



NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 30, 2014

Pottsgrove Manor to Host Summer Textile Workshops for Kids

Pottstown, PA (July 30, 2014) – On Sundays in August, from 1:00pm to 4:00pm, historic Pottsgrove Manor will offer a series of workshops, focusing on a different colonial textile art each week. Kids 8 to 12 years old can learn historical crafts and take home their creations in these fun sessions.

August 3rd: **Learn to Knit** – In an era before elastic and modern stretch fabrics, knitting was the best way to create stretchy, fitted clothing and accessories. Textile artisan Zina Borys will instruct participants in the basics of knitting. Limit 5.

August 10th: **Hand Quilting** – Many textiles and items of clothing in the 18th century were quilted for warmth and fashion. Museum

Educator Lynn Symborski will teach students the stitches and techniques of hand quilting. Limit 6.

August 17th: **Bobbin Lace Snake Bookmark** – Handmade lace was an expensive trim in the colonial era. Helen Seguin of the Liberty Lacers will teach the art of making bobbin lace, and students will create a fun snake-shaped bookmark. Limit 6.

August 24th: **Tape Weaving** – Woven tape had many uses in early America – from drawstrings to ties to bindings. Students will learn how to weave tape from Eleanor Bittle, “The Tape Lady.” If students want to continue at home, the cardboard tape looms they use in the workshop can be purchased afterward for an additional \$15. Limit 10.

August 31st: **Make a Leather Pouch** – Prized for its durability, leather was made into items like shoes, hunting pouches, wallets, and even men’s breeches. A member of the Pottsgrove Manor staff will lead students in sewing a multipurpose leather pouch. Limit 6.

These workshops are open to children ages 8-12. There is a materials fee of \$15 per child per workshop—or sign up for all five workshops for \$65. Class sizes are limited; registration and payment is due one week prior to each workshop. A registration form can be downloaded from Pottsgrove Manor’s website: www.montcopa.org/pottsgrovesmanor.

This program is being held in conjunction with Pottsgrove Manor’s current exhibit of both reproduction and original 18th Century garments, “To the Manor Worn: Clothing the 18th Century Household.” The exhibit can be toured during regular museum hours through November 2, 2014: Tuesday to Saturday from 10:00am to 4:00pm and Sunday from 1:00pm to 4:00pm. Tours are given on the hour. The last tour of the day begins at 3:00pm. The site is closed Mondays and major holidays. Groups of ten or more should pre-register by calling 610-326-4014.

Pottsgrove Manor is located at 100 West King Street near the intersection of King Street and Route 100, just off Route 422, in Pottstown, Pennsylvania. Pottsgrove Manor is operated by Montgomery County under the direction of the Parks, Trails, and Historic Sites Division of the Assets and Infrastructure Department. For more information, please call 610-326-4014, or visit the website at www.montcopa.org/pottsgrovesmanor. Like Pottsgrove Manor on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/pottsgrovesmanor>.