



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 1, 2022

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Stanley-Whitman House Offers Free Admission This Summer!

Blue Star Families, Essential Workers, Children and More – S-WH Welcomes All to a Place Where History Matters and Everyone Belongs

FARMINGTON, Conn. – Stanley-Whitman House, a National Historic Landmark located in the historic village of Farmington, is pleased to offer free admission this summer to a wide range of museumgoers, including Blue Star families, essential workers, SNAP participants, library patrons, and children.

Andres A. Verzosa, Executive Director of Stanley-Whitman House, commented, “As a National Historic Landmark and a living history center, Stanley-Whitman House offers visitors a unique opportunity to experience a day in the life of an early settler. With our increasingly relevant programs highlighting Indigenous peoples of Connecticut, it is more important than ever to reach a wider audience. We’re so appreciative to be a part of these initiatives and collaborations designed to make Connecticut’s arts and history organizations more accessible to everyone.”

Both indoors and outdoors – in its “Museum without Walls” – Stanley-Whitman House offers a variety of programs, events, classes, and exhibits encouraging visitors of all ages to immerse themselves in history by doing, acting, questioning, and engaging in colonial life and the ideas that formed the foundation of that culture. Visitors can learn about the town’s colonial history and early inhabitants in a cemetery tour at Memento Mori; witness the art of pre-industrial broom making in a live demonstration; see how shoes were made by hand from the 17th-19th centuries; tour the ca. 1720 house and its surrounding period raised garden beds, apple orchard, heritage stone walls, and maple trees; and enjoy many other programs and events.

S-WH’s Free Summer includes the following programs:

- **Blue Star Museums** is a partnership between the National Endowment for the Arts and Blue Star Families, in collaboration with the Department of Defense and museums across America. Through September 5, 2022, the nation’s active-duty military personnel and their families, including National

Guard and Reserve, will receive free admission to participating museums. For more information, visit:

<https://www.arts.gov/initiatives/blue-star-museums>.

- **Connecticut Summer at the Museum:** From July 1 to September 5, 2022, all Connecticut children aged 18 and under – plus one accompanying adult – will receive free admission to any of the more than 130 participating museums in the state. Now in its second year and supported by funding through ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act), the program was developed to offer children and families summer enrichment in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. It is administered jointly by the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development’s Office of the Arts and Connecticut Humanities, in partnership with the Office of the Governor, Connecticut State Department of Education, Office of Early Childhood, and Office of Tourism. To learn more, visit <https://www.ctvisit.com/articles/connecticut-summer-museum-free-admission-kids>.
- **Essential Workers:** As a “Thank You” to those keeping the community safe during the COVID-19 pandemic, Stanley-Whitman House will offer free admission to all State of CT essential workers, including health care workers, first responders, food and agriculture workers, service industries and more (see the [State of CT Essential Workers list](#) for eligibility).
- **Library Pass:** A pass for free admission for up to four people (children under the age of 18 must be accompanied by at least one adult) will be offered from the following participating libraries: [Avon Free Public Library](#), [Berlin-Peck Memorial Library](#), [Bristol Public Library and F.N. Manross Memorial Library](#), [Burlington Public Library](#), [Farmington Public Libraries](#), [New Britain Public Library](#), [Lucy Robbins Welles Library \(Newington\)](#), [Plainville Public Library](#), and [Southington Public Library](#).
- **Museums for All:** Through this initiative of the [Institute of Museum and Library Services](#), those receiving food assistance (SNAP benefits) can gain free or reduced admission to more than 900 museums throughout the United States. The program encourages individuals of all backgrounds to visit museums regularly and build lifelong museum habits. Free admission this summer at Stanley-Whitman House is generously supported by the Northwest Community Bank Foundation and the CT Humanities.
- **North American Reciprocal Museum (NARM) Association:** NARM is a mosaic of 1,231 art museums and galleries, historical museums and societies, botanical gardens, children’s museums, zoos, and more. Stanley-Whitman House offers its Patron level and above members free admission to over 1,000 different institutions. For a complete list of participants, visit <https://narmassociation.org/>.
- **Museum Members are always free!** Members of Stanley-Whitman House enjoy free admission to the museum, program discounts, advance registration, and special events. To learn more, visit <https://s-wh.org/membership>.

Free admissions this summer at S-WH is made possible by the generous support of [CT Humanities](#), and the [Northwest Community Bank Foundation](#).

Stanley-Whitman House, a National Historic Landmark, is a living history center and museum that teaches through the collection, preservation, research, and dynamic interpretation of the history and culture of 17th- to 19th-Century Farmington, Connecticut. The museum facility is centered on a ca. 1720 house furnished with period antiques. Surrounding the house are period raised bed gardens, an apple orchard, and heritage stone walls. The museum manages Memento Mori, Farmington's ancient cemetery on Main Street, and the Village Green, located at the intersection of Rtes. 4 and 10. Stanley-Whitman House is supported in part by the Farmington Village Green and Library Association ([FVGLA](#)). Hours of operation are Wednesday through Saturday, 10:00 am to 5:00 pm and by appointment. Last tour leaves at 4:00 pm. For more information, visit <https://s-wh.org/>.

About Connecticut Humanities

CT Humanities (CTH) is an independent, nonprofit affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. CTH connects people to the humanities through grants, partnerships, and collaborative programs. CTH projects, administration, and program development are supported by state and federal matching funds, community foundations, and gifts from private sources. Learn more by visiting cthumanities.org.

About Connecticut Office of the Arts

The Connecticut Office of the Arts (COA) is the state agency charged with fostering the health of Connecticut's creative economy. Part of the state's Department of Economic and Community Development, the COA is funded by the State of Connecticut as well as the National Endowment for the Arts.

About the Northwest Community Bank Foundation

The Northwest Community Bank Foundation's mission is to support non-profit organizations that strengthen and enhance the quality of life in the communities they serve. Learn more at nwcommunitybank.com/foundation/.

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