Student Programs Guide
2021–22

The John Marshall House
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Richmond, Virginia 23219

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The John Marshall House is a Preservation Virginia property.

Mission and Vision Statement

Preservation Virginia, a private non-profit organization and statewide historic preservation leader founded in 1889, is dedicated to perpetuating and revitalizing Virginia's cultural, architectural and historic heritage thereby ensuring that historic places are integral parts of the lives of present and future generations. Our mission is directly consistent with and supportive of Article XI of the Constitution Preservation of Virginia, benefiting both the Commonwealth and the nation. Preservation Virginia provides leadership, experience, influence, and services to the public and special audiences by saving, managing, and protecting historic places, and developing preservation policy, programs, and strategies with individuals, organizations, and local, state, and national partners.

Vision Statement: Our vision is that historic preservation will become an integral part of everyone's life.

Mission Statement: Our mission is to make Virginia's communities and historic places of memory stronger, more vital and economically sustainable through preservation, education and advocacy.

Other Preservation Virginia historic properties include: Bacon's Castle (1665, Surry County); Cape Henry Lighthouse (1791, Virginia Beach); Cole Digges House (c. 1809, Richmond); Jamestown Island, "Historic Jamestowne" (1607); Patrick Henry's Scotchtown (1719, Hanover); Smith's Fort Plantation (c. 1763, Surry); Tucker Brothers Store (c. 1840, Charlotte); Hollybrook (c. 1820, North Hampton)

John Marshall House Mission Statement

The John Marshall House seeks to engage the public about the life and legacies of the Great Chief Justice, his Richmond home, and the enslaved people who labored here through historic preservation and education.
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Welcome

Welcome to the John Marshall House, the 1790 urban home of the fourth and longest-serving Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court, his family, and enslaved domestic servants. We look forward to receiving your student or youth group for a field trip tour and/or program in the near future. Please review the following information to learn about our educational offerings and to plan your visit.

**A Brief History**

John Marshall is best known as the “Great Chief Justice” for his role in creating the modern Supreme Court. He served from 1801 until 1835 and his influential decisions, such as *Marbury v. Madison* (1803)–which helped shape the principle of judicial review–contributed to identifying the Supreme Court's powers and authorities.

With the largest collection of original Marshall family pieces, guided tours of his home offer an in-depth look at the formation of American government through the lens of the federal judiciary. Marshall had his home built in Richmond’s historic Court End neighborhood in 1790 and lived there for forty-five years until his death. The home remained in the Marshall family until the Chief Justice’s granddaughters sold the land to the City of Richmond in 1907. When the City announced plans to demolish the house to build a high school, the leadership of Preservation Virginia protested. In 1911, the house was placed in the care of Preservation Virginia to be restored and opened to the public.

The Black history connected to the John Marshall House is incredibly rich. It is filled with stories of the families that were built under enslavement, and endured in Richmond’s urban landscape. People like Robin Spurlock, enslaved valet and butler to John Marshall, saw the city grow to host the second largest domestic slave market in the country. He witnessed the development of Gabriel's uprising, and the formation of the American judiciary while he and his wife raised their own three children in slavery. We are fortunate to have substantial records, first-hand accounts and primary sources that provide glimpses into the lives of the individual enslaved by John Marshall. Though we are early in the process of researching the history of the Black presence here, we aim to continue to research and build strong relationships with descendants, collect oral histories, and present the individual stories that truly highlight the African American experience at the John Marshall House. Moving forward, we hope to continue to be able to provide a detailed context for how these people lived and how they viewed their lives at the Marshall House.
House Museums Tell Unique Stories

House museums occupy a league of their own within the realm of public history institutions because we have the inherent benefit of offering a place-based education. As a former residence, and also a site of enslavement, the John Marshall House served as the setting for both the lives of John Marshall and his family, and also the labors of the 8-16 people he enslaved at any given time from 1790 to 1835. History happened here and we are fortunate today to be the stewards of stories detailing a variety of lived experiences, and it is our responsibility to share those histories with visitors, and elevate the voices of the enslaved. Furthermore, house museums oftentimes remain the most tangible reminder of a person and their life. Sites like the John Marshall House, which has remained architecturally intact since its construction in 1790, also serves as a physical manifestation of a bygone era. Nestled within the broader cityscape of 21st century Richmond, the John Marshall House's Federal style brick structure gives passerby an idea of what the city looked like 200+ years ago, in addition to inspiring conversations about where the city has been, where the city is now, and where the city is going.

A Special Collection

As historic and important as the exterior of the John Marshall House is, the inside likewise offers something special to visitors. Because the property remained in family hands for three generations until 1907, and then became a museum under our organization, Preservation Virginia, today, we are proud to possess a great number of Marshall family objects, furniture, and primary sources. Whether or not our rooms are furnished in the Chief Justice’s belongings, the human stories and experiences that happened in these spaces still exist, and that’s an important concept to understand. However, displaying our historic collection certainly helps to illustrate those narratives. Preservation Virginia is proud to preserve, care for, and share with the public the beautiful objects that the Marshall family and early enthusiasts saved for us to use and your students to see. In March 2021, one of our most prized possessions returned to display in the John Marshall House after two years of intense textile conservation, and is visible only until March 2022 in the Great Chief Justice’s home. Prioritize bringing your students to see this showstopper of an object while you can:

JOHN MARSHALL’S BLACK SUPREME COURT ROBE

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John Marshall House Education is constantly growing, so follow us online and join our E-mail list to remain up-to-date on our offerings. However, for now, the John Marshall House is pleased to offer the following program options for your students or youth organization.

**On-Site Field Trips**
The best way to experience the John Marshall House is of course to visit us! The John Marshall House offers on-site guided student field trip tours and programs. Please contact the Education Manager to schedule your field trip.

Our field trip guided tours last **45 minutes**. We offer field trip tours geared for elementary and middle school ears, and also for high school students. Please see our field trip tour offerings on the following page.

All field trips also include the selection of **one (1) Add-On program** of the instructor’s choice if desired. Please see list of offerings on page 4.

Because of the architectural nature of the John Marshall House, our maximum capacity per 90-minute session is **thirty (30) people**. With this capacity-per-session, we are happy to offer multiple sessions to accommodate groups larger than thirty people. Please contact us with any questions.

**Virtual Field Trips**
We are also happy to offer virtual tours of the house and property for your class. Virtual tours also last 45 minutes in length. The John Marshall House does not stipulate a student capacity for virtual tours. Most of our Add-On programs listed on the following pages can be facilitated virtually, as well.

**Outreach Programs**
Want us to come to you? Our team of Museum Educators are happy to travel to your organization or school to deliver any of tours in a presentation format, and facilitate any of our Add-On programs as an interactive activity. Contact us to arrange your group’s outreach program.
All of our guided field trip tours explore age and curriculum-appropriate themes, topics, and skills within the historical context of the John Marshall House and household through interactive and sensory learning. All of these tours can be adapted and presented in a virtual and outreach format. We are happy to provide information about Virginia SOL applications in each tour upon request.

**Eye Witness Object Tour (K-2nd grade)**

In this tour, the museum educator will lead students in a short historical mapping activity to gain spatial awareness of the John Marshall House property. During the tour, we will invite students to consider the function and use of historical objects and rooms in the home. All objects on display served as eyewitnesses to the history of the John Marshall House. This tour will also begin conceptualizing ideas of past & present and change & continuity with younger students.

**Young Historians' Tour: Historical Themes Through Sources and Artifacts (3rd-5th grade)**

This 40-45 minute guided tour will explore the history and narratives of the John Marshall House by using primary sources and historic objects to examine the following themes: architectural landscapes, education in colonial and Early America, humanity of enslaved people, food in urban vs. rural settings, family meal times, and childhood in the 18th and 19th centuries.

**Spirit of ’76 Tour: John Marshall, Revolution, and the New Nation (6th-9th grade)**

This 40-45 minute tour will explore the origins and rhetoric of the American Revolution, why a young John Marshall eagerly enlisted to serve, and stories and impacts from his time fighting for independence. This educator-led tour will also discuss John Marshall’s experience in and contribution to political planning in the new nation. Exercising skills in historical inquiry, primary source analysis, spatial understanding and reasoning, and critical thinking, students will consider why, how, and for whom America’s founding generation debated the future of the country.

**John Marshall at Home and on the Supreme Court Tour (10th-12th grade)**

This tour will use the many historical objects in and primary sources relevant to the John Marshall House to explore the lives and experiences of John, his wife Polly, their ten children, and the 8-16 enslaved domestic servants laboring on the property between 1790 and 1835. This tour will also explore Marshall’s life trajectory leading up to his appointment on the Supreme Court, as well as landmark cases he heard as Chief Justice. Moreover, students will examine and articulate the contradiction John Marshall and many of America’s founding generation faced: reconciling both the legality and morality of the institution of slavery. In a time in which society is questioning and exploring the concept of historical memory and legacy, during this guided tour, students will come to understand that it is okay, and in fact important, to recognize historical figures for both their achievements and also their failures in order to gain a holistic understanding of their life and times.
Add-On Programs

In addition to a guided on-site tour, student field trips also include one (1) Add-On program if they would like. Please review the list of Add-On offerings below. Each program runs 35-40 minutes and serve as the ideal alternative station when rotating student groups during a field trip. Can’t decide which Add-On to include? Additional Add-On programs can be incorporated into your field trip for a rate of $50.00.

**Robes of Justice Handicraft (K-6th grade)**
Did you know that Chief Justice John Marshall helped solidify the tradition of wearing black robes on the Supreme Court? One of many precedent-setting decisions, learn the history behind John Marshall’s black Supreme Court robe (and until March 2022, see his actual robe on display in the House!) In this educator-led paper craft, students will cut and fold Supreme Court robes and consider what qualities make a good judge. We will also encourage students to think about the iconography of the black justice robe and what this garment represents—both in Marshall's time and ours. Using metallic markers and other craft supplies, students will decorate their black paper Supreme Court robes as a Make-And-Take craft.

Important to understanding the 18th and 19th century world in which John Marshall lived, is learning about the kinds of foods he ate! Using primary sources and student teams, this program will encourage students to harness their historical analysis and investigative skills as they use John Marshall’s account books and recipes popular in Early America to piece together what kind of meals Marshall and his family often enjoyed. In addition to learning about what foods the Marshall’s ate, students will also learn about the enslaved hands who prepared and cooked the meals, and about food production in Marshall’s lifetime.

**Political Parties and Personalities of the New Nation (4th-8th grade)**
In this interactive activity, students will identify and internalize definitions and explanations of key political parties, concepts, and people from the late 18th and early 19th centuries in the United States. In teams, students will play a variation of charades to get their teammates to correctly guess the political personality or political concept.

**Revolutionary War Soldier Program (4th-12th grade)**
Long before becoming Chief Justice, 20-year-old John Marshall volunteered to serve in his local Culpepper Militia in 1775, and later in the 11th Virginia Regiment under General George Washington during the American War for Independence. Serving in the American Revolution proved fundamental to the framing of John Marshall’s political thought and ideals. What about his service was so important? Using reproduction artifacts and textiles, this interactive and experiential program will engage students in what it was like to serve in the Continental Army during the American Revolution.
Making Up America: The Three Branches of Government and How They Work (4th-8th grade)
Essential to understanding Chief Justice John Marshall, is understanding the institution in which he worked: the federal government. With civics at the forefront, this program helps students to strengthen their grasp on the make-up of the three branches of government, understanding separation of power, and how the three branches interact—the process for which we can credit John Marshall. Before John Marshall became Chief Justice in 1801, the Supreme Court of the United States was inconsequential compared to the Legislative and Executive bodies. How did he propel the Judiciary to the same level and significance as its sibling branches?

Urban Living and Urban Slavery in the New Nation (4th-12th grade) - COMING SOON!
Hands on history! Using primary sources such as John Marshall's and Patrick Henry's household financial account books, this program will utilize historical analysis and critical thinking skills to compare and contrast urban and rural living—and by extension, also urban and rural slavery—in Federal era Virginia. What was life like for John Marshall, his family, and enslaved domestic servants who lived an urban life, and that of Patrick Henry, who lived in rural Hanover County?

The Legal Legacies of Chief Justice John Marshall (9th-12th grade)
The longest-serving and arguably most influential Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, John Marshall's decisions, such as that made during Marbury v. Madison (1803) which created the concept of judicial review, have continued to influence Supreme Court decisions and the law in the United States ever since. What are John Marshall's most important rulings and where and how do we see these decisions impact subsequent landmark cases?
Thank you for considering the John Marshall House for your next field trip or student program. Please see the information below to help plan your visit.

**On-Site Field Trip Admission Rate**
$125 flat fee per field trip for 25 or fewer students and chaperones
$5 each for 26 or more students and chaperones
All school personnel are free!

**Virtual Field Trip Admission Rate**
$100 per virtual field trip with up to two (2) repeated live sessions included. If a school needs more than two sessions, additional repeated live sessions may be added for $50/session.

**Field Trip Reservation, Payment, and Cancellation Policies**
You may reserve your field trip by contacting Education Manager, Meika Downey, by email at mdowney@preservationvirginia.org or by phone at (804) 648-7998. Field trip reservations, either on-site or virtually, must be made at least two (2) weeks prior to your desired date.

A field trip must be reserved with a deposit of $50 two (2) weeks ahead of your scheduled date. The remaining payment for your on-site or virtual field trip may be completed day-of, though we will happily accommodate pre-payments, too. Credit card payment or checks made payable to Preservation Virginia will be accepted.

Cancellations made at least one (1) week before your scheduled field trip will be accepted and your deposit refunded. Cancellations made less than (1) week in advance or no-show on the day of the field trip will not receive a refunded deposit. If conflict or unforeseen circumstances arise--on your end or ours--preventing your field trip, we are happy to reschedule for a later date.
Arrival and Parking
The John Marshall House sits at the intersection of 9th and E. Marshall Streets in downtown Richmond. Paid public parking is made available on the street and in a parking lot located one block behind the John Marshall House at 9th and Clay Streets. If your group is utilizing a bus for transportation, please make this arrangement known to Education Manager at the time of reservation, and we can seek to reserve a parking space(s) on the front or side of the House. No guarantees can be made as street parking reservation requests are made through the City of Richmond and therefore, subject to their approval. If we are successful in reserving street parking for your bus, parking fees can be paid on the day of your visit.

The back of the John Marshall House serves as our public entrance. Your guide(s) will greet you and provide instruction for your group in the garden. Please arrive at least fifteen (15) minutes prior to your scheduled field trip start time. If your group is running late, please contact the Education Manager as soon as possible with an estimated arrival time. Late groups may result in a shortened visit. Additionally, please allow time for your students to visit the gift shop, use restrooms, and if desired, break for a snack.

Food and Drink
While food and drink are not permitted inside the John Marshall House (closed bottles are okay), your group is welcome to enjoy refreshments or bagged lunches at the picnic table, benches, and lawns in our garden. A staff member will provide receptacles to discard your trash.

Student Behavior
At the John Marshall House, we practice active preservation in order to care for the house and our collection. This means:

- No running, yelling, or rough-housing in or outside of the museum.
- Please do not touch any objects, furniture, or surfaces unless instructed by your guide.
- Feel free to take pictures during your tour, but please turn off the flash. If students become distracted by cell phones or cameras, your guide reserves the right to request that the devices be put away. Please no video recording of any part of your field trip.
- No food, open drink bottles, or chewing gum are allowed inside the house. We do not want to risk spilling of food or drink.
- We ask that students do not bring backpacks or bags on tour so as not to knock into any objects. We have a safe space to leave student belongings.
- Please be respectful of other classmates, teachers, and the John Marshall House guide by not talking over each other, respecting others’ opinions, and raising hands to answer or ask questions.
Teachers and Chaperones
For every 6-10 students, 1 teacher or chaperone must be present, including during guided tours, Add-On programs, and student breaks. We ask that teachers and chaperones remain engaged and vigilant in monitoring students during your visit. Additionally, please let us know which adults are willing to assist with Add-On program facilitation, if needed.

Covid-19 Safety Requirements
The John Marshall House looks to the CDC for guidance in shaping our safety requirements for warding against the spread of Covid-19 and its variants. Due to the fluidity of the pandemic and recommended protocols, please inquire with us about current face mask and social distancing policies in place at the John Marshall House prior to your visit. Consistant precautions taken include active sanitizing of communal spaces and high-touch surfaces.
Please contact the John Marshall House with any questions or to book your on-site or virtual field trip. You may also complete the digital Field Trip Request Form found on our website.

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We look forward to seeing you soon!