John Marshall House Merit Badge Scout Program
Civics and Citizenship

**Audience:** Girls and Boy Scouts, grades K-12

**Duration:** 90 minutes

**Platform:** On-site in limited capacities, or virtual facilitation

**Objectives:** Using primary sources and historical artifacts in this place-based education program, Girl Scouts will learn about the three branches of government and their functions, with a special emphasis on the U.S. Supreme Court.

**Format:** John Marshall House Museum Educator-led guided tour of the 1790 house, and a facilitated, interactive program/activity.

- **Tour**
  - Young Historians’ Tour (40-45 minutes): This 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.

- **Program**
  - Robes of Justice Handicraft (30 minutes): 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, consider what qualities make a good judge. Students will also consider the iconography of the black justice robe and what this garment represents. (Image of Robe: PV.1972.748)

  - Making Up America: The Three Branches of Government and How They Work (40 minutes): 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?

Program Fee:
- $125 flat fee for **25 or fewer** youth and chaperones
- $5 each for **26 or more** youth and chaperones (30 person capacity per 90-minute session)
- Virtual tour and program: $100
- Reservations must be made at least two weeks prior to your desired date.

The John Marshall House
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To Book Your Merit Badge Scout Program, Please Contact:
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