



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 22, 2022

Celebrate Genealogy and Ancestral Connections to Salem, Massachusetts, During a Weekend of Lectures, Tours, and Research

SALEM, Mass. – Residents and visitors are invited to celebrate their ancestral and immigrant connections to Salem, Massachusetts during the second annual Salem Ancestry Days celebration, which will be held April 29 through May 2, 2022. The weekend will feature lectures, tours, research opportunities, and information on the people who connect us all to Salem.



For centuries, Salem has been a destination for emigrants, immigrants, and travelers. The community is a landing point and a starting point for families who are starting their American journey or changing their family's trajectory. Through collaboration with the Phillips Library at the [Peabody Essex Museum](#), [Essex National Heritage Commission](#), [American Ancestors by New England Historic Genealogical Society](#), and the [City of Salem](#), the Ancestry Days celebration intends to be a gathering point for descendants of Salem's families as well as a research opportunity for people who want to learn more about their family history.

On Saturday, April 30 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, May 1 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., the first-ever Salem Ancestry Days Exhibitor Fair will take place outside in front of Old Town Hall. The exhibitors, including [American Ancestors by New England Historic Genealogical Society](#), [Salem Historical Society](#), and [Essex Society of Genealogists](#), will feature items relating to genealogy, the immigrant experience, and Salem history.



This year's festival is set to include a mix of in-person and virtual events, pre-recorded and live lectures on local history and how to begin to research your own ancestry, guided walking tours, and more. Participating organizations will be identified with Salem Ancestry signs. Events are listed below and on SalemAncestry.org:

Friday, April 29

- Chat with a Genealogist
- Grand Army of the Republic Hall & Museum: Open House (Lynn)
- Ancestry Weekend at Witch Pix
- Salem Witch Trials Ancestors & Descendants
- Exhibit: Let None Be Excluded: The Origins of Equal School Rights in Salem
- Live Tour of PEM's *Let None Be Excluded* Exhibition
- The Photo Detective Road Show (Virtual)
- Tour of Historic St. Peter's Church
- Researching Black Ancestry in Essex County: Resources & Methods (Virtual)

Saturday, April 30

- Friends of the Broad Street Cemetery – Cemetery Tour
- Chat with a Genealogist
- Grand Army of the Republic Hall & Museum: Open House & Film (Lynn)
- Become a Family History Detective
- Exhibitor Fair, Old Town Hall
- Exhibit: Let None Be Excluded: The Origins of Equal School Rights in Salem
- Genealogy and Deeds: What Land Records Can Tell Your About Your History
- Ancestry Weekend at Witch Pix
- Salem Witch Trials Ancestors & Descendants
- Tour of Historic St. Peter's Church
- If These Stones Could Speak
- Salem With The Daniels Family, 17th Century
- Connecting Salem Arts Association to the History of Our Derby Street Location

- The Irish Experience at Phillips House
- Tabernacle Congregational Church Open House
- Getting Started in Family History: A Genealogy 101 Talk Presented by American Ancestors/New England Historic Genealogical Society

Sunday, May 1

- Friends of the Broad Street Cemetery – Cemetery Tour
- Become a Family History Detective
- Exhibitor Fair at Old Town Hall
- Exhibit: *Let None Be Excluded: The Origins of Equal School Rights* in Salem
- Genealogy and Deeds: What Land Records Can Tell Your About Your History
- Ancestry Weekend at Witch Pix
- Salem Witch Trials Ancestors & Descendants
- Ancestor Stories: Authors Discuss their Family Connections to the Salem Witch Trials (Virtual!)
- Salem with the Silsbee Family, Salem's Maritime Age
- Connecting Salem Arts Association to the History of Our Derby Street Location
- Tabernacle Congregational Church Open House
- Getting Started in Family History: A Genealogy 101 Talk Presented by American Ancestors/New England Historic Genealogical Society
- A Genealogy 101 Talk Presented by American Ancestors/New England Historic Genealogical Society
- "The White Family: Love, Ambition, and Sorrow" Walking Tour

Monday, May 2

- Artifacts Illuminating Ancestors
- Ancestry Weekend at Witch Pix
- The Struggle for Soviet Jewry and the Making of a Local Emigre Community

About Salem, Massachusetts

Salem is a destination recognized around the world for its rich history, which includes the tragic

Salem Witch Trials of 1692, the glorious maritime era that left its indelible mark on Salem through architecture, museums, and artifacts, and for its month-long celebration of Halloween. Today, approximately 1.8 million people visit Salem annually, generating nearly \$140 million in tourism spending and supporting 1,000 jobs.

About Destination Salem

As the destination marketing organization for the City of Salem, Destination Salem cooperatively markets Salem as one of Massachusetts' best destinations for families, couples, domestic, and international travelers who are seeking an authentic New England experience, cultural enrichment, American history, fine dining, unique shopping and fun. For more information, visit Salem.org.

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