



Historical Society of Pennsylvania

PHILADELPHIA'S LIBRARY OF AMERICAN HISTORY

August 14, 2020

Dear Friend:

We hope you are staying well amidst the continuing pandemic. While we remain closed to visitors per public health guidelines, we are excited to announce that we are re-introducing staff to HSP's building in a phased manner throughout the months of August and September. One of the first objectives will be to create a task force to finalize new policies and procedures for re-opening our Reading Room to patrons. We are eager to open our doors to researchers, but the safety of patrons and staff must remain our first priority.

We want to thank those of you who have contributed to our new collecting effort focused on documenting the pandemic. We have received many interesting and historically valuable submissions, and it's not too late to submit yours! If you'd like to share a story about your personal experiences during the pandemic to be added to our collections, please send it to pandemic@hsp.org.

Though we have been forced to postpone all onsite programs and services for the time being, we continue to expand our online presence. We recently wrapped up, in partnership with the Association of Professional Genealogists (Greater Philadelphia Chapter), our first all virtual genealogy workshop—Researching Family in Pennsylvania. Forty-seven participants successfully completed the week-long course via the Zoom platform. We will review evaluations from the class and use this feedback to expand and improve our virtual programming. Please monitor hsp.org for future programs and follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#) where we continue to post unique content from our collections.

Finally, we are proud to share with you our participation in two initiatives that document women's history as we near the centennial of the passage of the 19th Amendment. *In Her Own Right* is a multi-partner initiative that digitizes collections from regional repositories that document women's activism in the hundred years leading up to the passage of the 19th Amendment. Further, HSP is the grateful recipient of a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities that will support the improvement of access to four significant collections relating to women's history in Pennsylvania, totaling more than 150 linear feet of archival material.

Again, we hope you're staying safe and healthy as we navigate these challenging times. Thank you for your interest in HSP, and we hope to see you at 1300 Locust Street soon!

Very sincerely,
Charles T. Cullen
Interim President & CEO