

Historical SCREEN TIME

NEH Grant Funds Expansion of Digital Offerings

In late June, Monticello received a \$215,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities' CARES Act program for cultural institutions. This funding has allowed Monticello to create additional online content and programming for off-site audiences, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic. With specialized equipment and

retraining of staff, Monticello is enriching its already robust digital content with more weekly livestream broadcasts, live virtual tours and online courses. Additional funding from the Peter G. Peterson Foundation and Bloomberg Philanthropies has funded more online educational programming for students and schools.

Monticello's digital programming offers something for everyone: live broadcasts featuring experts across a wide range of subjects, short videos for children, celebrations of our nation's founding, explorations of innovations in food and agriculture, and virtual field trips to Monticello that are accessible from the classroom or home.

Live Virtual Tours

On the first day of closing to the public in March due to COVID-19 precautions, Monticello began offering live virtual tours, allowing those at home to have a personally guided experience of Jefferson's house in real time. These virtual tours continued even after Monticello reopened to the public in June, enabling armchair travelers everywhere to take a personal tour and interact with a guide. Clubs and groups have been booking them on a particular topic. Even our on-site visitors use them to follow up and explore more. The live virtual tour is part of a new paradigm for visiting Monticello, and two additional tours have been added — one focused on the gardens and grounds and another that examines slavery at Monticello.

Book your live virtual tour at visit.monticello.org/lvt.



Livestreams

Viewers on both Facebook and YouTube have been tuning in since early April for weekly real-time Q&As with experts in a variety of fields. Delving into topics from books to slavery to the French Revolution, these lively broadcasts have developed a large and appreciative audience. Grant funding is allowing us to implement more of these fascinating programs, including those on themes such as Lewis and Clark, wine, archaeology, Jefferson and George Washington, and how to talk about the history of race and slavery.

Learn more about livestreams on page 12. All programming is recorded and can be accessed at monticello.org/live.



Virtual Field Trips

Using technologies such as Google Street View and live virtual tours with iPads, nearly 20,000 students and teachers have experienced Monticello with a tour guide in real time. From their own classrooms or homes in nearly all 50 states and many countries around the world, students can “walk” through the house and along Mulberry Row, asking questions and discussing key ideas with Monticello staff. The NEH CARES grant allows for expansion of this programming, bringing Monticello to more students worldwide.

You can learn more about our virtual field trips at monticello.org/fieldtrips.

Independence Day Celebration

Although no one was able take the oath of citizenship on the West Lawn this year, as has been our tradition for decades, Independence Day was properly celebrated online at Monticello in 2020. If you haven’t yet had a chance to watch the moving ceremony of the reading of the Declaration of Independence, hear the voices of citizens naturalized at Monticello in past years, and listen to a remarkable conversation with Velma Williams, a 100-year-old descendant of Peter Hemings, Jefferson’s enslaved cook, you can find it all at monticello.org/July4.



HERITAGE HARVEST FESTIVAL AT MONTICELLO

ABOUT PRESENTERS TICKETS BLOG DONATE SPONSORS

2020 Presenters

- Bill Barker**
Chef, Author
- Stacey Cogswell**
Chef, Author
- Peggy Cornett**
Curator of Plants at Monticello
- Joy Crump**
Founder/Executive Chef FOODS, Monticello
- David Givens**
- Lou Hatch**
Floral Designer, Monticello House Supervisor
- Jennifer Jewell**
Author, Cultivating Place Podcast Host
- Gabriele Raussa**
Director of Gardens and Grounds at Monticello
- Ira Wallace**
Southern Exposure Seed Exchange, HHF Co-host

Heritage Harvest Festival

This year’s Heritage Harvest Festival has pivoted to a virtual platform. *HHF Deconstructed*, an online event series, features live courses and conversations about food, the farm and the garden. Upcoming programs include a holiday food and wine class, a historic cocktail course, a wreath-making workshop and much more!

For more information, visit heritageharvestfestival.com.

We thank the following sponsors for their support of our virtual July 4 and Heritage Harvest Festival programs this year: Brent and Lindsay Halsey, Joe and Sally Gladden, The Joseph and Robert Cornell Memorial Foundation, The Richard D. and Carolyn W. Jacques Foundation, 2RW Consultants, Dalgliesh Gilpin Paxton Architects, Martin Horn, Michie Tavern, Shelter Associates, and Wegmans.