

For Immediate Release
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History Comes Alive with Lawrenceville Historic House Tour

Two-day "Snapshots Through Time" house tour touted as 'History-filled Extravaganza'

PITTSBURGH – Get ready for a house tour like no other! The Lawrenceville neighborhood of Pittsburgh is billing its annual house tour as a history-filled extravaganza in honor of the city's 250th birthday.

This year's house tour, "Snapshots Through Time," expands to two days – October 4 and 5 – and features 21 homes, special sites and re-enactors depicting Lawrenceville history.

"The homes featured represent either specific individuals or times in Lawrenceville's history: past, present and future," said Kate Bayer, organizing committee member. "This tour is going to be great fun for history buffs, architectural lovers, area residents, visitors, and curious-minded folks, too," she added.

In addition to the featured homes, there will be a variety of historical reenactments and living history characterizations throughout Lawrenceville's diverse neighborhood. Reenactments and performances will include a young George Washington, Stephen Foster, the 9th Pennsylvania Civil War reenactment group, a wake for a young girl killed in the explosion at the Arsenal, Fritzie Zivic (post World War II welterweight boxer), plus several re-enactors who will portray immigrants in the industrialization era and the 1936 flood victims.

Ms. Bayer notes that the homes featured on Saturday, Oct. 4 during the Candlelight Tour (5-9 PM) will not be the same homes spotlighted during the Sunday afternoon tour (noon-5 PM). Trolley service will be available to shuttle people from place to place. In addition, a variety of treats sponsored by local businesses will be offered in each home so visitors can experience Lawrenceville "hospitality." Many of Lawrenceville's businesses will also join the festivities by offering discounts on meals, drinks or items purchased during the tour.

Advanced tickets are available beginning Sept. 8 at the following Lawrenceville locations: Jay Design, Perk Me Up, Gallery on 43rd, Dandelions and CoCa Café – all located on Butler Street with the exception of Gallery on 43rd. Advance ticket price is \$10 for one day and \$15 for two. Tickets may also be purchased at the Teamsters Temple located at 4701 Butler Street on the days of the tour for \$15 for one day and \$20 for two.

During the Lawrenceville Historic House Tour, the Teamsters Temple will also be open for individuals who have interesting stories or pictures of Lawrenceville that they would like to share and record for posterity. In addition, the Teamsters Temple will host various community groups who wish to make available to tour-goers information about life in Lawrenceville today. Admission to the Teamsters Temple is free, as is riding Molly's Trolleys to the various homes and events.

For more info about the Lawrenceville Historic House Tour, go to www.lawrencevillehousetour.org or contact Kate Bayer at kb_4839@yahoo.com.

BACKGROUND

Pittsburgh 250 has awarded a Community Connections Grassroots grant to the Lawrenceville Historic Society and the Lawrenceville Stakeholders for expansion of their annual house tour in 2008. Community Connections is a grassroots initiative of Pittsburgh 250 supporting projects that encourage civic engagement throughout Southwestern Pennsylvania, commemorate the region's 250th anniversary, and providing lasting value to communities and the region as whole. Additional sponsors for this year's tour are Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh and the Lawrenceville Corporation.