



# WESTPORT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## 2017 PROGRAMS



*Westport Historical Society*

25 Avery Place, Westport, CT 06880

[westporthistory.org](http://westporthistory.org)

## What is WHS?

The Westport Historical Society is an educational museum and non-profit organization dedicated to preserving, presenting and celebrating the history of Westport Connecticut.

Our programs revolve around unlocking the past and bringing it to life. All of our programs are inquiry based and revolve around revised social studies curriculum.



## Why do we charge?

WHS is committed to increasing awareness of the importance of preserving our town's heritage and its historic buildings and landmarks.

WHS is a private, non-profit 501 (c)(3) organization, sustained entirely by the generous support of members, donors, grants, program revenues, sponsors and endowment income. Without public contributions WHS could not bring exciting historical events to the community.

General admission to the museum is free everyday although donations are always appreciated.

## Visit Us in Person or Online!



Monday through Friday

10 - 4pm

Saturday

12 - 4pm

[westporthistory.org](http://westporthistory.org)

## Directions and Parking

The Westport Historical Society is located at 25 Avery Place in Westport Connecticut, directly across from Town Hall.

Parking is limited on site, but visitors may park in the Town Hall parking lot or street side on Myrtle Avenue.

Handicap parking is available as well as a handicap entrance ramp.

## Walking Tours

During the summer and fall months walking tours take place throughout areas of Westport highlighting different topics and time periods.



2017 Tours include:

### Old Saugatuck

Created to give participants insights into Westport's history and show how resilient Westporters have been in retaining the character of our town, even as the landscape changes and Saugatuck undergoes an impressive renaissance.

### Historic Kings Highway North

An opportunity for history buffs to learn about one of the town's oldest settled areas, some homes of which date to the mid-1700s.

### Business District: National Hall & Post Road East

Visit the town's Business Center District and discover facts about such historic sites as National Hall and the former Westport Bank & Trust Company building. Both are listed on the National Register of Historic Places.



\$8 Members, \$10 Non-Members

Check our website for specific dates and times for walking tours.

## Schedule a Program

Programs must be scheduled at least a week ahead of time to prepare materials. Custom programs must be scheduled two weeks before the desired date.



Contact the education and programming department by phone at (203) 222-1424 ext. 111 or by email at [ncarpenter@westporthistory.org](mailto:ncarpenter@westporthistory.org) to schedule a program.

Please have the following ready when you contact WHS:

- Requested Program
- Desired Date and Time
- Grade Level/Age
- Number of Participants
- Special Needs Requirements
- Allergies

In the case of a cancellation contact WHS at least 24 hours in advance.

## Field Trips

WHS' award winning field trips on Westport's history are accessible for every age group. Field trips are available Monday through Friday during normal business hours, though special arrangements can be made if your group needs an earlier time.



Field trips cost \$10 per student with four complimentary chaperone admissions. Financial aid can be arranged in special circumstances.

In the past field trips have focused on geography, transportation, family roles, industry, and schools. Each visit can be customized to fit the particular subject students are studying.

## Family Guides

Grab a guide when you come into the museum to explore on your own, or ask for a docent to lead you. Guided adventures include flora and fauna, peculiar patterns, and architecture, with more available soon.



Family guides are available at the front desk of the historical society free of charge.

## Saturday with the Society

The first and third Saturday morning of every month families are invited to gather for activities related to Westport's history. Embroidery, iSpy and candle making all await at the society.

\$10 for Members  
\$12 for Non-Members  
\$5 Sibling Discount



# Scouts

The Westport Historical Society offers programs for Brownies, Junior Girl Scouts, Cub and Boy Scouts, enabling participants to complete many badges. Each program includes a fun hands-on activity and stimulating educational presentations and learning activities. Some badges fulfilled in the past include:

- Inside Government
- Global Awareness
- Model Citizen
- Finding Your Way
- Local Lore
- My Heritage
- Folk Arts



Additionally, custom programs can be created to meet the interests of the specific scout groups.

To register contact the education and programming department.

Scout Programs cost \$10 per scout, including materials and a snack.

# Homeschoolers

Homeschoolers are always welcome at all WHS programs. Tours and programs specifically designed for homeschool families are available on request.



Homeschool programs cost \$10 per child with one complimentary chaperone admission.

Children age 4 and under may participate without charge.

# History on Wheels

Host a WHS educator at your location to lead participants through a short 30-45 minute historical activity. Costumes, games and artifacts introduce a passion for local and global history! The programs listed below are a selection of the activities available for a traveling “History on Wheels” program.

More program themes are added periodically and WHS Educators are happy to work with facilitators to create custom programs.

The program fee is \$50 for a group maximum of 15.

## Changing Neighborhoods.

Westport’s neighborhoods are vibrant and help define the community that lives here now. Explore what your neighborhood might have looked like, as well as your neighbors, in this program looking at historic neighborhoods!

## Costumes

Clothes! It’s what everyone’s wearing! Explore the costumes of the past by examining actually costumes from different periods. Student will compare the differences and similarities between men and women’s clothes from several walks of life. The Saugatuck Button Factory will also be used as an example of the historic local clothing industry.

## Fun and Games

Play with games from the past as you explore what children and adults did to pass the time before television and the internet. Try your luck at cup-and-ball, and see if you can outwit your opponent at Nine Men’s Morris.



## School Days

Students will learn how to examine photographs across time to uncover clues about Westport’s schools. They will compare changes in school house interiors and architectural features. Artifacts such as slate boards and horn books will be examined, as well as the first private school master in Westport, Ebenezer Adams.

## Illusion and Mystery

Illusion, magic and mystery were common during the Victorian period, for both men and women. Learn about the Winslow House and the grand parties held there and the role of fans and their secret language. Children dealt with illusion and mystery through many of their toys including thaumatrope’s and cards. Discuss how entertainment has changed overtime in Westport and Connecticut as a whole.