



EAST TENNESSEE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Making history personal
— since 1834 —

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 2, 2019

Contact: Cherel Henderson
865-215-8823
Cherel@eastTNhistory.org

From the Cherokee to the Present -- Celebrating Our Region's History

12th Annual East Tennessee History Fair presented by the East Tennessee Historical Society

10 a.m. – 5 p.m., Saturday, August 17, 2019

Downtown Knoxville – Market Square & Krutch Park, Clinch & Gay Streets

*Antiques Fair ~ Historical Characters ~ Children's Activities ~ Historic Home Tours ~ Music
Museum Tours & Walking Tours ~ Vintage Films ~ Food ~ Book Sale ~ Vintage Baseball
Historic Crafts ~ Dog Costume Contest ~ Living History ~ Davy Crockett's Birthday*

(Knoxville, Tenn.) The 2019 East Tennessee History Fair will celebrate the region's history with reenactments, activities, and tours. Presented by the East Tennessee Historical Society, along with dozens of businesses, historical organizations, museums, musicians, and individuals from across the region, the East Tennessee History Fair features fun and educational activities highlighting the people, places, stories, and events that comprise the shared history of our 35-county region. The event is free and open to the public. Special highlights include:



- Free admission to the Museum of East Tennessee History, including *Voices of the Land: The People of East Tennessee* and *"It'll Tickle Yore Innards!": The (Hillbilly) History of Mountain Dew* exhibitions, plus the *Streetscape* with Streetcar 409 and Corner Drug Store, c. 1920-1930.
- Antiques Fair—downtown Knoxville's only antiques fair with vendors offering a wide variety of primitives, antiques, and tabletop items, sponsored by Case Antiques and Building Systems Technology, Inc.
- Specialty tour of the Museum of East Tennessee History with antique experts on furniture, pottery, baskets, quilts, and the interesting stories behind them

- Music Stage featuring Jimbo Whaley and Greenbrier, Russ and Becky Jeffers, The Travelin' Caudells, Liza Jane and Curley Alexander, and more!
- Living History Timeline—spanning the region's history from the Cherokee to Vietnam War. Special D-Day demonstrations throughout the day from the Five-Oh-First Group and WWII U.S. Army Airborne Reenactors
- Abraham Lincoln and wife Mary Todd and other historical characters will roam the crowd
- More than sixty historical and genealogical societies representing county, regional, and state organizations from across the region
- “History Hound” Dog Costume Contest—guests are invited to bring their dogs to Krutch Park dressed as their favorite historical character. Registration begins at 9:30 a.m., and the contest begins at 10:15. Celebrity judges will award fabulous prizes, courtesy of CitiFid-O for “Best Costume” and “Most East Tennessee Spirit.”
- Tennessee Association of Vintage Base Ball game at Lakeshore Park. See America's favorite pastime played by the rules and customs of 1864—no spittin, no swearin, and no gloves! Presented in partnership with the Tennessee Association of Vintage Base Ball and the Lakeshore Park Conservancy
- Open house at the old East Tennessee Hospital for the Insane facility, dating to 1886, at Lakeshore Park, with slideshow and pictorial history of the asylum
- “Old Fashioned Tennessee Checkers Skirmish” sponsored by Mast General Store
- Book sales by Friends of the Knox County Library featuring history-themed books for children and adults
- An exciting interactive children's area on Market Street behind the History Center with special crafts, games, critters, and storytelling by the “King of The Wild Frontier,” Davy Crockett, along with a birthday party with cake for Davy's 233rd birthday
- WDVX's “Kidstuff” music show with Sean McCullough
- Craft demonstrations--spinning, quilting, raku pottery, woodworking, chair caning, basket making, natural fibers, clay work, lye soap making, primitive handmade items, and more
- Jump on the Historic Homes Bus for tours of downtown's historic homes and museums with special guest tour guide Jennifer Montgomery. Guests will enjoy free admission at Blount Mansion, James White's Fort, Mabry Hazen House, Bethel Cemetery, Women's Basketball Hall of Fame, and Beck Cultural Exchange Center
- Open House with free tours of the Tennessee Theatre and vintage films from the Tennessee Archive of Moving Image and Sound—featuring *It's Startime with Jim Clayton*, *Cas Walker Farm and Home Hour*, and a preview of Ken Burns' new documentary *Country Music*
- Walking tour with Knoxville Walking Tours on *Knoxville's Criminal Behavior*
- Meet the authors book sales and signings
- Walking tour with Jack Neely on *Downtown Knoxville's Art & Architecture*
- Art Market Gallery will special exhibit *Honoring the Great Smoky Mountains* in celebration of Tremont's 50th Anniversary
- Market Square Farmers Market
- Home style food, food trucks, burgers, kettle corn, and barbeque!

The 2019 East Tennessee History Fair is sponsored by Downtown Knoxville Alliance, The Tennessee Arts Commission, Mast General Store, City of Knoxville, WBIR, WUOT, Comcast, Hyatt Place Knoxville/Downtown, Case Antiques, Building Systems Technology, Inc., All

Occasions Party Rentals, Lakeshore Park Conservancy, CitiFid-O, and Food City. For more information on the History Fair, please visit <http://www.easttnhistory.org/historyfair> or call 865-215-8824.

About ETHS

Established in 1834, the East Tennessee Historical Society is one of the most active history organizations in the state and enjoys a national reputation for excellence in programming, teacher and student education, and exhibitions. For 185 years the East Tennessee Historical Society has been helping East Tennesseans hold on to our unique heritage -- recording the events, collecting the artifacts, and saving the stories that comprise the history we all share.

The historical society pursues its educational mission through publications, lectures, conferences, school programs, museum exhibits, and heritage programs such as the popular “First Families of Tennessee” and “Civil War Families of Tennessee.” The East Tennessee Historical Society and Museum are housed in the East Tennessee History Center, 601 S. Gay Street, Knoxville, across from the Tennessee Theatre. Also located in the center are the Calvin M. McClung Historical Collection and the Knox County Archives.

#