St., Alexandria, VA. Meet other people who care about preserving local history and learn about the important preservation project we are fundraising for as part of Spring2ACTion, Alexandria's Giving Day, on April 25.

Donate to our Spring2ACTion campaign [here!](#)

**April 21 Friends of Carlyle House's Annual Garden Day Herb & Craft Sale**

*Carlyle House Historic Park, 121 N. Fairfax St.*

*8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.*

Come celebrate spring with the Friends of Carlyle House's Annual Garden Day Herb & Craft Sale from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 21. Tour Carlyle House and purchase herbs, plants, and flowers raised in Mount Vernon's greenhouses. Bring your gardening questions to the Master Gardeners of Northern Virginia.

**April 21 Firefighting History Walking Tour**

*Friendship Firehouse Museum, 107 S. Alfred St*

*1-2:30 p.m.*

Explore Alexandria's firefighting history on the "Blazing a Trail: Alexandria's Firefighting History" tour. Participants learn about volunteer firefighting in early Alexandria, three devastating fires, and the five volunteer fire companies. The tour begins at the historic Friendship Firehouse, proceeds east on Prince Street, and returns via King Street. For ages 10 and older. Tickets are \$6 for adults, \$4 ages 10-17 and can be purchased at [shop.alexandriava.gov](http://shop.alexandriava.gov).



**April 25 Spring2Action Hip Hip Huzzah Happy Hour**

*Garden of 215 N. Fairfax St.*

*6-8:30 p.m.*

Please join your history and preservation friends for a fund evening. The Hip Hip Huzzah Happy Hour features the Spring2Action 7 to 8 p.m. Power Hour Challenge! Suggested \$10 minimum donation to Historic Alexandria Museums. You can donate online at [www.spring2action.org/organizations/historic-alexandria-museums](http://www.spring2action.org/organizations/historic-alexandria-museums).

### **May 1 Panel Discussion on Preservation Incentives: Easements and Tax Credits**

*The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St.*

*7-9 p.m.*

Kick off National Preservation Month with this panel discussion on preservation easements. Hear from state and national experts on how key preservation incentives can be valuable tools. Looking at both preservation easements and rehabilitation tax credits, attendees will have a better understanding of how these programs operate and an opportunity to ask the experts. Panelists will include Michael Commisso (Chairman of the Alexandria Historical Restoration and Preservation Commission), Ross Bradford (National Trust for Historic Preservation), Paige Pollard (Commonwealth Preservation Group) and Elizabeth Tune (Virginia Department of Historic Resources). Admission is free, but registration is recommended and can be done through [shop.alexandriava.gov](http://shop.alexandriava.gov).

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### **UPCOMING COMMITTEE EVENTS**

#### **April 17 Historic Alexandria Resources Commission**

*Lloyd House, 220 N. Washington St.*

*7-9 p.m.*

Regular meeting

#### **April 20 Alexandria Archaeology Ship Committee**

*Alexandria Archaeology Museum, 105 N. Union St*

*8-9:30 a.m.*

The Ship Committee is tasked with developing recommendations about what will happen with the ship(s) that were found during archaeological excavations along the waterfront.

#### **April 26 Historic Alleys Meeting**

*Lloyd House, 220 N. Washington St.*

*7-8 p.m.*

Regular meeting

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### **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](http://alexandriava.gov/93363).

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## **NOW ON EXHIBIT**

### ***Shield of Earth: Defending the Heart of the Union***

*Fort Ward Museum, 4301 West Braddock Rd.*

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](http://www.fortward.org).

### ***Alexandrians Fight the Great War***

*The Lyceum, Alexandria's History Museum, 201 South Washington S.*

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](http://www.alexandriahistory.org).

### ***Before the Spirits are Swept Away: African American Historic Site Paintings***

*Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe St.*

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.

**Two Solos: Sophie Blondeau | Brian Williams**

**April 19 - June 3, 2018**

**Opening Reception: Sunday, April 22, 4 - 6 pm**

*The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St.*

Sophie Blondeau's canvasses explore memory and perception through the lens of her formative years in France. Brian Williams' paintings want us to consider if humans can adapt without catastrophe. Open Thursday through Sunday, 12-4 p.m. For more information, please visit [www.nvfa.org](http://www.nvfa.org) or call 703.548.0035.

***Our Community in Miniature: The African American Dollhouses of Sharon Frazier and Linwood Smith.***

***May 16th - July 30th***

*Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe St.*

Back by popular demand are the dollhouses of museum volunteers Sharon Frazier and Linwood Smith. Many of the dollhouses shown represent African American sites that no longer exist. See the Carver School, the Robert Robinson Library, and other familiar locations. This is the third exhibition of their amazing Doll House Collection.

Free

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**THIS WEEK IN ALEXANDRIA HISTORY**

On April 19, 1900, the women of Trinity Methodist Episcopal Church hosted a bazaar at the Odd Fellows Hall on North Columbus Street. The hall was decorated and booths offered confectionery assortments, lemonade, and flowers. The Alexandria Gazette reported that the "evening was enlivened with fine music and singing."

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## **ON SALE NOW**

### **Shop at Comfort One Shoes in Alexandria to Support Historic Alexandria**

Be sure to visit Comfort One Shoes in Alexandria (now in 3 locations) during the month of April!

You can designate 5% of your purchase to Historic Alexandria Museums as part of

#Spring2ACTion. Walking on historic bricks requires comfortable shoes - right?!