

2018 Season Program Schedule

Programs take place at the Bidwell House Museum, 100 Art School Road, Monterey,
unless otherwise noted.

MAY

May 27

Concert and Opening Celebration. *A Silver Dagger: Exploring Women's History Through Folksongs with Diane Taraz*— Passed down for generations, folk songs show centuries of attitudes and beliefs that have fascinating echoes in our lives today. Through music that brims with energy and humor, determination and despair, Diane looks at ordinary people in centuries past, finding in old songs many clues to the inner lives of people in Europe and America from about 1500 to 1850. Women left few written records, but we can learn much about them through the music they used to speed their work, lift their spirits, or ease an aching heart. With a sparkling voice and wry humor, Diane performs songs of love, childbirth, marriage and adventure in traditional dress and accompanies her singing with lap dulcimer and English guitar (the type of instrument played by women back then). She often sings with voice alone, the most authentic style, exploring the joys and sorrows of a world lit only by fire. A reception to celebrate the end of a successful capital campaign and the new completed restoration of the house will follow the concert. Refreshments will be served. No charge but donations are welcome. 3 p.m.

Please note: the museum is closed for tours this day.

May 28

Opening Day for House Tours! The first tour begins at 11 a.m. and they run every hour on the hour with the last tour beginning at 3 p.m.

JUNE

June 2

History Talk -*The Silver Mountain: The Forgotten Story of the Most Extraordinary Place in all of Colonial America*. A talk by John Demos, Samuel Knight Professor of American History Emeritus at Yale University and award-winning author. Listen as Professor Demos describes the remarkable history of Potosi during its heyday as the world's greatest silver mine and fulcrum of the Spanish colonial empire. Founded in what is today southern Bolivia during the mid-16th century, Potosi quickly rose to become by far the largest human community in the Western Hemisphere, a source of wealth that transformed the international economy, and, not least, the mother of all boom towns. But it was, at the same time, virtually genocidal for the indigenous population. Thus it stands, in all major respects, as an epitome of the massively consequential invasion of the New World by the Old. Held at Tyringham Union Church, Main Road, Tyringham. Members: \$10. Non-members: \$15. 10 a.m.

June 3

Birding Beyond Your Backyard with Doug Bruce and Tom Ryan. Designed for beginning birders who would like to expand their birding knowledge, this talk and walk will help take you from feeder birds (blue jays, chickadees) to the birds of field and forest. Can't tell a robin from a crow? No shame—we'll show you how we do it. This walk is all about birds of the upland forest: we'll walk the trails on the Bidwell House Museum's 190+ acres of beautiful hemlock-hardwood forest. Footing is good; very moderate elevation changes. Wear good shoes; bring water and a snack. FREE. 9 – 11 a.m.

June 9

History Talk - *Ministers, Merchants and River Gods: The Williamses of Western Massachusetts, 1680-1780.*

A talk by Kevin Sweeney, Professor Emeritus of History and American Studies at Amherst College.

Noteworthy and notorious, the Williamses of Deerfield and Stockbridge were the most prominent of the powerful eighteenth-century families that came to be known as the River Gods. The story of the Williams clan's rise and fall was shaped by and helped shape the western region's relations with Native peoples, military establishment, distinctive religious traditions, and critical political ties to Boston. Held at Tyringham Union Church, Main Road, Tyringham. Members: \$10. Non-members: \$15. 10 a.m.

June 16

Archaeology on Bidwell Grounds. What artifacts were found outside the Reverend's door and what do they tell us about the lives of the former residents of the house? Join University of Massachusetts Archaeologist Kerry Lynch for a walk and talk as she reports on the August 2017 archaeological dig at the Museum, the types of items that were found and their significance to the 18th, 19th and 20th century residents of the Bidwell House. Members: \$10. Non-members: \$15. 10 a.m.

June 16

Retracing Native Histories on the Landscape – Guided Walk

Join guide Rob Hoogs to explore a new interpretive trail as you retrace the steps of the Native Americans—specifically the local Stockbridge Band of the Mohican Tribe—who lived and hunted in this area for thousands of years. Adults \$15, Seniors \$10 and children are free. This fee includes a guided- tour of the house either before or after the guided walk. 1 p.m.

June 30

History Talk- *The Sun Ever Shines on Them: The Global Reach of William and Jemima Bidwell Partridge's Family.*

A talk by Bidwell descendant, Russ Taylor. William Partridge's brother, Dr. Oliver Partridge of Stockbridge, marveled that, with the exception of 40 minutes each day, the sun shone somewhere on a member of William and Jemima's family. From missions in the Middle East and the Sandwich Islands to the establishment of religious communities in the Midwest, the impact of some of Rev. Adonijah's grandchildren has been vast ... and enduring. Held at Tyringham Union Church, Main Road, Tyringham. Members: \$10. Non-members: \$15. 10 a.m.

JULY

July 7

Bidwell Country Fair

A free community celebration with colonial re-enactors, live music by Moonshine Holler, food & drink, children's activities, historic craft demonstrations, garden tours and more... For details and individual event times, please check www.bidwellhousemuseum.org or call 413-528-6888. Supported in part by a grant from the Tyringham Cultural Council. 1 – 4 p.m. Free.

Please note: the museum is closed for tours this day.

July 8

Open-Mic Fest at the Bidwell House Museum

Whether you are musician who loves to play or a music lover who enjoys listening to a live band, join us for the first annual Open-Mic Fest at the Bidwell House Museum. From 4:30-6:30 p.m. show us what you've got with open mic for any musician interested in playing. Then from 6:30-8:30 p.m. enjoy the rockin' sounds of *The BTU's* while relaxing in the park-like setting in front of the Museum. Food and drink will be available for purchase. \$10 per car.

July 14

One Woman Play: *A Revolution of Her Own!* Deborah Sampson

Deborah Sampson was the first woman to enlist, to fight and to be honorably discharged from the American Military. Travel back in time as you watch Judith Kalaora portray this American Heroine and veteran of the Revolutionary War. Sponsored in part by Salisbury Bank and Trust Company. 2 p.m. Tickets \$10 for members and \$15 for non-members if purchased in advance, \$15 for members and \$20 for non-members if purchased the day of the performance. Children under 12 are free. For more information check www.bidwellhousemuseum.org or call 413-528-6888.

July 21

History Talk- *Frenemies: Relationships between European colonists and Mohicans in 18th Century New England.* Join Judy Putnam Hartley, Stockbridge Munsee Mohican tribal elder, as she discusses the “friendly” Indians who encountered—and fed— Henry Hudson in 1609. By the time the Mohicans moved to Stockbridge in the 1730s they had a history of navigating European interactions. The Mohicans willingly served alongside the Colonists in wartime yet the failure of English-Mohican shared governance in Stockbridge and unsatisfactory court petitions regarding land disputes repeatedly called into question whether the relationship was one of friends, enemies or both? Ms. Hartley will share some of her ancestors’ own words in reflecting on these encounters. Held at Tyringham Union Church, Main Road, Tyringham. Members: \$10. Non-members: \$15. 10 a.m.

July 21

Retracing Native Histories on the Landscape – Guided Walk

Join guide Rob Hoogs to explore a new interpretive trail as you retrace the steps of the Native Americans—specifically the local Stockbridge Band of the Mohican Tribe—who lived and hunted in this area for thousands of years. Adults \$15, Seniors \$8 and children are free. This fee includes a guided house tour either before or after the guided walk. 1 p.m.

AUGUST

August 4

Garden Party to benefit the museum to be held at the historic Art School in Monterey. Live music, cocktails, hors d’oeuvres, silent and live auction. 4 – 7 p.m. For tickets: [413-528-6888](tel:413-528-6888).

August 25

Retracing Native Histories on the Landscape – Guided Walk

Join guide Rob Hoogs to explore a new interpretive trail as you retrace the steps of the Native Americans—specifically the local Stockbridge Band of the Mohican Tribe—who lived and hunted in this area for thousands of years. Adults \$15, Seniors \$8 and children are free. This fee includes a guided house tour either before or after the guided walk. 1 p.m.

SEPTEMBER

September 8

Housatonic Heritage Walk: *Royal Hemlock Trail Hike in the Steps of the Early Settlers.* A guided walk on Bidwell lands as well as the BNRC's Hudson-Howard property, tracing the route of the early settlers of Township No. 1 to their first meeting house on the hill near the Bidwell House Museum. Richard Greene will lead the group on the old roadways, past foundations and stone walls of long-ago homesteads, and explore flora and fauna along the way. Please dress for the weather and wear hiking boots. Terrain is steep and rocky in a few places. Bring water. Free. 10 a.m.

September 15

Housatonic Heritage Walk: *Nature in Autumn*, a talk and walk with Tom Tynning, Professor of Environmental Science at Berkshire Community College, exploring the autumn fauna and flora of the Berkshire upland forest. Please dress for the weather and terrain and bring water. Free. 10 a.m.

September 22

Housatonic Heritage Walk: *Retracing Native Histories on the Landscape*. Retrace the steps of the Native Americans—specifically the local Stockbridge Band of the Mohican Tribe—who lived and hunted in this area for thousands of years. Join Rob Hoogs for a two hour exploration of the 16th century Native American landscape on a new interpretive trail highlighting the Native Americans’ use and management of the woodlands; with displays and re-creations of a hunting village, medicinal herbs, the “Three Sisters,” maple sugaring and archaeology. Please dress for the weather, wear hiking boots and bring water. Free. 10 a.m.

September 29

Housatonic Heritage Walk: *Forestry on the Bidwell Grounds*

Join local DCR Service Forester Tom Ryan as he introduces you to the different types of woodlands around the Bidwell House Museum and explains the best practices for forest management. Please dress for the weather, wear hiking boots and bring water and a snack. Free. 10 a.m.

NOVEMBER

November 17

Colonial Thanksgiving Party: Benefit for the museum with live music, refreshments, silent auction and good cheer. 4 – 7 p.m. For tickets: [413-528-6888](tel:413-528-6888).