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Founding Forward

Explore the past and create the future
at Liberty Hall Historic Site

If you feel there has been an error or omission made for FY24-25, please contact director@libertyhall.org.

ANNUAL REPORT
2024 - 2025



Dear Friends,

Liberty Hall Historic Site has had an incredible year. Despite various challenges, including changes in Executive Director and near record-breaking flooding, the staff and volunteers at Liberty Hall have continued to deliver exceptional programming that captures the unique history of the site. Their professionalism and passion for the site is evident in everything that they do. The NSCDA-KY deserve recognition as well. They have been exceptional stewards and have guided Liberty Hall through times of uncertainty with poise and dignity. Special thanks are due to the board members and volunteers who go above and beyond to support Liberty Hall and its staff.



Historic Flood of 2025 - LHHS Garden

I have only just completed my third month here, my tenure as Executive Director only just beginning, but I have been so impressed by the sense of community that suffuses this site. Sometimes that looks like a casual "Hello!" from a neighbor, exchanging pleasantries as we bump into each other in the gardens. At other times, more trying times, that community can be seen filling sandbags or helping to move artifacts and possessions to higher ground. It seems to me that these values, a focus on community and civic engagement, are exactly what Liberty Hall was first built upon.

This last year, Liberty Hall hosted over thirty-five programs. That translates into a unique program every week and a half! These included Irish Routes (a collaboration with Mortimer Bibb's Public House), Statehood Day Brunch, and the extremely-popular Grey Lady Tours. Many of these programs, including Firefly Friday, Slice of History Trivia, and Earth Day, were offered at no cost to the visitors. Removing economic barriers to entry, allowing all people to freely explore the beauty of Liberty Hall, remains a key focus of our team. Special thanks to all of our donors, community partners, and sponsors. Your support enables that mission and allows our community to continue to grow. Thank you!

I feel extremely optimistic as I look into the future. Liberty Hall is on sound footing. We are primed for future growth, including the development of new museum spaces, programs, and community partnerships. There is so much to look forward to. I hope that you're as excited as I am, and that you'll plan to visit us soon, whether for a tour, program, or a stroll in the garden. We'll be here to welcome you.

Sam Dunn, Executive Director

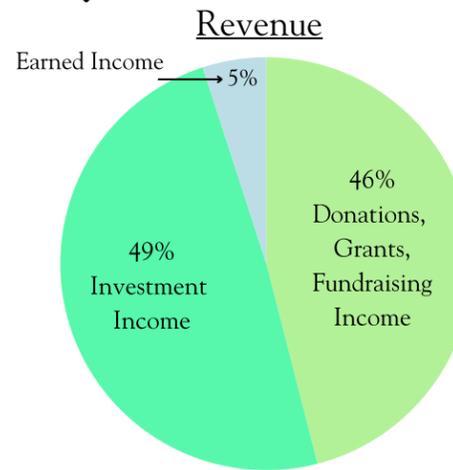
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 Nicole Bennett, Marketing Specialist
 Elizabeth Bowling, Education Specialist
 Hunter Bryant, Gardener
 Isabel Cochran, Garden Curator
 Judy Collins, Bookkeeper
 Sam Dunn, Executive Director
 Matt Hall, Interpreter
 Jacob Lilly, Interpreter
 Kelly Sparrow, Interpreter
 John Walker, Curator of Collections
 Sophi Watson, Interpreter & Site Caretaker

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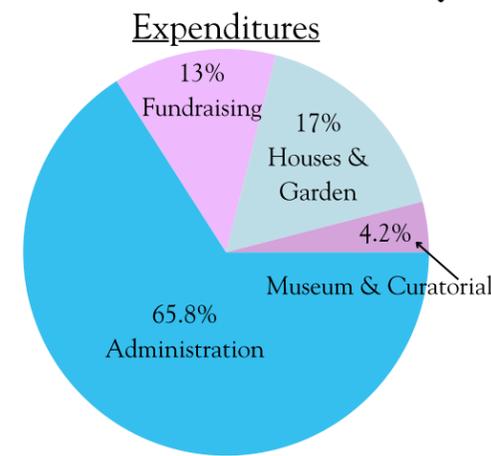
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Stephanie Griffin	Julie Davis
Louise Medaris	

THIS YEAR AT LIBERTY HALL



NSCDA-KY & LHHS Combined Revenue and Expenditures Fiscal Year 2024-2025

Income and Expense amounts are based on audited figures. Investment Income includes the amount drawn from invested funds and unrealized gains or losses. LHHS does not use a direct cost accounting method; therefore, administrative expenses are not distributed across programs.



Programs

- 120: Cool KY Counties Open House with Frazier Museum
- A Toast to Kentucky at Liberty Hall
- Chocolate Stroll with Downtown Frankfort Inc.
- Christmas Magic
- Earth Day with Together Frankfort
- Exhibit Open House
- Firefly Friday
- Frankfort's 4th of July Celebration
- Frankfort Heritage Lecture Series: Browns & Beginnings
- Foam Party with Paul Sawyer Public Library
- Forward into the Light! Fighting for Gender Equality in the 21st Century
- Garden Volunteer Days
- Ghost Hunt
- Giant Science with Paul Sawyer Public Library
- Gray Lady Ghost Tours
- Growing in Gratitude: A Children's Workshop in the Thanksgiving Tradition
- Holiday Tea at Orlando Brown House
- Indigenous Peoples' Day Community Art Project
- Irish Routes: The Emerald Isle to The Bluegrass
- Kentucky Culture Symposium: Common Wealth
- KHS Summer Camp
- Kids Day at Franklin County Farmers Market
- Liberty Hall on the Mall with Na Skylark
- Making a Change: Lessons from Martin Luther King Jr.
- Museum After Dark with Capital City Museum
- Planting a Seed: A Children's Workshop for Spring Equinox
- Planting Native Shrubs for Pollinators with Beate Popkin
- Remove Invasives Partnership - Community Work Party
- Raptor Rehab Show with Paul Sawyer Public Library
- Shining Light on Solstice: A Children's Winter Workshop
- Slice of History Trivia Night
- Sprinklers in the Garden with Paul Sawyer Public Library
- Statehood Day Brunch
- Storybook Trail
- The Great Backyard Bird Count Mini Workshop
- Volunteer Garden Blitz
- Women's Equality Day
- Yoga in the Garden

Exhibitions

- Bluegrass Guilford Limner
- Conscious Merit & Virtue: Civic Life at Liberty Hall
- Liberty Hall-oween
- Liberty Hall-idays



Curator John Walker and Education Specialist Elizabeth Bowling putting together an exhibit.

Mobile Exhibits

- 120: Cool KY Counties Open House with Frazier Museum
- Chocolate Stroll with Downtown Frankfort Inc.
- Irish Routes: The Emerald Isles to the Bluegrass



Conscious Merit & Virtue Exhibit Artifacts from LHHS Collection.



502.227.2560
www.libertyhall.org



[@libertyhallhistoricsite](https://www.instagram.com/libertyhallhistoricsite) [f](https://www.facebook.com/libertyhallhistoricsite)

Front Cover Image: Liberty Hall circa 1960

THE NEED TO PRESERVE

ARCS is a long-term plan for sustainability of Liberty Hall Historic Site. ARCS stands for Assess, Restore, Conserve, and Sustain. The ARCS plan encompasses the preservation of the entirety of Liberty Hall Historic Site. It includes all of the physical structures, collections, and grounds, as well as the financial ability to operate the Site as a museum in perpetuity.

Liberty Hall, 1796



LHHS represents one of the fascinating stories of KY's history. Here you can imagine indigenous tribes tracking herds, colonial officers discussing politics, devoted workers - both enslaved and free- building a new commonwealth, and civic leaders founding a capital city. Properties of such importance require investment and diligence to keep history alive. As owners of a National Historic Landmark, the NSCDA-KY holds the highest standard for conservation and preservation. Those goals are ongoing and expensive. You can help build an endowment fund that will maintain LHHS well into the future.

In order to maintain LHHS in perpetuity we ask for endowment gifts to sustain our major maintenance of LHHS. With our structures at the ripe old age of 200+ years, there are always repairs and maintenance that are difficult to fund with the regular operating budget, especially as we are a private, non-profit entity lacking regular state and federal support. We have realized that sustained preservation is affordable only through the income generated from an endowment.

Catalpa Tree in Garden of Liberty Hall



Gifts to ARCS, the LHHS Endowment Fund, can be made in several ways:

- Cash
- Check - Payable to NSCDA-KY, memo: ARCS
- Venmo - @LibertyHall-HistoricSite
- Stock
- Property
- Securities
- Beneficial Interest
- Online at libertyhall.org



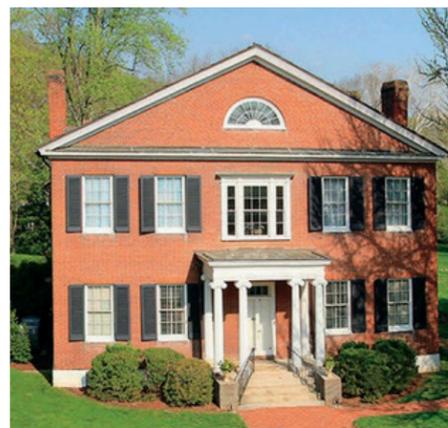
venmo

You can also make a planned gift from your estate such as:

- A bequest in your will
- A charitable remainder trust,
- A life-income gift,
- An insurance policy
- An IRA

For more information on donations, please contact LHHS Director.

Liberty Hall Historic Site is governed by The National Society of the Colonial Dames of America in the Commonwealth of Kentucky and operated as a public trust. LHHS is a 501c3 organization.



Orlando Brown House, 1835

2024 - 2025 SNAPSHOTS



Pictured Top Row to Bottom Row:
 Guests Enjoying Slice of History Trivia Night
 Foam Party Fun with PSPL
 Snow Angel in front of Orlando Brown House
 Staff & Volunteers for Remove Invasives Community Work Party
 Family Exploring Storybook Trail
 Guests Enjoying Holiday Tea

THANK YOU TO OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS



RENTALS AT LIBERTY HALL HISTORIC SITE

Nestled along the Kentucky River, Liberty Hall Historic Site features two historic homes and an ornamental garden. The site can accommodate a variety of events including weddings, corporate events, reunions, celebrations of life, and more!

We can offer hourly, half day and full day rentals! Contact director@libertyhall.org for pricing and details!

