



The Historic House Trust of New York City's network of 23 historic house museums interpret the rich and diverse history of New York City, often through the lens of individuals who faced challenges similar to New Yorkers today. Exhibits and education programs at these sites provide a unique forum for discussion of race, color, ethnicity, national origin, religion, gender, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation and disability.

As a supporter of Respect for All Week, the Historic House Trust will



Feature the **Respect for All Week logo** on the Trust website with links to city-wide partners and relevant programs .



Post a special **online lesson plan for educators to download**. The lesson plan creates an interactive activity teaching themes of Respect for All through the lens of New York City History. The activity may also be used as a pre or post visit activity for groups visiting the historic houses.



In partnership with the Office of The Queens Borough President, Helen M. Marshall, The Trust will host a special **online "Pledge for Tolerance and Understanding"** that visitors can virtually "sign". The Pledge emphasizes the contemporary relevance of the 1657 Flushing Remonstrance, a historic moment in the pursuit of religious freedom.



Provide **daily updates to the Trust's facebook page** (www.facebook.com/pages/The-Official-Historic-House-Trust-of-New-York-City) during Respect for All Week, promoting the initiative through historic facts relevant to the theme, program announcements, and images from the houses .



Send **daily twitter posts** (www.twitter.com/hhtnyc) during Respect for all Week , with facts about the houses that align with the initiative and announcements of happenings as they unfold each day.

**STORIES FROM THE 23 HISTORIC HOUSES
OF THE HISTORIC HOUSE TRUST OF NEW YORK CITY
(Respect for all week 2012)**

The Bronx

- **Bartow-Pell Mansion Museum:** Themes of courage, strength, and the immigrant experience as related to the servants who worked and lived at the Bartow mansion during the 19th century. "The Original Bronx Natives: Who Were They?" explores the roles and responsibilities of Lenape men and women as compared and contrasted to New Yorkers today.
- **Edgar Allan Poe Cottage:** Despite earning fame as a writer, *Edgar Allan Poe* lived his later years in economic squalor. In 1846 he moved to this meager cottage in the Bronx as a place where his ill wife could rest more comfortably in the country air.
- **Valentine-Varian House Museum:** The Museum of Bronx History where everyone can learn about the borough's diverse history and culture.
- **Van Cortlandt House Museum:** Explore how individuals' beliefs were challenged during the Revolutionary War and the often overlooked roles played by women and slaves.

Brooklyn

- **Lefferts Historic House:** The inter-related histories of the three cultural groups, (the Lenape, Dutch, and African peoples) who inhabited Brooklyn during the 1600s and 1700s.
- **Hendrick I. Lott House:** The Lott family freed the slaves working on their farm by 1805, years before the abolition of slavery in New York State in 1827. Later, the House may have served as a stop on the Underground Railroad.
- **Old Stone House:** With its educational focus on Dutch immigration and the Battle of Brooklyn, Old Stone House provides school groups with a student-driven exploration of America's evolution as a participatory democracy. In March, the Old Stone House explores the cautionary tale of the American dream with a production of Arthur Miller's *The American Clock*, in partnership with Brave New World Repertory Theatre.
- **Wyckoff Farmhouse Museum:** The oldest house in New York City exemplifies the diversity of Brooklyn's colonial farms, where Dutch-American landowners, enslaved and freed Africans, and later European immigrants labored on some of the country's most fertile land.

Manhattan

- **Dyckman Farmhouse Museum:** Life at Dyckman Farmhouse is a perfect example of the story of gradual emancipation and freedom for slaves in New York, from 1790, when there was a total of seven enslaved people within the household, to 1840 when no African Americans, enslaved or free, are included in the records.
- **Gracie Mansion:** Merchant *Archibald Gracie's* 1799 country house passed hands several times throughout history, reflecting in the rise and fall of individual's fortunes. Today "The People's House" hosts numerous civic and community events.
- **Little Red Lighthouse:** Lessons of friendship, tolerance, and historic preservation can be found in Hildegard H. Swift's 1942 children's classic, [The Little Red Lighthouse and the Great Gray Bridge](#).
- **Merchant's House Museum:** Examine 19th century life and culture including social customs of women and the daily life of Irish servants working at the Treadwell household.
- **Morris-Jumel Mansion:** In the mid-1800s, *Eliza Jumel* put forth the first divorce in New York City history. Living as a wealthy and independent woman she was allowed unprecedented access to the worlds of business and society.
- **Swedish Cottage Marionette Theatre:** Based on a true story, "The Secret History of the Swedish Cottage," chronicles the impossible journey of a little Swedish cottage that travels from Europe to America and grows up to become the famous puppet theater—a story of immigration and success many families can relate to!

Queens

- **Bowne House:** In 1662 *John Bowne* openly defied and eventually overturned Peter Stuyvesant's ban on religious freedom.
- **King Manor Museum:** Home of *Rufus King*, a member of the Continental Congress, framer and signer of the Constitution, faced death threats for speaking against slavery in the U.S. Senate.
- **Kingsland Homestead:** *Mary King Murray*, whose family lived in the house into the 1920s, spoke boldly for the education of poor women, especially African Americans.
- **Lewis H. Latimer House:** The son of fugitive slaves, *Lewis H. Latimer* is a notable African-American inventor and electrical pioneer.
- **Queens County Farm Museum:** Historically and today the lead farmers here are women, demonstrating that tractors are not just driven by men!

Staten Island

- **Alice Austen House Museum:** *Alice Austen*, a prolific photographer was a New Woman of the late 19th and early 20th centuries, living independent of men and having a relationship with a female domestic partner *Gertrude Tate*.
- **Conference House:** Home to one of the only official attempts at peace negotiation during the American Revolution.
- **Historic Richmond Town:** Explore the diversity of the American experience, through the lives of ordinary people who struggled, survived and thrived from the colonial period to the present.
- **Sequine Mansion:** A monument to Staten Island's agricultural and industrial history.