



MEDIA RELEASE

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Hi-res images available

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Family Day at Hancock Shaker Village

Boston Children's Museum and Hancock Shaker Village team up to provide special children's activities on Saturday June 28

PITTSFIELD, MA --- Family Day at Hancock Shaker Village has a special twist this year – the museum has teamed up with Boston Children's Museum to provide a variety of special programming just for kids.

Young visitors can compare and contrast Victorian dollhouse furniture from Boston with Shaker miniature furniture, and even design their own dream house project with the help of museum staff!

In addition to donning white gloves to handle actual artifacts from both museums, just as the professionals do, children can participate in a variety of make-and-take crafts and other special activities from 1 pm to 3 pm on Saturday.

Family Day also coincides with the return of the popular Young Shakers tour, a 90-minute Shaker “experience” specially designed for kids ages 8 to 14. Go to Shaker Adventures under Programs & Events on our website for more information. The Young Shakers tour will be held daily at 11 am beginning Saturday, June 28, through Sunday, August 31.

Now that the gardens are in full swing, there’s so much for families to see and do outdoors at Hancock Shaker Village, including visiting the kid-friendly barnyard animals in the world-famous Round Stone Barn. The new Please Touch Room, a bedroom in the Brick Dwelling, allows visitors of all ages to experience furniture and artifacts just as Shakers did, and the ever-popular Discovery Room in the 1910 Barn provides a host of hands-on activities for children, including the chance to don Shaker outfits, milk the big plastic cow, weave on a loom and more.

Talented costumed interpreters conduct a concert of Shaker music and dance every day at 1:30 pm, and also demonstrate crafts and other Shaker activities in many of the Village’s 20 historic buildings throughout the day. There is also a demonstration of the Village’s water-powered turbine daily at 1 pm.

Children 12 and under are always admitted free to Hancock Shaker Village, courtesy of Berkshire Bank. Regular adult admission is \$18.

About Hancock Shaker Village

Located at the Intersections of Routes 41 and 20 in Pittsfield, MA, Hancock Shaker Village is open daily from 10 am to 4 pm. Starting Monday, June 30, hours are 10 am to 5 pm daily.

For almost 200 years, from 1784 until 1959, Hancock Shaker Village, known then as The City of Peace, was home to hundreds of Believers in Christ's Second Appearing, a close-knit community commonly referred to as Shakers because of the whirling, quaking and "shaking" they exhibited during their religious services.

Since 1960, the historic Village has been open to the public as a living-history museum presenting the Shaker legacy. While only a few Shakers are still living (and none live at Hancock), they're best-known today for their simple and elegant furniture and many ingenious inventions.

Located on 750 acres in the beautiful Berkshires of Massachusetts, Hancock Shaker Village is accredited by the American Association of Museums. In its collection are more than 20,000 authentic artifacts. The Village offers visitors a rotating schedule of exhibits, programs and workshops, a working farm with heritage-breed livestock and extensive gardens of heirloom vegetables, flowers and herbs, tours for individuals and groups, miles of hiking trails and a picnic area.

The Village Harvest Café at Hancock Shaker Village is open daily for lunch. The Village Store (also online), is open daily during visitor hours and features unique gift items and locally made products. Visit www.hancockshakervillage.org for more information.