

A press release from



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## A Pumpkin Patch Celebration at Historic Liberty Hall

**UNION, NJ** — Liberty Hall Museum at Kean University will host its annual *Pumpkin Patch Day* celebration on **Saturday, October 24 (rain date: October 25) from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.** on the historic grounds of Liberty Hall.

The day features its traditional menu of activities, including pumpkin carving and decorating, Halloween crafts, ghost stories, hayrides, house tours and much more. Admission is \$10 for adults; \$6 for senior citizens, college students with valid ID and children ages 3-17; and free for Liberty Hall Museum members and children two years and under. Additional charges for pumpkins, food and beverages apply.

Liberty Hall Museum will also host several additional activities for children and visitors of all ages in October.

Children will discover life as a firefighter more than 100 ago at Liberty Hall's *Fun at the Firehouse* event on **Saturday, October 10 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.** Children will dress up like a firefighter and play special firefighting and fire safety games, including the infamous bucket brigade game. Admission is \$10 for adults; \$6 for senior citizens, college students with valid ID and children ages 3-17; and free for Liberty Hall Museum members and children two years and under. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Experience the art of Victorian dining and hospitality with a decadent five-course meal, wine and music at Liberty Hall's elegant *Victorian Luncheon* on **Saturday, October 17 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.** Guests will dine in the Great Hall, where many important family events took place, including the 1774 marriage of Sarah Livingston, daughter of Liberty Hall's founder and New Jersey's first elected governor William Livingston, to John Jay, the first Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court. Cost is \$80 per person, formal attire suggested. Reservations are required. Seating is limited.

On **October 17 and 18**, Liberty Hall Museum will offer free tours as part of Union County's *Four Centuries in a Weekend* heritage festival. Tours will run on Saturday, October 17 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday, October 18 from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. Only

the first floor of the historic home will be open. The event is sponsored by the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders.

The *Halloween Afternoon Tea* is served every **Wednesday from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.** in October. Set in the glass-enclosed porch, guests enjoy a selection of sandwiches, pastries, scones and clotted cream, jams and choice of two teas. Cost is \$33 per person and includes a house tour. Reservations are required.

**Now through December**, children will enjoy a new interactive exhibit, *Once Upon a Time: The Story of the Children of Liberty Hall*. Open during regular museum hours, this extraordinary display explores five distinct generations of children who grew up at Liberty Hall during the Revolutionary War, New Nation, Civil War, Late Victorian and Modern Age eras.

Through the use of artifacts, reproductions and hands-on activities, children will discover the evolution of education, recreation and technology and gain an understanding of how a child's world constantly changes. The exhibit features photos, clothes, toys and furniture of the times, as well as a newly created interactive nursery *circa* 1899.

Liberty Hall Museum at Kean University chronicles more than 200 years of American history. Built in 1772 by William Livingston, New Jersey's first elected governor, the Victorian style mansion is a treasure trove of historic riches. Along with forgotten letters from Thomas Jefferson, Liberty Hall also houses extensive collections of antique furniture, ceramics, textiles, toys and tools owned by seven generations of the Livingston and Kean families. The Firehouse is the latest addition to the Museum's complex housing two antique fire engines and a collection of fire memorabilia.

Liberty Hall is located at 1003 Morris Avenue in Union, New Jersey. It is open to the public Wednesday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and noon to 4 p.m. on Sundays. For more information or to make reservations, call (908) 527-0400, e-mail [libertyhall@kean.edu](mailto:libertyhall@kean.edu) or visit [www.kean.edu/libertyhall](http://www.kean.edu/libertyhall).

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