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



Founding Forward

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

**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

STAFF

Amy Airth, Administrative Assistant
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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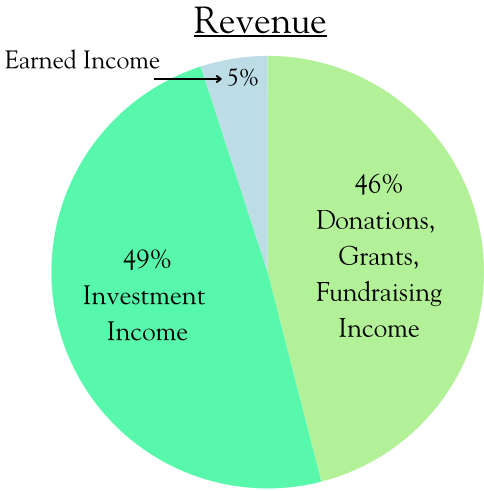
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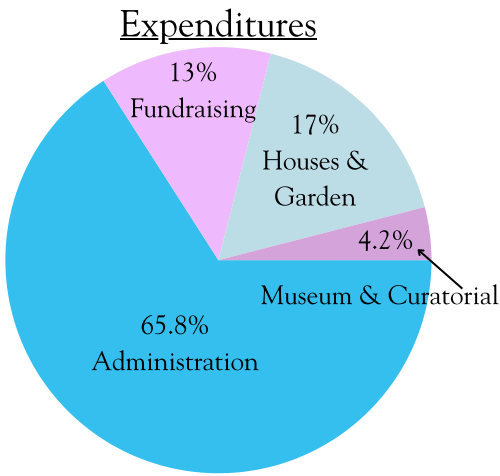
Front Cover Image: Liberty Hall circa 1960

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.

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.



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 accomadate 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!

