

2025— The Revolution Begins

Our nation is embarking on a commemoration — the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. Several of the offerings in this year’s speaker series celebrate our journey toward this historic milestone. programs present a diverse array of topics — all reflective of our important role in New York State and national history.

Events are held in the lower-level program room at the Hancock House Museum and are free to attend, unless otherwise noted. Donations are appreciated. Reservations are encouraged, as space is limited. Program dates and times are subject to change. Check Facebook or the larchny.org website for updates.

Friday, June 27, 7 p.m.

Program: *The Shot Heard Round the World*

Learn more about this first battle of the American Revolution, where local militia defied British authority, outnumbered and outfought the enemy and proved the Americans could successfully take on the most powerful army in the world.



Friday, July 11, 7 p. m.

Program: *Freedom's Friend: Lafayette and America*



Historian Sean Kelleher, Vice Chair of the Saratoga 250 Commission and Saratoga Town Historian, will share insights gained from his extensive research into Lafayette's special relationship with George

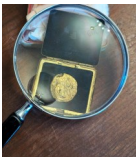
Washington. As a leading voice in local history, Kelleher brings unique perspectives on Lafayette's 1825 tour of New York and its significance to our region.

Saturday, July 19, 7 p.m.

Fundraiser: *Secrets of the Museum*
Ticket Required



Join us for an elegant behind-the-scenes glimpse at the unique, unusual and seldom-seen treasures of the Hancock House Museum. This special evening includes tours, refreshments, live music and dancing.



Friday, July 25, 7 p.m.



Program: *An Operatic Legend on Lake George: Marcella Sembrich*

One of the most prolific musicians and teachers of the late 19th and early 20th centuries, Marcella Sembrich's career included lead roles in the opening season of The Metropolitan Opera and operatic, recital, and concert appearances across Europe and the United States. Her 55-acre estate in Lake George includes a teaching studio which remains open to this day. Join us as Ginny Britt highlights this remarkable woman and her contributions to music as both teacher and performer.

Thursday, July 31, 2 p.m.

Very Merry Theatre presents: *Fame*

A free family-friendly program, bring a lawn chair and join us on the Hancock House lawn as this charming children's theater group takes on the popular story of students at New York City's High School of Performing Arts.



Programs and events are made possible, in part, by the Essex County Arts Council's Cultural Assistance Program Grant with funding provided

Friday, August 1, 7 p.m.

Program: *Finding Your Revolutionary War Ancestor*

Think you don't have an ancestor who participated in the American Revolution? Well, you might be in for a surprise! Presenter Margaret Scuderi, Field Genealogist with the Daughters of the American Revolution, will lead us through the various source materials and offer tips on finding that elusive patriot.



Friday, August 8, 7 p.m.

Program: *Hunting John Wilkes Booth*

160 years ago, the most important manhunt in American History commenced. Learn how this momentous and tragic event unfolded and the important role played by New Yorkers in hunting down Booth and his co-conspirators.



Thursday, August 14, 7 p.m.
Musical Event: *Songs of the Erie Canal*

Performer and teaching artist Dave Ruch joins us for a concert featuring a treasure trove of music from Dave's deep and continuing research into the musical culture surrounding the Erie Canal.



This interactive program entertains and enlightens, combining uncommon musical instruments from canal days with great songs, fascinating regional history,

liberal doses of humor and audience participation for all ages.

Saturday, August 23, 9:30 a.m. until 2 p.m.
\$20 (includes lunch) Reservations required

Workshop: *How Does Your Garden Grow? & Plant Sale*

A high-energy workshop designed to foster knowledge, flowers and friendship, with sessions on soil preparation, perennials, native plants and harvesting the heirloom garden. Featured speaker Nancy Scarzello.



Friday, August 29, 7 p.m.

Program: *Loyal to the Crown*

Many of those living in the colonies felt a strong loyalty to the mother country. These “loyalists” felt an allegiance to the king and did not support growing Patriot violence in the colonies. Historians estimate that as many as 20% of the 2,000,000 whites in the colonies in 1775 were Loyalists Join us and learn more about New York’s Loyalist leaders and the price they ultimately would pay.



Friday, September 12, 7 p.m.

Program: *My Sincere Attachment to the Interest of My Country: John Hancock*



Merchant, statesman, and prominent Patriot of the American Revolution, Hancock used his wealth to support the colonial cause as tensions increased between colonists and Great Britain in the 1760s. His legacy is significant and his contributions many. Join us for a fascinating look at this remarkable man.

Friday, September 26, 7 p.m.

Program: *Yesteryear Ticonderoga*



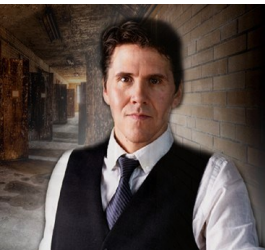
Town Historian and LARCH President Bill Dolback never fails to delight audiences with his extensive set of antique and vintage

photos that illustrate what we were and what we were to become. Join us for a trip through Yesteryear Ticonderoga.

Friday, October 17, 7 p.m.

Program: *Ghosts and Legends*
Featuring Jeff Belanger

This ghostly multi-media program will take you on a journey through the haunts in your backyard and around the world. Join us for a trip through the unusual and the unexplained.



Speaker Jeff Belanger pulls from 25 years of research and writing as a storyteller, adventurer, journalist, and the author of over a dozen books published in six languages. He is also the Emmy-nominated host, writer, and producer of the PBS and Amazon Prime series *New England Legends* and the weekly *New England Legends* podcast. He's the writer and research for the *Ghost Adventures* series, and he's been a guest on hundreds of television and radio networks and programs.

November 19 through December 31
10 a.m. until 4 p.m. (Wednesdays - Saturdays)
Festival of Trees: Holiday Memories

December 7 — 1 p.m. until 3 p.m.
Free Public Reception

Four floors of holiday décor — delightful trees, trains and displays . . . All created by volunteers in a



loving tribute to holiday traditions that showcase the very best of the season.

Your Gifts Make a Difference!



The Lower Adirondack Regional Center for History (LARCH) is a non-profit organization chartered by the New York State Board of

Regents and registered as a charitable organization in New York State. As such, donations are tax-deductible under the IRS guidelines. LARCH accepts not only monetary donations, but may also accept gifts of stocks and other tangible property.

For more information about a bequest or other gift to the Lower Adirondack Regional Center for History (LARCH), please contact us at 518-585-7868 or via e-mail to: larchny@bridgepoint1.com.

Our Mission:

With a focus on the historical, scientific and social aspects of the Adirondack Mountains, Lake Champlain and Lake George regions, the Lower Adirondack Regional Center for History (LARCH) showcases the contributions of our region to the history of New York and the United States while preserving and promoting our unique cultural history.

For additional information regarding research, donations and operating hours, please see our website at larchny.org or call 518-585-7868



LOWER ADIRONDACK REGIONAL CENTER FOR HISTORY (LARCH) & HANCOCK HOUSE LIBRARY & MUSEUM

2025 EXHIBITS & PROGRAMS

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www.larchny.org
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We offer a wide range of free programs to the community.

Contact us for additional information.

1-4/25