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## York County History Center Comes Alive in Downtown York Grand Opening Celebration August 2nd – 4<sup>th</sup>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

York, PA (July 25, 2024) – The York County History Center invites the community to its grand opening celebration from **Friday, August 2, through Sunday, August 4, 2024**. During the three-day event, the History Center will offer discounted memberships and free admission to its new state-of-the-art headquarters at 121 North Pershing Avenue.

The new York County History Center boasts 15,000 square feet of dedicated exhibit space offering a dynamic and inclusive experience. The Center is located near the Colonial Complex creating a central downtown York destination for history enthusiasts and tourists. The History Center promises to ignite community pride and engagement with the region’s rich history, especially as York County celebrates its **275<sup>th</sup> anniversary** this year. The county was founded on **August 19, 1749**.

“We are incredibly excited to open the doors to our new home and share the captivating story of York County with the community,” said Joan Mummert, president and CEO of the York County History Center. “This grand opening is a testament to the dedication and support of our community, and we can’t wait to celebrate with everyone!”

The grand opening festivities will occur from **Friday, August 2 — Sunday, August 4, 2024**. The public is invited to join the celebration and experience the Center’s new interactive exhibits, cutting edge displays, and engaging programs. The event will have something for everyone, from history buffs to families seeking fun-filled activities. Join us as we embark on a new chapter in preserving and sharing York County’s heritage.  
*(Grand Opening schedule below)*

In addition to fascinating exhibits, the History Center’s new Library and Archives features an extensive and varied collection covering 300 years of York County history. Visitors can use the resource to research genealogy and family history, local lore, community organizations, historic sites, and military history.

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The York County History Center is committed to celebrating the vast tapestry of York County's history. The people whose contributions are highlighted in the new exhibit include: Loretta Claiborne, the York native who has become a global icon and ambassador with Special Olympics; Voni Grimes, a longtime community leader who provided an oral history of his military service; and Dr. George Bowles, the first male black student to graduate from York High who went on to become a well-known physician and helped founded what became the Crispus Attucks Community Center.

The History Center focuses on incorporating diverse perspectives into its exhibits. This commitment ensures a more enriching and inclusive experience for all visitors.

"We've intentionally woven the diverse threads of York County's history into the fabric of this museum," said Joan Mummert, President and CEO of the History Center. "The History Makers Tower is a powerful symbol of our commitment to inclusivity, and it sets the stage for an experience where everyone feels welcomed and represented."

#### **York County History Center Grand Opening Schedule:**

- **August 2nd — First Friday:** The celebration will kick off with extended hours from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Enjoy live music by pianist Michael Gilliland, a book signing with local author Jim McClure, and FREE admission to the York County History Center.
- **August 3rd — Saturday Spectacular:** Immerse yourself in a vibrant community celebration from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. In addition to FREE admission to the Center, experience cultural performances, fun activities for kids, and food trucks.
- **August 4th — Sunday Funday:** Enjoy "Sundays in the City," a new initiative encouraging local businesses to extend their Sunday hours. FREE admission to the Center from 12 p.m. – 4 p.m. and Perrydell Ice Cream Truck.

#### **About the York County History Center**

The York County History Center inspires the exploration of the history, people, and culture of our county, state, and nation. As a non-profit organization, it utilizes collections, historic sites, and museums to help tell the American Story with a focus on diversity and inclusion.

Learn more: [www.yorkhistorycenter.org/new-museum](http://www.yorkhistorycenter.org/new-museum)

Grand Opening Schedule: <https://www.yorkhistorycenter.org/event/grand-opening-celebration>

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