



The Arsenal
Room 203
Central Park
NY, NY 10065
212 360-8282
f 212 360-8201

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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www.historichousetrust.org

Come Home for the Holidays

Historic House Trust Sites Decorate & Celebrate

Throughout the holiday season, 13 of the historic sites in the Historic House Trust's collection will don festive decorations and host various holiday events to celebrate the season. From trolley tours to concerts and candlelight tours to colonial decorations and visits from Saint Nicholas—New Yorkers can explore the holiday and winter traditions of the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries. The historic houses in the Trust's collection are located in parks throughout the five boroughs.

Bartow-Pell Mansion Museum's rooms will be decorated in the theme of *The Nutcracker*; Van Cortlandt House Museum and Wyckoff Farmhouse Museum will host Saint Nicholas Day events; Old Stone House will host a reading of Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* and a holiday concert; Dyckman Farmhouse Museum and Wyckoff Farmhouse Museum will host candlelight tours; Merchant's House Museum will explore the history of the Christmas tree, which debuted in the 1850s; Morris-Jumel Mansion Museum and King Manor Museum will create holiday crafts; Christmas trees and poinsettias can be purchased and wreaths made at the Queens County Farm Museum; holiday gifts can be purchased at Conference House's "Colonial Christmas" celebration and Historic Richmond Town's Courthouse...and much, much more! See attached list for event details or visit www.historichousetrust.org.

On Sunday, December 14, guided **trolley tours** to multiple historic sites will be held in Staten Island and Flushing, Queens. In Staten Island, the Trust, Parks & Recreation and the Preservation League of Staten Island will host "A Shoreline Holiday Trolley Tour," which will stop at Alice Austen House Museum, Conference House, Seguine Mansion, Snug Harbor and Judge Tysen's House. Reservations for this free tour can be made by calling 718-390-8012; the tour will begin at 10am at Snug Harbor. In Flushing, the Queens Historical Society will host a hop-on, hop-off holiday tour of five museums and historic sites—Kingsland Homestead, the Quaker Meeting House, Flushing Town Hall, Voelker-Orth Museum and the Lewis H. Latimer House Museum. Tickets for the Flushing "Historic Holiday House Tour" are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children under 12 and can be purchased at any of the sites; the trolleys run on a loop between 1 and 5pm. For more information about the Flushing tour, call 718-939-0647, ext. 17.

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History Begins at Home. Historic House Trust is a not-for-profit organization operating in tandem with the New York City Department of Parks & Recreation. Our mission is to provide essential support for houses of architectural and cultural significance, spanning 350 years of New York City life. These treasures reside within city parks and are open to the public.
WWW.HISTORICHOUSETRUST.ORG

Holiday events will be held at the following Historic House Trust sites (see attached for event details): Bronx: Bartow-Pell Mansion Museum, Van Cortlandt House Museum; Brooklyn: Lefferts Historic House, Old Stone House, Wyckoff Farmhouse Museum; Manhattan: Dyckman Farmhouse Museum, Merchant's House Museum, Morris-Jumel Mansion Museum; Queens: "Historic Holiday House Tour" to multiple Flushing sites, King Manor Museum, Queens County Farm Museum; Staten Island: "A Shoreline Holiday Trolley Tour" to multiple sites, Conference House, Historic Richmond Town.

The **Historic House Trust of New York City** is a nonprofit organization founded in 1989 to help the New York City Department of Parks & Recreation preserve its collection of historic houses. The Trust works with Parks and the nonprofit boards of each house to restore, interpret, and promote the sites, which span 350 years of New York City life. From modest farmers' cottages to grand mansions, the 22 sites in the Trust's collection are located in all five boroughs and chronicle a wide range of cultural, historical and architectural aspects of New York City.

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Contact: Abigail Lootens: Abigail.Lootens@parks.nyc.gov or (212) 360-8249