

EDUCATIONAL
PROGRAMS
PLANNER

2026-2027

Hamilton Civic Museums' **LEARNING ADVENTURES**



hamiltoncivicmuseums.ca/learning/



BATTLEFIELD HOUSE MUSEUM & PARK
NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE PRESENTS

HISTORY IN ACTION

Immerse your students in a military camp during the War of 1812 featuring historical demonstrations, re-enactors, and Indigenous programming. Curriculum-linked interactive activities are delivered at the site of the Battle of Stoney Creek, a turning point in the War of 1812. Recommended for grades 3 to 8.

HANDS-ON ACTIVITIES!

- » 19th Century Skills and Trades
- » 19th Century Food and Clothing
- » Indigenous Programming
- » 19th Century Merchants and Pastimes
- » Loyalists and Early Settler Life
- » Life of a Soldier during the War of 1812
- » Military Drills and Discipline

REGISTRATION OPENS

SEPTEMBER 8, 2026

FOR THE JUNE 3, 2027 PROGRAM.



BATTLEFIELD HOUSE MUSEUM & PARK

77 KING STREET WEST, STONEY CREEK, ON L8G 1H9

📞 905-546-3168 📠 905.546.2875 ✉ MUSEUMS@HAMILTON.CA



Hamilton



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LEGEND

-  Partially Accessible
-  Fully Accessible
-  Picnic Areas

Outreach Programs

Programs that are suitable to deliver to students in your classroom are identified in the listings. Please note that Outreach programs are a \$360.00 flat rate fee per class.

Curriculum Alignment

Hamilton Civic Museums have developed programming to reflect the Ontario Curriculum. We are committed to offering the inquiry-based learning style outlined by the citizenship education framework. We invite teachers to contact the museums directly to discuss their needs.

Program Highlights

- Programs may be modified to suit the specific needs of any group.
- Picnic areas, and accessibility information are identified by symbols located within each respective site section.

What You Need to Know

- Programs are available year-round (unless otherwise indicated), by advance booking only.
- Due to the popularity of our programs, we recommend reservations be made a minimum of one month prior to the preferred date of arrival.
- Groups larger than 10 people will be divided into small groups to allow for easier visitor flow and accommodate small spaces and activities.
- School Program Ratios: All sites except the Children's Museum
 - 1 free adult for every 5 students (JK/SK)
 - 1 free adult for every 8 students (Grades 1-3)
 - 1 free adult for every 10 students (Grade 4+)
 - All EAs are free and not included in the above ratios.
 - Any additional adults will be charged the adult group rate.
- A minimum of five days notice is required to make any changes to a booking. All groups will be charged on the day of arrival for their numbers confirmed in advance or day-of numbers, whichever are greater.
- Program rates are subject to change.
- There is a minimum group charge for 10 participants for all bookings.
- Please encourage your group members to dress for the weather.
- Bus parking is available free of charge at most sites.

The information contained in this publication is offered as a directory of educational and community programs available at the Hamilton Civic Museums and, to the best of our knowledge, is correct at time of printing. For additional information please visit our website hamiltoncivilmuseums.ca/learning

Dundurn Castle

Dundurn National Historic Site

610 York Blvd.
Hamilton, ON L8R 3H1
Phone: 905-546-3168
Fax: 905-546-2875
Email: museums@hamilton.ca



Dundurn Castle was the mid-19th century home of Sir Allan Napier MacNab, a prominent lawyer, Entrepreneur, military officer and politician whose influence shape the growth of both Hamilton and Canada. From serving in the War of 1812 and the Rebellion of 1837 to building the railway and holding the position of Joint Premier of the Province of Canada, MacNab was witness to many key events in Canada's Pre-Confederation history. Dundurn Castle, a magnificent mansion surrounded by a picturesque landscape and garden, was home to the MacNab family and their household staff and is restored to a time when MacNab was at the height of his influence and the estate bustled with activity. Dundurn Castle offers visitors a unique opportunity to study culture, society, history and politics in 19th century Canada. Programs at Dundurn Castle can be combined with those offered at The Hamilton Military Museum for a full day visit.

Visiting Capacity: Dundurn Castle has a visiting capacity of up to 60 people per booking. If combining your visit with those offered at The Hamilton Military Museum the museums can accommodate up to 100 people per booking.

***Booking Information:** For programs which contain food elements – ingredients commonly found in historic recipes include milk, eggs, butter and flour. For many recipes staff can make accommodations for gluten and dairy allergies if noted at the time of booking.

FIND FIN

While in Montreal, Sir Allan MacNab bought two poodles for his daughters Sophia and Minnie which they named Fin and Finette. In 1848, their beloved Fin went missing! Eager to find him, the MacNabs advertised in The Daily Spectator, offering a reward for his safe return. In this program students will use inquiry and problem-solving skills to search some of Dundurn Castle's rooms to find Fin. While participating in various hands-on activities, students will learn about and create patterns, sort objects into categories, play with historic toys, and practice their mathematical skills. Finish the program by meeting Fin himself!

Grade Levels: Kindergarten, One (1)

Subjects: Language; Mathematics; Social Studies

Duration: 1.5 hours

Cost: \$7.00 per student

WHOSE JOB IS IT ANYWAY*

In 1846, Dundurn Castle's butler Wellington accompanied Sir Allan MacNab on a trip to Montreal. In Wellington's absence, the staff found themselves with additional work to do. Using Dundurn Castle's household as an example, students will participate in hands-on activities, taking on roles in the household hierarchy. While exploring the museum on an interactive tour, students will use objects, historic images, and games to recognize and appreciate the roles and responsibilities of domestic staff in

mid-19th century Ontario. Under the guidance of cook demonstrators, students will prepare a recipe in the historic kitchen and will eat what they have prepared.

Grade Levels: One (1); Two (2); Three (3)

Subject: Social Studies

Duration: 2 hours

Cost: \$9.75 per student

VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS

Experience the sights and sounds of a Victorian Christmas at beautiful Dundurn Castle and compare 19th century holiday traditions with your own and those of other communities in Canada today. From the ornate Drawing Room to the household staff's



Dundurn Castle National Historic Site

living quarters, students will discover how the holiday season was celebrated over 150 years ago. For the full holiday experience, visit The Hamilton Military Museum for their Military Christmas program.

Grade Levels: Two (2); Three (3)

Subject: Social Studies

Duration: 1 hour

Cost: \$5.00 per student

Available: Late November to early January

GROWING IN HAMILTON*

In 19th century Canada, children were encouraged to explore the wonders of gardening. In 1846, Sir Allan's daughters Sophia and Minnie MacNab had their own little plot within the Kitchen Garden. Led by interpretive staff, students will engage with hands-on activities to learn about the importance of plants, soil, and composting. They will combine their knowledge of the garden with their experience harvesting produce and crafting a delicious seasonal recipe in the historic kitchen. A short tour of Dundurn Castle will frame the ideas discussed in the garden and kitchen and how it relates to students lives today.

Grade Level: Three (3)

Subjects: Social Studies; Science and Technology

Duration: 2.25 hours

Cost: \$11.25 per student

Available: Late April to June and September to early November

Special Note: *This program has outdoor components; please dress for the weather and walking on uneven terrain.*

CULTIVATING THE PAST

Discover how gardens shaped everyday life in 19th-century Hamilton. Inspired by the experiences of Sophia and Minnie MacNab, who tended their own plot within Dundurn's Kitchen Garden in 1846, students will investigate the important role gardens played in family life in Hamilton. Guided by interpretive staff, students will explore the garden with a sensory-based tour designed to spark curiosity and wonder. Hands-on seasonal activities will engage their observation and inquiry skills, and assist with students developing a deeper understanding of the crucial connections between people, plants, and the environment.

Grade Level: Three (3)

Subjects: Social Studies; Science and Technology

Duration: 1.5 hours

Cost: \$7.00 per student

Available: Late April to June and September to early November

Special Note: *This program has outdoor components; please dress for the weather and walking on uneven terrain.*



1837: REBELLION ON THE RISE!*

A JOINT PROGRAM WITH THE HAMILTON MILITARY MUSEUM

Discover history in the place where it happened! In 1837, Colonel Allan MacNab led the Gore Militia against a rising rebellion. While touring Dundurn Castle, the home of Sir Allan MacNab, students will investigate beliefs and arguments that both favoured and opposed the 1837 Rebellion. In the historic kitchen students will explore class disparity by making and tasting an historic recipe. At The Hamilton Military Museum, students will explore the lifestyle of soldiers while trying on reproduction uniforms, use problem solving skills to map out a strategic defense of the site and participate in a

challenge in the actual room where MacNab's militia was stationed.

Grade Level: Seven (7)

Subject: History and Geography

Duration: 3 hours

Cost: \$14.75 per student

THE HEIGHT OF BATTLE*

A JOINT PROGRAM WITH THE HAMILTON MILITARY MUSEUM

Hidden within Dundurn Park are the mysteries of a British military base known as Burlington Heights! Thousands of soldiers lived and worked here transforming a pastoral homestead into a military stronghold. Discover the property's history and role

Dundurn Castle National Historic Site



in the War of 1812 through interactive and inquiry-based guided tours of Dundurn Castle, The Hamilton Military Museum, Dundurn Park, and parts of the Hamilton Cemetery. In the Historic Kitchen students will make a historic recipe and discuss the limited access to food during war time. At The Hamilton Military Museum, students will dress as War of 1812 soldiers and test their problem-solving skills as they defend Burlington Heights in an interactive mapping activity.

Grade Level(s): Six (6); Seven (7)

Subject(s): Social Studies (6); History and Geography (7)

Duration: 3 hours

Cost: \$14.00 per student

Available: May to June and September to mid October

Special Note: *This program has outdoor components; please dress for the weather and walking on uneven terrain.*

GUIDED TOUR

Dundurn Castle, a grand Italianate-style villa, was the home of Allan MacNab, one of Canada's first Premiers. On a guided tour, students will gain perspective on the life of the MacNab family and

their household staff. Students will also explore the rich history of the property including the War of 1812. Burlington Heights, where Dundurn now stands, was the location of a large British military post from 1813 to 1815. During the military occupation, the landscape was drastically altered. Some of these elements were later incorporated into MacNab's home and can be seen during the tour.

Subject(s): Social Studies; History and Geography

Duration: 1 hour

Cost: \$4.75 per student

Special Notes: *This tour can be matched with the one-hour visit to The Hamilton Military Museum located on the same site.*

EXTEND YOUR VISIT!

We invite you to stay for lunch and/or add on one of the following experiences:

HISTORIC KITCHEN GARDEN TOUR

Visit Dundurn's meticulously restored Historic Kitchen Garden, engage your senses and learn about the unique history of the site. This delightful guided tour invites students to touch, taste, and smell their way around the garden. Led by interpretive staff, students will learn about 1850s gardening through this engaging adventure designed to connect them

with the flavours and scents of the past.

Duration: Up to 60 minutes, depending on your schedule

Cost: \$4.75 per student

Available: May to June and September to October

Special Notes: *This tour takes place outdoors; please dress for the weather and walking on uneven terrain.*

HISTORIC KITCHEN GARDEN TOUR AND ACTIVITY

Join interpretive staff for an immersive sensory exploration tour of the garden; a captivating experience that takes you back in time to the 1850s. In addition, students will take part in a seasonal hands-on garden activity to engage with the changing landscape and historic agricultural practices.

Duration: Up to 60 minutes, depending on your schedule

Cost: \$4.75 per student

Available: May to June and September to October

Special Notes: *This tour takes place outdoors; please dress for the weather and walking on uneven terrain.*

The Hamilton Military Museum

at Dundurn National Historic Site

610 York Blvd.
Hamilton, ON L8R 3H1
Phone: 905-546-3168
Fax: 905-546-2875
Email: museums@hamilton.ca



Burlington Heights, where Dundurn Castle stands today, was occupied by the British military from 1813 to 1815. Housed in Battery Lodge, The Hamilton Military Museum provides a unique opportunity to study the social history of the military in Canada. The museum features exhibits focused on historical figures and artifacts related to the War of 1812 and 1837 Rebellion. Interactive and engaging programs have been designed to address specific expectations in various strands and topics in Social Studies, and History curricula. Programs can be combined with those offered at Dundurn Castle for a full day visit.

Visiting Capacity: The Hamilton Military Museum has a visiting capacity of 45 people per booking. If combining your visit with those offered at Dundurn Castle the museums can accommodate up to 100 people per booking

*** Booking Information:** For programs which contain food elements – ingredients commonly found in historic recipes include milk, eggs, butter and flour. For many recipes staff can make accommodations for gluten and dairy allergies if noted at the time of booking.

MILITARY CHRISTMAS

Christmas in the military was very different from traditional celebrations at home. This program allows students to learn about holiday celebrations of the past while exploring the experiences of soldiers stationed overseas during the holidays, and that of their family members who remained at home. Students will have the opportunity to dress up like soldiers and play with traditional 19th century games and toys. Students will use the inquiry process to identify and sort gifts that soldiers would have received in a First World War hamper, and in modern packages sent to soldiers overseas today.

Grade Levels: One (1); Two (2)

Subject: Social Studies

Duration: 1 hour

Cost: \$4.75 per student

Available: Late November to January

Special Note: This program can be paired with Dundurn Castle's Victorian Christmas program for the full holiday experience and can be adapted to suit other grade levels upon request.

BOOTCAMP FOR BEGINNERS

Do your students have what it takes to be a British soldier? During the War of 1812, Burlington Heights (where the museum is currently located) was an important centre of defense, supply, and refuge for the British Army. Thousands of soldiers called this place their home. While living here, a soldier's daily life consisted of discipline, drill, and the unwavering ability to follow orders. This program allows students to experience life as a soldier by performing hands-on activities related to the War of 1812.

Grade Levels: One (1); Two (2); Three (3); Six (6); Seven (7); Eight (8)

Subjects: Social Studies; History and Geography

Duration: 1.5 hours

Cost: \$7.00 per student

Special Note: Please come dressed for the weather and wear appropriate footwear for marching.

WE REMEMBER: CAMOUFLAGE AND COURAGE

From a time before camouflage to the present, soldiering has been an important part of our history.

As the technology used in warfare has evolved, the ways we remember those who lost their lives has changed as well. From the Upper Canada Preserved Medal after the War of 1812 to grand parades and ceremonies, remembering the fallen is an important aspect of our society. Students will learn why we recognize the sacrifices of those who dedicated their lives to Canada while dressing in period uniforms, participating in hands-on activities and constructing a take-home creation focusing on the symbols of Remembrance.

Grade Levels: One (1); Two (2); Three (3); Six (6); Seven (7); Eight (8)

Subjects: Social Studies; History and Geography

Duration: 1.5 hours

Cost: \$7.50 per student

Available: October & November

GUIDED TOUR

Discover Canadian military history at The Hamilton Military Museum! Investigate the War of 1812 and the 1837 Rebellion and explore our hands-on Discovery Gallery. Students will have the opportunity to dress in military costumes ranging from 1812 to 1945. This tour can be adjusted to meet your curriculum needs.

Subjects: Social Studies; History and Geography

Duration: 1 hour

Cost: \$4.75 per student

Special Note: This tour can be matched with a one-hour visit to Dundurn Castle to accommodate large groups.

1837: REBELLION ON THE RISE!*

A JOINT PROGRAM WITH DUNDURN NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

Discover history in the place where it happened! In 1837, Colonel Allan MacNab led the Gore Militia against a rising rebellion. While touring Dundurn Castle, the home of Sir Allan MacNab, students will investigate beliefs and arguments that both favoured and opposed the 1837 Rebellion. In the historic kitchen students will explore class disparity by making and tasting an historic recipe. At The Hamilton Military Museum, students will explore the lifestyle of soldiers



The Hamilton Military Museum at Dundurn National Historic Site



while trying on reproduction uniforms, use problem solving skills to map out a strategic defense of the site and participate in a challenge in the actual room where MacNab's militia was stationed!

Grade Level: Seven (7)

Subject: History and Geography (7)

Duration: 3 hours

Cost: \$14.75 per student

THE HEIGHT OF BATTLE* A JOINT PROGRAM WITH DUNDURN NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

Hidden within Dundurn Park are the mysteries of a British military base known as Burlington Heights! Thousands of soldiers lived and worked here transforming a pastoral homestead into a military stronghold. Discover the property's history and role in the War of 1812 through interactive and inquiry-based guided tours of Dundurn Castle, The Hamilton Military Museum, Dundurn Park, and parts of the Hamilton Cemetery. In the Historic Kitchen students

will make a historic recipe and discuss the limited access to food during war time. At The Hamilton Military Museum, students will dress as War of 1812 soldiers and test their problem-solving skills as they defend Burlington Heights in an interactive mapping activity.

Grade Level(s): Six (6); Seven (7)

Subject(s): Social Studies (6); History and Geography (7)

Duration: 3 hours

Cost: \$14.00 per student

Available: May to June and September to mid October

Special Note: Please note this program has outdoor components; please dress for the weather and walking on uneven terrain.

REMEMBRANCE KITS FOR TEACHERS

This Remembrance Day, bring history to life in your classroom with the Hamilton Military Museum's Remembrance Kits. Students can create poppies, build a class wreath, and step into the shoes of a Canadian Expeditionary Force soldier by completing Field Service Postcards and Attestation Papers. With added historical context and links to engaging videos, these kits offer a meaningful, hands-on way to explore and remember the past.

Grade Level(s): All

Cost: Free

Available: Pre-registration required, while supplies last.

Special Note: Registration will open in mid October and closes October 23, 2026. Kit pick up dates: October 31, November 1, November 3-6, 2026 between the hours of 12:00 PM and 4:00 PM at The Hamilton Military Museum. Please look to our website and social media pages for up to date information in October.

Hamilton Museum of Steam & Technology

National Historic Site

900 Woodward Ave. (at the QEW),
Hamilton, ON L8H 7N2
Phone: 905-546-3168
Fax: 905-546-2875
Email: museums@hamilton.ca



The Hamilton Museum of Steam & Technology, is located on the site of the 1859 Hamilton Waterworks complex. This National Historic Site is recognized as an engineering landmark. Today, the museum preserves two massive steam-powered beam engines that pumped water in Hamilton from 1859 to 1910. The museum is a unique learning environment where students can see real-life applications of concepts including simple machines, engineering, water systems, chemistry, and social history.

Visiting Capacity: The Hamilton Museum of Steam & Technology has a visiting capacity of up to 50 people per booking.

Booking Information: All programs require participants to wear closed toe shoes and require short walks outdoors between buildings. Please come dressed appropriately.

PUMPHOUSE DISCOVERY

Discover the roles and responsibilities of the people who operated the Hamilton Waterworks, and how the community worked together to deliver clean water to the City of Hamilton. In this program, students learn about the people who lived and worked at the site through a picture book written from the perspective of the Chief Engineer's youngest son. Students will try various hands on activities that connect to the story, like shovelling coal, oiling the engines, and playing croquet. The program concludes with a visit to the historic Pumphouse, where they will see the real locations featured in the story.

Grade Levels: Kindergarten; One (1)

Subjects: Social Studies

Duration: 2 hours

Cost: \$9.25 per student

Outreach: This program can be booked as outreach onsite at your school.

Outreach Cost: \$360.00 per class

SIMPLE MACHINES, BIG PROBLEMS

In 1859, engineers used powerful simple machines to build the structures and mechanisms of the Hamilton Waterworks. This hands-on program challenges students to use six simple machines to solve problems faced by these engineers – including moving heavy objects with levers, lifting materials up with pulleys, and building arches with a wedge.

Students will then see these simple machines in action through a tour of the Pumphouse.

Grade Level: Two (2)

Subject: Science and Technology

Duration: 2 hours

Cost: \$9.25 per student

RADICAL REACTIONS (FORMERLY "SOLID, LIQUID, GAS")

The effect of changing states of matter was essential to the operation of the steam-powered Hamilton Waterworks. Through hands on science experiments, including "Oobleck" and super-absorbent polymers, students will identify the different properties of matter and the difference between chemical and



Hamilton Museum of Steam & Technology National Historic Site



physical changes. By observing the power of steam in action, students will learn how changing states of matter can be used to produce energy and movement.

Grade Level: Two (2); Five (5)

Subject: Science and Technology

Duration: 2 hours

Cost: \$9.75 per student

Outreach: This program can be booked as outreach onsite at your school.

Outreach Cost: \$360.00 per class

BRIDGING THE GAP

Since ancient times, engineers have designed structures to withstand the forces of nature all over the world. The original Hamilton Waterworks has supported the weight of two 70-ton steam engines since 1859! In this program, students will learn about the techniques that help engineers build strong and stable structures. Students will then work in groups to build bridges that can withstand different types of load. A guided tour of the historic Pumphouse will show students real-life examples of these engineering principles.

Grade Levels: Three (3); Five (5)

Subject: Science and Technology

Duration: 2 hours

Cost: \$9.25 per student

POWERFUL PULLEYS AND GREAT GEARS

Pulleys and gears are amazing machines! In this program, students will investigate these mechanisms by working in groups to assemble a "crab" winch, just like the ones they will see on their tour of the steam engines at the museum. The winch uses pulleys and gears to lift heavy loads, showing how simple machines can be combined to create complex systems. During their visit, students will discover other simple machines that put the steam engines into motion, and the many uses of pulleys and gears.

Grade Level: Four (4)

Subject: Science and Technology

Duration: 2 hours

Cost: \$9.25 per student

Outreach: This program can be booked as outreach onsite at your school or as a virtual visit.

Outreach Cost: \$360.00 per class

DISCOVERING DIVERSITY

The construction of the Hamilton Waterworks in 1859, and the resulting industrial boom, brought new opportunities for immigrants from all over the world. Unfortunately, not all newcomers were treated equally by the 1910 Canadian Immigration Act.

In this program, students will learn how historical requirements for citizenship affected people with diverse abilities, cultures, and backgrounds. By examining a suitcase of artifacts and using the historical inquiry process, students will work in groups to develop a narrative about a fictional individual coming to Canada in 1910. They will identify the push and pull factors that may have influenced their characters' decision to immigrate. Using primary source documents, students will then decide whether their characters would have been granted citizenship, or if discriminatory policies may have prevented them from immigrating. The program includes a tour of the museum where students will learn about the immigrants who built the Hamilton Waterworks and the working conditions they faced.

Grade Level: Eight (8)

Subject: History and Geography

Duration: 2 hours

Hamilton Museum of Steam & Technology National Historic Site

Cost: \$9.25 per student

Special Note: *This program discusses sensitive themes of discrimination, racism, and ableism. The primary source historical documents in this program contain outdated, offensive terms that are unacceptable today. This language reflects the cultural attitudes of its era and is included to preserve historical authenticity. Documents can be emailed to teachers prior to visit for review.*

Outreach: This program can be booked as outreach onsite at your school.

Outreach Cost: \$360.00 per class

WATER SYSTEMS IN ACTION

In 1859, Hamilton's growing need for clean water was met by the construction of the city's first municipal Waterworks. In this program, students explore the systems that allow us to have clean running water, and how people access water in different parts of the world. Students will simulate the processes at

Hamilton's water treatment plant by building water filters, testing water samples, and assembling a simple "Waterloo" water pump. The program includes a guided tour of the historic Waterworks, where we will discuss the importance of clean water and how water distribution systems have changed over time.

Grade Level: Eight (8)

Subject: Science and Technology

Duration: 2.5 hours

Cost: \$11.75 per student

Outreach: This program can be booked as outreach onsite at your school.

Outreach Cost: \$360.00 per class

EXTEND YOUR VISIT!

We invite you to stay for one of the following experiences:

STEAM MUSEUM SCAVENGER HUNT

Extend your visit by adding a self-guided, outdoor scavenger hunt after your educational program. The scavenger hunt can be completed individually, or in small groups.

Duration: 30 minutes

Seasonal/Weather Dependent

Cost: FREE with paid booking

COMBINING PROGRAMS

Add a second program topic to your field trip.

Duration: 45 minutes

Cost: Add \$4.75 per student



Battlefield House Museum & Park

National Historic Site

77 King St. W. (corner of King and Centennial Pkwy)
Stoney Creek, ON L8G 1H9
Phone: 905-546-3168
Fax: 905-546-2875
Email: museums@hamilton.ca



One of the first homes built in Stoney Creek; Gage House was the residence and farmland belonging to James and Mary Gage, where they lived with their 10 children from 1796 to 1835. The War of 1812 had a direct impact on the family when American soldiers occupied their property, and the Battle of Stoney Creek was fought nearby in the early morning of June 6, 1813. British forces, supported by Canadian militia and Indigenous allies, secured a victory that helped prevent American control of Upper Canada. In 1899, Sara Calder, granddaughter of James and Mary Gage and first president of the Women's Wentworth Historical Society, led the purchase and preservation of the homestead and built the Battlefield Monument located on the property to commemorate peace between the two nations. In 2014 the installation of the Eagles Among Us artwork recognizes the diverse Indigenous communities connected to the land now known as Hamilton.

Visiting Capacity: Battlefield House Museum & Park has a visiting capacity of up to 50 people per booking.

Booking Information:

- All visits to the museum include a visit to Gage House and Eagles Among Us. Visits to the Battlefield Monument are weather dependent and only available between May- October.
- All programs have outdoor components; please dress for the weather and walking on uneven terrain.

HOME IS WHERE THE HEARTH IS

Explore holiday traditions at Battlefield House Museum as students discover how many modern indoor and outdoor winter activities trace their roots to celebrations from more than 200 years ago. Through engaging, hands-on experiences in one of Ontario's oldest historic homes, students will analyze and evaluate daily life in early-19th-century Canada and compare it with their own lives today. Activities both inside the house and outdoors on the surrounding land encourage students to investigate winter pastimes, examine traditions across diverse groups and time periods, and gain a deeper understanding of the Gage family's customs while experiencing winter life in an early-19th-century household.

Grade Levels: Kindergarten; Two (2); Three (3);

Subjects: Social Studies

Time: 2 hours

Cost: \$9.25 per student

Available: Mid-November through December.

SETTLING IN SALT FLEET

The Gage family settled in Saltfleet Township (Stoney Creek) in the 1790s during a period of increased immigration to Upper Canada. James and Mary Gage cleared and farmed the land with their ten children, shaping early community life. Through hands-on activities connected to the Gage family's daily tasks such as weaving, planting and getting dressed, students explore how life in the early 19th century compares to today and how families like the Gages influenced modern living.

Grade Levels: Three (3)

Subject: Social Studies



Battlefield House Museum & Park National Historic Site

Time: 2 hours

Cost: \$9.25 per student

Available: September to November and January to June

Special Note: Hands on activities will change depending on weather and time of year.

BATTLE ON OUR DOORSTEP!

On June 5, 1813, during the War of 1812, about 3,500 American troops occupied the Gage family farm and surrounding land. In the early hours of June 6, 700 British soldiers launched a surprise nighttime attack, forcing the Americans to withdraw and stopping their advance into Upper Canada. Through hands-on activities, such as uniform dress-up, musket demonstrations, and battlefield medicine, students will explore and analyze the hardships and realities

of the War of 1812 and the challenges faced by the soldiers, militia and civilians of the time. Included in this program is participation in a one of a kind boardgame where everyone will work as a team to capture American generals and artillery similar to the historical events that took place on site.

Grade Level: Seven (7)

Subject: History and Geography

Time: 2 hours

Cost: \$9.25 per student

Available: September to November and January to June

SARA CALDER AND THE ART OF BATTLEFIELD PARK

Sara Calder was an accomplished artist and a co-founder of the Women's Art Association of

Hamilton. She was also the founder of the Women's Wentworth Historical Society and the driving force behind the efforts to preserve the Gage homestead and construct the Battlefield Monument. Students will explore and find inspiration in the public art and heritage in Battlefield Park for a sketching activity while learning about post-Confederation Canada and the women who created Battlefield House Museum & Park. Included in this program are discussions about the public art on site, themes and influences of design and learning about their histories. Students will use charcoal pencils in a sketching activity in the museum and the surrounding park (weather permitting). The activity will feature heavy emphasis on shape and form, texture and value.

Grade Level: Eight (8)

Subjects: The Arts; History and Geography

Time: 1.5 hours

Cost: \$7.00 per student

Available: September to November and April to June

Extend your visit: Smith's Knoll Monument

Include a short off-site walk to Smith's Knoll monument where a stone cairn installed in 1910 marks the burial location of American and British soldiers lost during the Battle of Stoney Creek.

Time: 30 minutes

Cost: \$9.25 per student

Special Note: This tour requires a short walk off site. Led by staff students will need to cross King St W at a crosswalk.

GUIDED TOUR

Take an interactive, grade-appropriate guided tour of Battlefield House Museum & Park. Learn about the lives of the Gage family, who were early-19th century settlers in Ontario, and the Battle of Stoney Creek fought on the Gage family's doorstep in 1813. The tour features the outdoor Indigenous art installation, Eagles Among Us, the Gage House and Battlefield Monument constructed in 1913.

Subjects: Social Studies; History and Geography

Duration: 1 hour

Cost: \$4.75 per student

TIN PUNCHING

Students are invited to try their hand at becoming an apprentice tinsmith. Each student is provided with a pre-made stencil template to hammer the design into a flat piece of tin to take home.

Grade Levels: Six (6), Seven (7), Eight (8)

Subjects: Social Studies; History and Geography; The Arts

Duration: 1 hour or 30 minute addition to any program.

Cost: \$6.75 per student 1 hour or \$4.50 per student 30 minute add on.



Whitehern Historic House & Garden

National Historic Site

41 Jackson Street West
Hamilton, ON L8P 1L3
Phone: 905-546-3168
Fax: 905-546-2875
Email: museums@hamilton.ca



Whitehern is an outstanding example of a mid-19th century urban estate. Originally owned by a wealthy industrialist, Dr. Calvin McQuesten, the house today reflects all three generations of the McQuesten family. It contains original artifacts and showcases stories from the Victorian, Edwardian and Interwar periods. The house is restored to 1939, when the Honorable Thomas B. McQuesten was at the height of his influence as Minister of Highways and had opened Canada's first modern highway, the Queen Elizabeth Way. Surrounding the home, a walled, ornamental garden provides greenspace for heritage leisure activities. This National Historic Site provides a unique opportunity to explore the changing nature of family life, culture, health, politics and domestic technology in Hamilton. Interactive and engaging programs have been designed to address the Ontario Curriculum in a unique learning environment.

Visiting Capacity: Whitehern Historic House & Garden has a visiting capacity of up to 50 people per booking.

Booking Information: All programs have outdoor components; please dress for the weather and walking on uneven terrain and crossing roads.

HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Come to Whitehern and experience the holidays as they were celebrated during the 1850s, 1870s and the 1930s. Each generation of the McQuesten family had their own unique celebrations that reflected changes in food choices, decorating styles, the ages of the family members, and changes in financial circumstances. Through an interactive tour, students will identify community celebrations that reflect their own heritage and will be encouraged to compare and contrast their own experiences with those of the McQuestens. Students will create a holiday decoration to take home based on a Christmas Storybook belonging to the youngest McQuesten, Margaret Edna.

Grade Levels: Two (2); Three (3); Four (4); Five (5); Six (6)

Subject: Social Studies

Duration: 1.5 hours

Cost: \$7.25 per student

Available: Mid-November through December

ONE GOOD CHURN

Hand-churning your own ice-cream and playing historic games is a great way to celebrate the warmer weather! While touring Whitehern, students may be surprised to discover how many fun activities they share with children from the past. Students will learn about the three generations of the McQuesten family that lived at Whitehern and their leisure activities. Students will have an opportunity to make and taste hand-churned ice cream using a traditional ice cream maker. Weather permitting, the students will try their hand at outdoor games such as egg and spoon races, croquet and bean bag tosses in the family's historic garden. Indoor game options will be offered during winter or rain days.

Grade Levels: Three (3); Four (4); Five (5); Six (6); Seven (7); Eight (8)

Subject: Health and Physical Education

Duration: 2 hours

Cost: \$10.25 per student

VOTE FOR TOM

Thomas McQuesten was born in 1882 and eventually rose to become one of Ontario's greatest contributors to municipal works. His childhood home stands as a testament to his works of beautification in the city of Hamilton while his involvement in provincial government impacted the Ontario we see today. In this program, students will tour the McQuesten home and learn about the three-tiered system of government in Canada. Inside the Stables, students will participate in a mock vote and explore the history of voting in Canada. The trip includes a visit to City Hall where students will have an opportunity



Whitehern Historic House & Garden National Historic Site

to ask questions and experience the municipal level of government first-hand.

Grade Levels: Five (5)

Subject: Social Studies

Duration: 2 hours

Cost: \$9.25 per student

EXTEND YOUR VISIT!

MOVIES & POPCORN

Settle-in to the Stables for popcorn and fun movies from the 1930s. Popeye, The Little Rascals, Flip the Frog and Felix the Cat are some of our favourites!

Duration: 1 hour

Cost: \$5.00 per student

Special Note: Movie clip selections may vary. Please inquire at time of booking.

CITY HALL TOUR

See democracy in action with a visit to a working City Hall! Students will learn about the different levels of government in Canada with an emphasis on municipal government. Discover the different services that Hamilton provides residents, how taxes are allocated, and the politicians who govern our city. If available, the tour will finish with a visit to Council Chambers.

Duration: 1 hour

Cost: \$4.75 per student

Special Note: This program requires walking to City Hall, please dress for the weather.



Fieldcote Memorial Park & Museum



64 Sulphur Springs Rd., Ancaster, ON L9G 1L8 Phone: 905-546-3168 Fax: 905-546-2875 Email: museums@hamilton.ca



Fieldcote Memorial Park & Museum is a cultural heritage centre for the Ancaster area with an emphasis on the collection, preservation and exhibition of local history, the promotion of fine arts, and the celebration of natural heritage through beautifully landscaped gardens and walking trails. Seven acres of park and forest provide ample space for a picnic lunch in fair weather. Features include a rotating exhibition gallery featuring art and local history and an outdoor stage for the performing arts.

Visiting Capacity: Fieldcote Memorial Park & Museum has a visiting capacity of up to 30 people per booking. Groups over 15 people will be accommodated at Ancaster Old Town Hall, located a short walking distance to the museum. If you would like to include a visit to the museum please allow for an additional 1 hour to your program at no additional charge.

THINKING OUTSIDE THE BOX

Have you ever wondered how museum staff create exhibitions? What information is used? How objects are chosen and why? Do you have what it takes to create a compelling exhibit using different types of information? This program will introduce participants to the idea of information and how it is used to communicate meaning. In small groups, participants will present mini exhibit proposals using artifacts, photographs, documents, and props to interpret and create a unique narrative. Participants will present their story to their peers through whatever creative format they choose that conveys the 'who, what, when, where, why and how' of their story.

Grade Levels: Five (5); Six (6); Seven (7); Eight (8)

Subjects: The Arts; Language

Duration: 2 hours

Cost: \$14.25 per student

Outreach: This program can be booked as outreach onsite at your school.

Outreach Cost: \$360.00 per class

NOT YOUR GRANDMA'S QUILT (RESPECT TO YOUR GRANDMA)

What do mathematics and the arts have in common? The Quilt! The quilt shows up across time, on all continents, is steeped in tradition and has many uses and meanings. Quilts have been a battle layer, a piece of art and a warm hug of woven stories. Participants will learn about quilting through the ages and explore all the components that make up a quilt through dynamic activities employing creativity, art, math, and storytelling.

Grade Levels: One (1); Two (2); Three (3)

Subjects: Mathematics; The Arts

Duration: 1.5 hours

Cost: \$7.00 per student

Outreach: This program can be booked as outreach onsite at your school.

Outreach Cost: \$360.00 per class

EXTEND YOUR VISIT

We invite you to stay for lunch and/or add on one of the following experiences:

FIELDCOTE MEMORIAL PARK SCAVENGER HUNT

Extend your visit with this self guided experience of the beautiful gardens and grounds while seeking out seasonal features and woodland friends. Complete individually or in groups and be sure to let the museum staff know how you did!

Duration: 30 minutes

Availability: Weather dependant

Notes: This activity is outdoors; please dress for the weather and walking on uneven terrain.

Cost: Free

FIELDCOTE TRAIL WALK

Looping through the seven-acres surrounding Fieldcote, enjoy a self guided walk along this trail which includes public art, natural landscapes, and seating for rest and reflection. Half-way through, the trail branches into two – one leading to Fieldcote and the other directly to Wilson St.

Duration: 20 minutes

Availability: April through October

Notes: This activity is outdoors; please dress for the weather and walking on uneven terrain.

Cost: Free

ANCASTER VILLAGE HISTORIC WALKING TOUR

Get out and explore Ancaster's historic Wilson St village with a self-guided tour. Pick up a copy of our walking tour guide at the reception desk and get a taste of Ancaster at some of the local bakeries and businesses that have made their homes in historic buildings.

Duration: 60 minutes

Notes: This activity is outdoors; please dress for the weather.

Cost: Free



Griffin House National Historic Site

733 Mineral Springs Road, Ancaster, ON L9H 1A1 Phone: 905-546-3168 Fax: 905-546-2875 Email: museums@hamilton.ca



Griffin House stands today as a testament to the determination of Enerals Griffin, an African-American born in Virginia in 1790, who journeyed to Southern Ontario and established his family farm in the beautiful Dundas Valley. For more than 150 years, their descendants lived and worked on the beautiful farm and were members of the Ancaster community. Visit this well-preserved early 19th century farm cabin that displays the solid, simple architecture once so common in Upper Canada. Explore the history of Enerals Griffin and other early black settlers. Interactive programs have been designed to address Specific Expectations in various strands and topics in Social Studies, History and Geography curricula.

Booking Information: Griffin House is closed to the public while undergoing a restoration project. Programs outlined below are available for **OUTREACH ONLY**.

THE STORY OF ENERALS GRIFFIN

Participants will explore the unique story of Enerals Griffin as he moves from a life of former enslavement in Virginia to build a new life for his family in Southern Ontario. Through a combination of an illustrated storybook, activities, and guided discussions, participants will learn about the Griffin family's experience in an environment framed by racism, the challenges of farming in the 1800's, and the positive impact one person can make to a community. Using the Griffin's story as a guide, participants will reflect on the past through a lens of empathy while employing critical thinking to understand their own role as active citizens.

Grade Levels: One (1); Two (2); Three (3)

Subjects: Social Studies

Duration: 1.5 hours

Outreach Cost: \$360.00 per class

FREEDOM SEEKERS

This program introduces students to the history of Black enslavement in Canada and looks at slavery's colonial origins, its history in practice, and the post emancipation era in Canada. Through interactive activities, participants explore important concepts including racism, ethnocentrism, colonialism, injustice, contextual morality, and human resilience. Following the activity portion of the program, these concepts are connected to specific historical contexts through a presentation followed by a collaborative group discussion.

Grade Levels: Six (6); Seven (7); Eight (8)

Subjects: Social Studies; History

Duration: 2.5 hours

Outreach Cost: \$360.00 per class

Special Note: This program includes discussion of challenging subjects such as racism and colonization. A pre-program information package and post-program support resources will be provided to teachers who book this program.



Hamilton Children's Museum

1072 Main St. E.
Hamilton, ON L8M 1N6
Phone: 905-546-3168
Fax: 905-546-2875
Email: museums@hamilton.ca



The museum is in Gage Park, the former orchard of the Gage Family, and is a wonderful location for school visits because it offers indoor and outdoor experiences. Schools can enjoy a full day visit, especially in warmer months with a visit to the museum and a visit to the playgrounds and water play features of the park.

Learning experiences at the Hamilton Children's Museum are designed to support a wide range of learners. Students can explore a newly redesigned interactive space allowing little ones to explore the many environments of Hamilton. As well as two self-reflective Seeker Spaces that provide opportunities for individual or small-group discovery, as well as a private fenced backyard used for seasonal outdoor programming.

Our programs are designed to foster hands-on, multidisciplinary learning that connects with curriculum expectations across subject areas. Through critical thinking, inquiry-based activities, and sensory-rich experiences, students are encouraged to explore, question, and make meaningful connections.

Museum Capacity: The Hamilton Children's Museum has a visiting capacity of up to 60 people per booking.

Booking Information: The Hamilton Children's Museum is not available for educational bookings until January 2027.



IMAGINATION PASSPORT

Set off on a hands-on adventure at the Hamilton Children's Museum! Children will explore the museum's Hamilton themed exhibit at their own pace while completing five challenges to earn Imagination Passport stamps. Students will explore the exhibit through engaging hands-on activities that promote creativity, communication, problem-solving, and self-expression. Through investigation, design, and discovery, they will develop an understanding of symbols, patterns, structures, and the ways people connect with the world around them. Each challenge encourages creativity, problem solving and exploration while helping students discover every corner of Hamilton.

Grade Level: Kindergarten

Subjects: Kindergarten

Duration: 1.5 hours

Cost: \$7.00 per student

DIGGING UP THE PAST

Archaeologists are a lot like detectives; they figure out how people lived in the past by looking at objects that are left behind. Students will excavate, sort, measure, and analyze artifacts to discover how people lived, worked, and played. Using inquiry-based learning and critical-thinking skills, they will interpret their findings and record evidence like real archaeologists. The experience also includes time to explore the museum galleries and seeker spaces to explore and learn about Hamilton and the environment they live in.

Grade Levels: Kindergarten; One (1); Two (2); Three (3); Four (4)

Subjects: Kindergarten; Social Studies; Mathematics

Duration: 2 hours

Cost: \$9.25 per student



Hamilton Children's Museum

PARKitect

Have you ever wanted to design a park? What would you include, and who would it be for? In this hands on program, students will explore how parks are planned and the many factors that shape shared green spaces.

Students will participate in a facilitated and grade specific tour of Gage Park observing both the natural and man-made features. Back at the museum, they will take part in a series of activities meant to help connect students to their responsibilities as land stewards as well the importance of having a collective voice in caring for shared spaces. Students will consider human impact on nature and understand that we all have a collective ownership in preserving the health of our green spaces, users and animals.

Working in small groups, students will apply their learning by designing and building a 3D tabletop model of a park. Groups will share and explore each other's designs, asking questions and discussing design choices in a collaborative, creative, and inquiry-based experience.

Grade Level: Two (2); Three (3); Four (4)

Subject: Science, Math, Social Studies

Duration: 2.5 hours

Cost: \$11.50 per student

Special Note: This program runs rain or shine. Please come dressed for the weather and wear appropriate footwear.

THE ARTISAN MARKET

Students will become artisan entrepreneurs for the day as they create and sell special art pieces for a classroom market.

Using a variety of media, they will design and produce packs of cards while learning to budget and purchase supplies. Students will get to set prices, consider profit as it relates to cost of material and labour and will decide how to market their products by creating their own posters and flyers.

Faux money is used to buy and sell goods, giving everyone the chance to experience both sides of a marketplace in a fun, interactive way.

Grade Levels: One (1), Two (2), Three (3), Four (4), Five (5)

Subjects: Arts, Mathematics, Language

Duration: 2 hours

Outreach Cost: \$360.00 per class



Hamilton Farmers' Market

Jackson Square
35 York Blvd., Hamilton, ON L8R 3K1
Phone: 905-546-2096
Fax: 905-546-2829
Email: farmersmarket@hamilton.ca



EST. 1837
HAMILTON FARMERS'
MARKET
OPEN YEAR ROUND

For 180 years, the Hamilton Farmers' Market has connected the community to farmers and foods. Excite and engage student's senses with the MARKET's many tastes, aromas, colours, textures and sounds. Explore the MARKET as a space to connect learning to agriculture, food, culture and community.

The Hamilton Farmers' Market is fully accessible, is located next door to the Central Public Library, and is just minutes from the Art Gallery of Hamilton and the James Street arts scene. Teachers are asked to please register all self-guided tours in advance. Free seasonal Hamilton Farmers' Market colouring pages and picnic areas for break/lunch available upon request.



905-546-2096 | farmersmarket@hamilton.ca | hamiltonfarmersmarket.ca



Hamilton