Philipse Manor Hall State Historic Site invites your class to learn about the Manor Hall and its place in history!

Philipse Manor Hall sits on a site originally inhabited by the Lenape Indians. In 1646, Adriaen Van der Donck purchased this property and built a saw mill on the Nepperhan, now Saw Mill, River. Frederick Philipse I purchased the property in 1672 and built the oldest part of the Manor Hall ten years later. His grandson, Frederick Philipse II, expanded the building into an elegant country seat. Frederick Philipse III inherited the estate in 1752 and continued to embellish the house. The Manor served as the seat of the Manor of Philipseborough until the American Revolution, when the Loyalist Philipse family lost its property and position and left for England. The building became the Village Hall of Yonkers in 1868 and the first City Hall of Yonkers in 1872, housing city government until 1911. In 1912, the Manor Hall opened to the public as a museum.

Today, Philipse Manor Hall offers standards-based education programs that encourage students to analyze history using primary sources, including place, objects, and photographs. Students of all ages use the Manor Hall and its rich history to develop an enthusiasm for the past and a greater understanding of important movements and turning points in history.

Heart of the Community
How did Yonkers begin and how has it changed over time? Philipse Manor Hall sits at the heart of the Yonkers community. The site has witnessed incredible change over more than three hundred years, from the Native American period to the present. In this place-based, artifact-focused program, students will learn about the various groups of people who lived in and around Philipse Manor Hall, their interactions with each other, and how these groups have contributed to local history. The program includes a tour of Philipse Manor Hall and an artifact investigation activity.

Grade level: K-4
Standards: Arts 2, 3; ELA 1, 3, 4; Social Studies 1, 3, 4
Time: 2 hours
Cost: $2-3/student depending on program.

Loyalist Soldier
What was the fate of Frederick Philipse III and the Manor Hall during the tumultuous period of the American Revolution? What side was the Philipse family on and did they get caught up in battle? In Loyalist Soldier, students tour Philipse Manor Hall as they follow the story of Frederick III and the Delancey Brigade to learn about the American Revolution and how it was fought in Westchester County. Students participate in an artifact activity to experience the life of a Loyalist soldier during the war. Older students will read and analyze the Declaration of Dependence and learn about the competing ideologies that fueled the war.

Grade level: 4-5, 7-8
Standards: ELA 1, 3, 4; Social Studies 1, 2, 3, 5
Time: 2 hours
Cost: $2-3/student depending on program.
Saw Mill River Heritage Trail

Philipse Manor Hall and downtown Yonkers have both shaped and been shaped by the Saw Mill River. This program features a walking tour that follows the Saw Mill, or Nepperhan, River from its mouth at the Hudson to Chicken Island. Students will use maps and photographs to learn about the growth and development of Yonkers from 1682 to the present. Students will discuss how these changes in Yonkers are connected to larger trends in New York and United States history.

Grade level: 4-5, 7-8, 11-12  
Standards: Arts 3, 4; ELA 1, 3, 4; Math, Science, and Technology 4, 5, 7; Social Studies 1, 3, 4  
Time: 2 1/2 hours  
Cost: $5/student. This fee includes materials used during the program.  
Deposit: Please note that this program takes place rain or shine. We require a $20 deposit within one week of scheduling the program.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Where is Philipse Manor Hall located?  
A: Philipse Manor Hall is located at 29 Warburton Avenue in Yonkers, NY.

Q: How much do on-site programs cost?  
A: Cost of on-site programs vary from $2-5/student depending on the program you select. Please check the description of each individual program to confirm its cost.  
*Some versions of programs have an additional materials fee. Please make sure to check when scheduling your visit.

Q: How long is a typical visit?  
A: Programs last 2 or 2 1/2 hours depending on the program you select. Please check the description of each individual program to confirm its length.

Q: How many students can visit the site at one time?  
A: Groups are limited to 30 students per visit.

Q: How many chaperones should I have?  
A: We require 1 adult for every 9 students. A class of 30 would require 3 chaperones in addition to the teacher. For each additional adult, we reserve the right to charge a fee. Special Education classes are exempt from this fee.

Q: Do you accommodate students with special needs?  
A: Yes. We can adapt all of our programs for students with physical and/or developmental disabilities. Please make us aware of these special needs when you book your visit. Philipse Manor Hall is accessible on the first floor only.

Q: Can my class eat lunch at the site?  
A: Yes. Please add an additional 30 minutes to your trip to allow for lunch.

Q: My class is unable to visit Philipse Manor Hall. Can programs be done in the classroom?  
A: Yes. An educator can visit your classroom to present hour-long modified versions of Heart of the Community and Loyalist Soldier. However, we do believe there is great value in visiting the site itself and encourage your class to come if you are able to do so.

Q: How much do outreach programs cost?  
A: Outreach programs cost $50 per presentation. Presentations are best suited for groups of up to 30 students. We are able to accommodate larger groups; however, please understand that this may change the hands-on nature of the program.  
*Some versions of programs have an additional materials fee. Please make sure to check when scheduling your visit.

Q: Can I schedule a make-up date when I book my visit?  
A: We do not schedule make-up dates in September, October, May, or June. However, if a date is available after the initial trip has been cancelled, we are happy to reschedule your group.

Q: Are pre- and post-visit materials available?  
A: Yes. We strongly recommend you review our pre-visit materials with your class prior to your visit. Post-visit materials are available at no additional fee.

Q: How do I schedule my class’s trip?  
A: Please contact Charles Casimiro at 914-965-4027 ext. 106 or charles.casimiro@parks.ny.gov