

Whaley Historic House Museum Newsletter

FEBRUARY 2020



LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



If you have any questions, suggestions, or would like to get in contact, please feel free to message me at [Director@WhaleyHouse.com!](mailto:Director@WhaleyHouse.com)

Dear friends of the Whaley Historic House Museum,

Even as we head into the new year, we are still dealing with the remnants of the fire restoration. But we are very hard at work behind the scenes to get back on track financially and finally close this dark chapter of our history. I am pleased to announce that we finished this last quarter of 2019 on high note, booking a record number of private events and reaching new highs in visitor numbers since our reopening back in 2018. I am very hopeful that we will be able to continue on this upward trajectory!

The Board of Directors and I are reassessing our priorities and goals for the coming years. We are currently creating a cohesive multi-year strategy and reviewing all our policies and procedures. Our vision for the future is simple: to ensure that we will be around for many more years to come! Thank you for your continued support.

Warm regards,
Davina Kuh Jakobi

THANK YOU GENESEE COUNTY!

Share Art Genesee is a program established by the Greater Flint Arts Council that awards grants to support cultural enrichment and arts education throughout the county. This 10-year initiative has been made possible through arts, education, and cultural enrichment millage funds, a .96-mill levy that was passed by voters in August 2018 to benefit arts and cultural institutions. We would like to **thank you, the voters of Genesee County**, for recognizing the important role that the arts play in the lives of all those who reside here.

This is the second year in a row that we have received this operational grant and we are confident in our ability to compete for these funds in upcoming years.

The funds from the Greater Flint Arts Council Share Art Genesee millage are being applied directly to our operation budget, specifically to salary. As a result of our 2019 grant, we were able to hire our Executive Director, Davina Kuh Jakobi, who is responsible for maintaining the Whaley Historic House Museum and the collections within, member outreach and communication, as well as for event planning and advertising.

As result of the millage, you may have also noticed that we have made some changes to our admissions policies. Though we still have a per-person fee for scheduling personal and group tours during the week, we have terminated the required admission fees for our tours on our open days, the first and third Saturdays of every month. However, if our guests enjoy the tour, we always encourage donations!

OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Executive Committee.....2020

Ryan Eashoo, President
Malcolm Cottle, Vice President
Thomas Steele, Secretary
Julie Arter, Treasurer

Mark Anderson.....2020
Heather Burnash.....2022

William Gainey.....2022
William Hentgen.....2020

Dr. Thomas
Henthorn.....2021

Gabriel Paul.....2021

Kelly Price, McFarlan Home
representative

OPEN HOURS

First and third
Saturdays

From 11 AM – 2 PM

Tours are available at
other times
throughout the week
by appointment

This newsletter was funded by the Greater Flint Arts Council Share Art Genesee Grant Program made possible by the Genesee County Arts Education and Cultural Enrichment Millage funds. Your tax dollars are at work!

DONATIONS

Your support makes a difference here at the Whaley Historic House Museum. It enables our staff, volunteers, and Board to preserve this historic Flint landmark and the collections within, create engaging and educational programming for the community, as well as inspire a deeper appreciation for and understanding of our shared cultural heritage and history.

There are many ways to donate:

- Your charitable contribution is a beneficial way to distribute your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) from your IRA account!
- Consider linking our registered organization to your Kroger Card and simply scan your card when you make purchases!
- Consider linking us to your Amazon Smile account and check out through Amazon Smile when shopping on Amazon online!

Remember that we are a registered 501(c)(3) so your donation is completely tax deductible!

MEMBERSHIP

Please take a moment to consider renewing your membership.

Our new and returning members in 2020 will receive a membership card (pictured below), which will provide you with a discount on our new gift shop items, free tours during the week outside of general open hours, discounts to our ticketed events, and an invitation to our year-end party! Simply present your new membership card.



Maintaining the Whaley Historic House Museum would not be possible without you! It means so much to us to have the support of you - our community!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Thank you to our new and returning members and friends who have renewed with us and/or made donations within the past quarter (Oct - Dec 2019)!

Anonymous
David Barkey
Joyce and Kelly Beardslee
Cheryl Benway
Robert and Sally Bessert
Eleanor Brownell
Heather Burnash
Rob and Cathy Cojeen
Ryan Eashoo
Gary Flinn
Robert and Shirley Florine
Falding Gadola
Lynn Hurand
Kathleen Kennedy
Dan Klaes
Byron and Margie Latter
Jeanette M. Neu
Michelle Plunkett
Linda Schreiber
Bob and Diane Sovis

VOLUNTEER | Highlight

Here at the Whaley Historic House Museum, our most valuable assets are our volunteers. This newsletter, we would like to shine a much-deserved spotlight on one of the many volunteers who help keep the Whaley Historic House Museum open and running...

Marcia Amon attended a Christmas Party at the Whaley Historic House Museum as a guest in 1986 and fell in love. She has been a volunteer and member with us since!

Marcia grew up within 5 miles of the Whaley Historic House Museum and has lived in Genesee County her whole life. Marcia is particularly enamored with the Victorian era and loves that the Whaley House Museum encapsulates this particular moment in Flint's rich history. A former hairdresser, one of her favorite objects at the Whaley Historic House Museum is the large decorative hair wreath (currently removed for restoration). She has a wealth of knowledge about women's hairstyles from this period.



Marcia primarily helps with tours and open house events. She loves sharing stories about the Whaleys and the House and loves meeting new people. Most of all, she enjoys talking to and learning about our visitors and making them feel personally connected with our House. We would like to recognize her as a dedicated volunteer and great ambassador for the Whaley History House Museum.

We are always looking for volunteers who can help share the story of the Whaleys with the public by giving tours, helping with programming needs, serving as a rental host, lending a hand with general maintenance, and a variety of other tasks throughout the year.

If you are interested in volunteering with us, please contact:

*(810)471-4714 or
Director@WhaleyHouse.com*

ACTIVITY RECAP

The Whaley House was fully decorated for the Holiday Season, December 2019

Thank you to those members and volunteers who joined us for our annual Victorian Christmas Party. It was lovely meeting you and having the opportunity to speak with you! We hope that you enjoyed mingling with each other and meeting other supporters of the Whaley House! Of course, we hope that you enjoyed the opportunity to take in our wonderfully decorated rooms.



Our Christmas festivities would not have been at all possible without the donations and support of many local vendors and our dedicated volunteers! We are also greatly appreciative of the support that you have shown us throughout the Holiday season and over the past year. Thank you for responding to our year-end appeal!



December also proved to be a busy month (as usual, or so I am told). We saw a record number of private events booked at the House, as well as private tours coming through! We held two successful tea services in December. We also started hosting and catering private teas in addition to our public teas. Therefore, dear friends, I will give you a heads up: if you are considering booking a private event or tour with us during the month of December, please remember to book well in advance in order to ensure that your choice of date and time are indeed available!

Special thank you to Rusty Jordan, who played our Victorian Santa Claus throughout the month of December!

THANK YOU
TO THOSE
WHO
DONATED
DECORATIONS
AND FUNDS
FOR
CHRISTMAS

Runyans' Country
Tree Farm

Whispering Pines
Tree Farm

Somers Floral Design

Gerych's Innovative
Event & Floral Design

Vogt's Flowers and
Gifts

Curtis Flowers

The Home Depot

The Weed Lady

Lisa Graham, Junior
League of Flint

Dodds-Dumanois
Funeral Home

Yard and Garden
Club of Flint

Greater Flint Area
Arbor #766

Join us for our upcoming events!

Our monthly Victorian Tea services are proving to be a very popular fundraiser event! Held on the third Saturdays of each month from 2 – 4 PM for \$25 per ticket, they include a selection of seasonal teas, a delicious menu that includes traditional and seasonal savories and sweets, piano accompaniment, and great company in our beautiful Victorian house!

St. Patrick's Festival Victorian Tea: Saturday, March 21 from 2 – 4 PM

Eastertime Tea: Saturday, April 18 from 2 – 4 PM

Tea Honoring Mothers: Saturday, May 16 from 2 – 4 PM

Please reserve your tickets no less than 48 hours in advance via Eventbrite or directly!
Phone: 810.471.4714 | E-mail: Director@WhaleyHouse.com

Got a big group? Remember that you can arrange for a privately catered Victorian Tea Service for you and your friends as well (minimum of 10 per party)! Contact us for further information.