VIRTUAL TOURS CONTINUE SUCCESSFUL RUN

Although KHS remained closed to onsite visitors in May, staff hosted eight virtual tours. Topics included scrapbooks from our archives, World War II, the Great Depression, traditional music, and more. These tours, which are available on Facebook and our Virtual Visitor website page, have had more than 11,000 views!

THE KHS NOT-DERBY DAY SPECIAL

The Run for the Roses may have been postponed this year, but KHS and the KHS Foundation produced a virtual taste of Kentucky Derby traditions with the “KHS Not-Derby Day Special,” featuring Gov. Andy Beshear, Food Network star Damaris Phillips, and KHS staff. The video, which can be viewed on KHS’s Facebook page and our YouTube channel, reached nearly 145,000 people! The KHS Foundation provided funds for the broadcast.

KHS RECEIVES CARES ACT FUNDS

Kentucky Humanities awarded KHS with CARES Acts grants to support family history programs and the Kentucky Oral History Commission, which will collect oral histories about the COVID-19 pandemic.

BECOME A “VIRTUAL VISITOR”

Don't forget to connect with KHS on our website’s Virtual Visitor page! In addition to showcasing KHS’s digital experiences it also includes a listing of more than 25 museums and local history organizations offering online tours and more. See history.ky.gov/virtualvisitor.

KENTUCKY STUDENTS GOING TO NATIONAL HISTORY DAY!

Fifty-four Kentucky students from grades 6-12 are participating in National History Day’s national contest! Awards will be announced June 18.

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MAY VIRTUAL ENGAGEMENT

Virtual Tours:
- Peak live views: 259
- People reached: 31,401
- Click to play: 2233
- Comments: 379
- Shares: 131

2600 views on YouTube

MAY SOCIAL MEDIA ENGAGEMENT

Facebook:
- New followers: 410
- Reach increase*: 129%
- Engagement increase*: 10%
- Comments: 1223 (*44%)
- Shares: 825 (*494%)

Twitter:
- New followers: 56
- Clicks: 365 (9% increase*)
- Retweets: 286 (15% increase*)

*Denotes increase from April to May

INaugural Register Derby

After a three-week contest, ending May 2nd, Register readers selected "Underground Wilderness? Mammoth Cave National Park, the Wilderness Act of 1964, and the Limits of Preservation" by Alyssa Warrick. Issue: Vol. 116, Nos. 3 & 4
Summer/Autumn 2018. Congrats Alyssa!
KY ORAL HISTORY COMMISSION APPROVES NEW GRANTS
KOHC approved four new grants in May. Project topics include unfair housing in Louisville and the LGBTQ experience in Kentucky. Guidelines for the next round of grants will be posted on the KHS website in mid-July.

KHS SUMMER CAMPS ARE VIRTUAL
KHS summer camps are virtual this year! Registration is open and campers’ activity kits can be shipped to your home or picked up at KHS. Our educators will meet online with campers each day to demonstrate activities, lead museum tours, and teach them about Kentucky’s rich history. For information, contact Julie.Sawnor@ky.gov.

CIVIL WAR GOVERNORS PROJECT SEES STEADY GROWTH
KHS’s Civil War Governors of Kentucky Digital Documentary Edition (CWGK) continues to see steady growth! The CWGK special issue of The Register of the Kentucky Historical Society, coupled with other outreach and Civil War virtual tours, has led to increased site visitation and new users. To explore this digital project, see discovery.civilwargovernors.org/.

NEED RESEARCH HELP?
Want to dig into that new family history project? Our staff is helping with research requests! Call our reference desk at (502) 782-8080.

KHS AND EASTERN STANDARD ON WEKU
KHS continues to facilitate interviews for WEKU’s talk show, “Eastern Standard.” Interviews included Dr. Jessica Wilkerson, a member of The Register of the Kentucky Historical Society’s editorial advisory board, who discussed women’s activism in Appalachia; Register author Dr. Caroline Peyton, about the Maxey Flats nuclear waste site; and Dr. John Davis, who provided historical context about the COVID pandemic. The interviews are archived at https://esweku.org.

ONLINE LEARNING WITH SCHOOL GROUPS
Staff hosted multiple online school programs last month, including a week-long experience for 55 middle school students in Johnson County and a virtual visit with students from Clark County. Students analyzed artifacts from our collection, completed hands-on projects, participated in virtual tours of KHS and studied political campaigns.

NEW HISTORICAL MARKERS, APP TOUR
KHS approved 15 new historical markers in May. Topics include the shipbuilding tradition in Maysville, the enslaved community near Florence and a Christian County suffragist. KHS added new entries on the ExploreKYHistory mobile app, including a tour of “Kentucky’s National Register of Historic Places.” In May, the ExploreKYHistory app had 9,691 new users!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!
KHS greatly appreciates those who became members in May! We recognize that these are difficult times, and we are thankful for everyone who continues to support Kentucky history. To become a member, visit history.ky.gov/get-involved/join/