Penny Dreadfuls

The penny dreadful was a 19th-century publishing phenomenon. By 1830 literacy was increasing and printing had become faster and cheaper thanks in part to new technology. With new found freedoms, due to changes in labour laws, the burgeoning working class were looking for new ways to fill up that free time.

Originally known as “Penny Bloods”, they were usually 16 pages long. By 1860 they were named “Dreadfuls” and each week a new chapter told tales of piracy, highway men and the Gothic genre with wild melodramas of the supernatural and monsters. As time went on, the stories dealt with crime and detection. The more sensational the better.

The most popular was the story of the Demon Barber of Fleet Street, entitled “The String of Pearls”. You might know it as “Sweeney Todd”.

Other popular dreadfuls were “Boy Detective”, “The Mysteries of London” and of course... “Varney The Vampyre or The Feast of Blood”. Which ran from 1845 to 1847.
Greetings and Welcome!

First off I would like to personally welcome our newest members! It is with your support that we are able to continue our mission. Thank You!

Summer seemed to fly by this year and fall is already upon us. We have a lot of programs lined up this fall and early winter, while our work to keep the house in tip top shape continues...

With that being said, WE ARE LOOKING FOR SPONSORS for events and performances. We are looking for financial support as well as baked goods. If you are crafty in the kitchen and would love to donate some delicious treats or sponsor a program please contact us at: info@phelpsmansion.org. In the subject please put “Event Sponsor”.

Repairs and restoration...

Our work continues... We recently applied for a Technical Assistance Grant offered by the Preservation League of NY to help cover the cost of a study on the Ballroom, so we can see what the condition of the roof is, inside and out. The survey will begin shortly and then we can move on to the next step. Over the summer, we lost a tree on the side of the driveway and it took some of the fence with it. Do to our inclimate weather this summer, work was delayed. The repair was finally completed in September. We have a large list of repairs and could use your help. Please consider making a donation, your donation will get put to good use. When making a donation please put ‘Capital Improvement’ in the memo section.
Thank you all for your continued support!

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the Unitedway of Broome County's 2018 Day of Caring. Representatives from Binghamton University small business development center and from UHS helped get the museum grounds ready for the fall and winter seasons.

Ui Speth and Tomoko Kanamaru with guest perform September 23rd as part of the Chamber Music Series.

Reviewed August 9, 2018 via mobile

Great Visit!

Great guided visit to the impressive Phelps Mansion Museum. Andrea, our charming and extremely knowledgeable guide, was most informative, and truly made the history of the mansion come alive. Definitely a must for anyone visiting Binghamton!

Reviewed 3 weeks ago via mobile

A very pleasant surprise

We stumbled upon the Phelps Mansion and had a fascinating visit. Our guide was very knowledgeable and brought the house to life with great stories. The woodwork in every room was impeccably maintained, there were great mirrors that illuminated the house and made it look even grander. We spend a little over an hour and had a wonderful time.
Upcoming Events

The Phelps Mansion Museum Presents
Death and Mourning
In the 19th Century
* exhibit Sept. 29th - Oct. 28th *

Special Candle Light Tours
Friday Oct. 19th * Saturday Oct. 20th - 7pm
Friday Oct 26th 7 & 9pm * Saturday Oct. 27th 7 & 9pm
$15 Adults / $10 Seniors & Students / $5.00 Children (12 - 17)
Space is Limited - Tickets can be purchased by calling 607-722-4873
For More Information visit www.phelpsmansion.org
or stop into The Phelps Mansion Museum - 191 Court Street Binghamton, NY 13901

PATH THROUGH HISTORY

Join us for Path Through History Weekend on Oct. 6th and 7th. We will be telling our history with tours of the mansion all weekend long. Tour times will be from 11am to 4pm. Every hour. The last tour is at 4pm. We will limit tours to 20 people and ask that you sign up ahead of time. You pay at the door the day of your tour.
For more information visit www.phelpsmansion.org

Phelps Mansion Museum Chamber Music Series Returns this Fall!

September 23rd
Ui Speth
Tomoko Kanamaru

October 21st
Mariam Vardzelashvili
Vira Zhuk

November 18th
Anna Maimine

Mondays at the Museum are Back!

September 10th - Brian Frey The story of Exterminator
October 8th - Judy McMahon & Heidi Weeks Halloween comedy reading
November 12th - John Darrow will portray Willis Sharp Kilmer.
December 10th - Holiday Musical Program by the Harmony Club.

Lunch is $20.00 and starts at 12pm.
Reservations are necessary by calling the museum at 607-722-4873 by 4pm on the Friday before.
If you wish to attend just the program, it's only $5.00 - All programs start at 1pm.
Upcoming Events

October 5th - First Friday - Phelps Mausoleum Break-in 6-9pm FREE
October 6th - PTH Weekend Tours of the house 11am to 5pm
October 7th - PTH Weekend Tours of the house 11am to 5pm
October 8th - Monday Lunch - STAR Reading 12pm -2pm
October 13th - Varney the Vampyre 7:30pm
October 14th - Varney the Vampyre 7:30pm
October 19th - Death & Mourning Candlelight Tour 7pm
October 20th - Historic Walking Tour 10am
October 20th - Death & Mourning Candlelight Tour 7p
October 21st - Chamber Concert Series 3pm
October 26th - Death & Mourning Candlelight Tour 7 and 9pm
October 27th - Death & Mourning Candlelight Tour 7 and 9pm

November 2nd - First Friday Ramona Lena 6pm - 9pm
November 8th - History Happy Hour 6pm to 9pm
November 12th - Monday Lunch Willis Sharpe Kilmer 12pm to 2pm
November 16th - Literati Poetry Reading 7pm to 9pm
November 18th - Chamber Concert Series 3pm

December 7th - First Friday 6to 9pm - TBA
December 10th - Monday Lunch 12pm to 2pm The Harmony Club
December 20th - The Nutcracker 6pm and 8pm
December 21st - The Nutcracker 6pm and 8pm

Mondays at the Museum Lunches Provided by Joe Cline at Clines Catering Service - www.clinescatering.com
Edith Nezbit (1858 - 1924)

Dead Leaves

Not Summer’s crown of scent the red rose weaves,
Not Hawthorn perfume blown o’er bloom-strewn grass,
Not violets’ whispers as the children pas,
Nor new-mown hay, crisp scent of yellow sheaves,
Nor lilac perfume in May eves,
Nor any scent that Springtime can amass,
Or Summer squander, such a magic has
As scent of fresh wet earth and fallen leaves.

For sometimes lovers, in November days
When earth is grieving for the vanished sun,
Have trod dead leaves in chill and wintery ways,
And kissed and dreamed eternal summer won.
Look back, look back! through memory’s deepening haze,
See-two who dreamed that dream, and you were one!

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FUN FACTS

Oct 19 1870, The 1st African Americans (4) elected to US House of Representatives

Jan 3 1870, Construction begins on Brooklyn Bridge in New York; completed May 24, 1883

Jan 3 1871, Oleomargarine (Margarine) Henry Bradley, of Binghamton, N.Y., received a patent for creating a new margarine process. His patent combined vegetable oil and animal fat.

Feb 20 1872, New York’s Metropolitan Museum of Art opens.

Mar 5 1872, George Westinghouse Jr patents triple air brake for trains
Upcoming Events

MARIE & THE NUTCRACKER PRINCE
by Breadcrumbs Productions

The Nutcracker: Today, we recognize the name from the popular holiday ballet, and Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky’s beloved accompanying score. But the original tale, ‘The Nutcracker and the Mouse King’, by E. T. A. Hoffman, was much different. ‘Marie and the Nutcracker Prince’ is a three-person immersive theatrical exploration of the story’s wild, intriguing origins. In this innovative and colorful production, audience members choose their own pathways (and allegiances), meeting characters and discovering pivotal dramatic moments as they traverse the halls.

December 20th & 21st - 6pm and 8pm
...where nothing is as it seems.

Before Carmilla, Before Dracula, there was... Sir Francis Varney!

The Phelps Mansion Museum presents a dramatic reading of one of the most popular penny dreadfuls of the 19th century!

Varney the Vampire or The Feast of Blood!

Saturday Oct. 13th and Sunday Oct. 14th at 7:30pm

Admission $15.00 / $10.00 Members
Tickets can be purchased by calling 607.722.4873
For more information visit www.phelpsmanison.org
or stop by The Phelps Mansion Museum at 191 Court St. Binghamton NY 13901
Woman's Fashion and Politics in late 19th Century America

Binghamton University Art Museum
Lower Gallery C
Tuesday - Saturday 12 - 4pm
Thursday 12 - 7pm
September 6 - November 20, 2018

This exhibition examines the widespread belief that there was a shift in white, native-born, middle-class northern white woman's fashion in the late 19th century. By extension, did garments have the ability to function as a mode of political voice?

When studied in different contexts, such as the dress reform movement, as well as the rise of science, industrialization, and American consumer culture, it seems that fashion communicated more than aesthetics. It had political implications. And yet, the strength of conservative woman's dress reveals that fashion served to reinforce Victorian ideals despite the efforts of dress reform movements.

Curated by Dillon Eggleston 2018, History Major.

https://www.binghamton.edu/art-museum/exhibitions/current-exhibitions

Follow us on Facebook: facebook.com/PhelpsMansionMuseum
Follow us on Twitter: twitter.com/PhelpsMansion

When was the last time you took a tour?
Stop down Friday, Saturday and Sunday
11am to 5pm
Tours leave every 30 minutes
Last tour at 4:30pm
Are you a member?
Bring a friend and use your free passes!
We’d love to see ya!
By becoming a monthly sustaining member of the Phelps Mansion Museum, you are helping to preserve and restore the history of the late 19th century. The museum’s mission is to preserve the mansion and its period contents and provide exhibitions, programming and education. To support our mission, we are faced with increasing monthly bills for utilities, insurance, repairs, staff salary and other necessities. Our only income is from tours, programs and memberships. You can help us keep things running smoothly by becoming a sustaining member.

Listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1973 and established under the NYS Board of Regents as a museum in 2005, the Phelps Mansion Museum is a dedicated historic house museum for the Gilded and Progressive Eras in Central New York.

Our museum provides a unique and exciting opportunity to experience what life was like in Binghamton, NY one hundred and forty-five years ago. With your contribution and support we can continue our programs and together, we can preserve and share our community’s history.

To become a sustaining member please visit: https://phelpsmansion.org/sustaining-membership

We’re pleased to announce that Phelps Mansion Museum has been recognized with a 2018 Certificate of Excellence, based on the consistently great reviews we've earned on TripAdvisor.

Phone: (607) 722-4873
191 Court Street
Binghamton, NY 13901
Phelps Mansion Museum

Return Service Requested

The Phelps Mansion Museum
Enjoy one of Binghamton’s
Journey Back to the Gilded Era

We’re on the Web!