



Humanities@Work Program List

History Programs

1. **The Workers of the Amoskeag Manufacturing Company**—This talk sheds light on how immigrants resettling in Manchester made the transition from an agrarian to an industrial society and how that affected families, cultures, and the nature of work. Presenter: Robert Perreault.
2. **A Taste of the Old Country in the New: Franco-Americans of Manchester**—Manchester attracted immigrants from Quebec in numbers large enough to warrant the creation and maintenance of religious, educational, social, cultural, and commercial institutions that helped preserve this community's language and traditions. Presenter: Robert Perreault.
3. **Rosie's Mom: Forgotten Women of the First World War**—A generation before Rosie the Riveter, American women rolled up their sleeves and entered war industries where they ran powerful machinery and faced the sullen hostility of men in the shops. This illustrated talk reveals what impact "the Great War" had on their lives. Presenter: Carrie Brown.
4. **In the Evil Day: Individual Rights, Town Government, and the Crime that Stunned the Nation**—Touching on facets of North Country history, local governance, law enforcement, gun violence, and the human spirit, this program on the Colebrook mass shooting in 1997 describes a community that was never a passive victim but rather a brave and resilient survivor. Presenter: Richard Adams Carey.
5. **From Guns to Gramophones: Civil War and the Technology that Shaped America**—During the Civil War, northern industry produced a million and a half rifles, along with tens of thousands of pistols and carbines. This program explores the technological triumph that helped save the Union and then transformed the nation with the advent of mass consumerism. Presenter: Carrie Brown.
6. **Flight of Remembrance: World War II from the Losing Side and the Dream that Led to Aerospace Engineering**—Marina Kirsch's father and grandfather were forced to serve in the German military after fleeing Latvia to Germany before the Soviet takeover of the Baltic States. This presentation offers a seldom-shared perspective and sheds light on what life was like for a German family during the war. Presenter: Marina Kirsch.

7. **New England's Colonial Meetinghouses and their Impact on American Society**—Built mostly with tax money, colonial meeting houses served as places of worship, town meeting halls, and centers of village and town life in large and small New England communities. Presenter: Paul Wainwright.
8. **The Founding Fathers: What Were They Thinking?**—Mythology about the founders and their work at the 1787 Convention has obscured the events leading to the agreement called the Constitution. Richard Hesse explores the cast of characters called "founders," the problems they faced, and the solutions they fashioned. Presenter: Richard Hesse
9. **New Hampshire on Skis**—Take Scandinavian and Austrian immigrants, the Dartmouth Outing Club, the Cannon Mountain Tramway, the muscular Christian, and amateur tinkerers. Cover it with snow and shake, and you have all the makings of a unique New Hampshire history. Presenter: E. John B. Allen.
10. **Brewing in New Hampshire: An Informal History of Beer in the Granite State from Colonial Times to the Present**—This program explores the history of beer and ale brewing from colonial days, when it was home and tavern based, to today's modern breweries and brew pubs. Whether you're a beer connoisseur or a teetotaler, adults of all ages will enjoy this illustrated talk. Presenter: Glenn Knoblock.
11. **New Hampshire Cemeteries and Gravestones**—Rubblings, photographs, and slides illustrate the rich variety of gravestones to be found in our own neighborhoods, but they also tell long-forgotten stories of such historical events as the Great Awakening, the throat distemper epidemic, and the American Revolution. Presenter: Glenn Knoblock.
12. **Life Downstairs: British Servant Culture in Fact, Fiction, and Film**—While the intersecting lives of the rich and poor have proved popular narratives for centuries, contemporary stories have caused a resurgence of interest, especially in the British upstairs/downstairs lives of those born to or servants of the manor. Presenter: Ann McClellan.

Music, Art, and Culture Programs

13. **Songs of Emigration: Storytelling through Traditional Irish Music**—Through traditional music this program relays some of the adventures, misadventures, and emotions experienced by Irish emigrants upon their exodus from Ireland, resettlement in America, war duty, and the universal sense of homesickness felt by a stranger in a strange land. Presenter: Jordan Tirrell-Wysocki.
14. **The Use of Hip-hop Rhetoric to Combat Criminalization of Youth of Color**—This interactive program explores how hip-hop culture is used to produce art, community, and social criticism, reimagining

everyday life and investigating the role non-Western ways of knowing play out in American culture, especially urban blight, racism, and ethnic stereotyping. Presenter: Marcos Del Hierro.

15. **Old Time Rules Will Prevail: The Fiddle Contest in New Hampshire and New England**—While old time fiddle contests could evolve into endurance marathons to demonstrate who was “best,” New England fiddling today has declined, making the legacies of these contests all the more appealing. A sampling of these tunes is played during the presentation, as well as some live fiddling by the presenter. Presenter: Adam Boyce.
16. **Songs of Old New Hampshire**—Songs from the lumber camps, the decks of sailing ships, the textile mills, ballads, and love songs offer views of pre-industrial New England and a chance to hear living artifacts from the 18th and 19th centuries. Presenter: Jeff Warner.
17. **The Guitar in Latin America: Continuities, Changes and Bicultural Strumming**—This multi-media musical program showcases the guitar in a variety of musical styles: indigenous strummers in ritual festivals from Ecuador, Gaucho music from Argentina, European parlor waltzes from Venezuela, and Afro-Brazilian samba-pagode. Presenter: José Lezcano.
18. **Traditional Matryoshka Nested Doll Making: from Russia to New Hampshire**—This program explores the rich folk tradition and symbolism of Matroyshka nested dolls and examines the link between them and historical events such as the 1900 World’s Fair in Paris that made nested dolls and Fabergé eggs famous. An illustrated tour of a working doll-making factory in rural Russia follows. Presenter: Marina Forbes.
19. **Exemplary Country Estates of New Hampshire**—This program focuses attention on country estates using historic images from well-known places such as The Fells on Lake Sunapee, the Rocks in Bethlehem, and Saint-Gaudens in Cornish that in the early 20th century helped boost rural economy and promote tourism through the sale of abandoned farms to summer residents. Presenter: Cristina Ashjian.

Storytelling and Creativity Programs

20. **Yankee Ingenuity: Stories of Headstrong and Resourceful People**—This program shares a selection of historical tales—humorous and thought-provoking—about New Englanders who used their wits to solve problems and create inventions. The program includes discussion with the audience. Presenter: Jo Radner.
21. **The Quest for Happiness**—We seek happiness in well-mapped areas - accumulation of money, love, kinship ties, good causes, and life work - but what have we really learned about the nature of happiness? Presenter: Maria Sanders.

22. **Strange Terrain: How Not To "Get" Poetry & Let It Get You Instead**—This workshop is your self-help program for "getting" poetry and building confidence with the shape, images, sounds, and mysteries poems evoke. Presenter: Alice Fogel, NH Poet Laureate.
23. **(Not So) Elementary, My Dear Watson: The Popularity of Sherlock Holmes**—This presentation explores the origins of Arthur Conan Doyle's famous detective and tracks his incarnations in literature, film, advertising, and modern media in order to crack the case of the world's most popular detective. Presenter: Ann McClellan.
24. **Uprooted: Heartache and Hope in New Hampshire** *Uprooted* is a 30-minute documentary based on interviews collected during the New Hampshire Humanities *Fences & Neighbors* initiative on immigration. It tells the story of five refugees who escaped from war-torn countries to resettle in New Hampshire. Presenter: Sara Withers.
25. **If I am not for myself, who will be for me?" George Washington's Runaway Slave**—When George and Martha Washington's runaway "slave girl" eludes capture and escapes to New Hampshire her story proves a contradiction of the most basic promises embodied in our founding documents. Presenter: Gwendolyn Quezaire-Presutti performs in character as Oney Judge.
26. **Oil, Ice, and Bone; Arctic Whaler Nathaniel Ransom**—This program tells the story of two whaling vessels rediscovered in 2016 and how they came to be lost in the greatest whaling disaster in American history. Arctic whaler Nathaniel Ransom served as third mate of one of the ships abandoned in 1871 and kept a journal of his adventures. Presenter: Helen Frink.
27. **The Finest Hours: The True Story Behind the U.S. Coast Guard's Most Daring Sea Rescue**—On February 18, 1952, a ferocious nor'easter split in half a 500-foot long oil tanker a mile off the coast of Cape Cod. Incredibly, just twenty miles away, a second oil tanker, the Fort Mercer, also split in half. On both tankers people were trapped on the severed bows and sterns, and all four sections were sinking in 60-foot seas. Thus began a life and death drama of survival, heroism, and a series of tragic mistakes. Presenter: Michael Tougias.

For more information about New Hampshire Humanities or *Humanities@Work*, please visit our website: www.nhhumanities.org