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NEWS RELEASE

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YOUR AUGUST DESTINATION? EDUCATION IN PA

Children to Learn History for Free at Pennsylvania's 24 Historical Sites Throughout Month

Harrisburg, PA –The Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission is offering a cheap and easy way for families to prepare their children for back to school: free admission at its 24 historical sites this August.

"A study from the Johns Hopkins University Center for Summer Learning found that children lose nearly a month of knowledge during summer vacation," said Barbara Franco, PHMC's executive director. "This new promotion offers hands-on historical learning that will energize children and prepare them to go back to school – all at a great value for parents in the current economy."

The free admission is for children who are age 17 and younger.

Raising the anchor of a famous flagship, drafting letters with a quill pen, and making early colonial American crafts are only a few of the many activities that can keep children learning before returning to school this fall.

To receive free general admission, children must be accompanied by at least one paying adult. The offer is not valid for special events and programs.

Participating historical sites, by region, include:

- **Philadelphia and its Countryside** - Brandywine Battlefield; Pennsbury Manor; Daniel Boone Homestead; Graeme Park; Hope Lodge; and Washington Crossing Historic Park;
- **Pittsburgh and its Countryside** - Fort Pitt Museum; Somerset Historical Center; Bushy Run Battlefield and Old Economy Village;
- **The Alleghenies and her Valleys** - Pennsylvania Military Museum; Joseph Priestley House;
- **Dutch Country Roads** - The State Museum of Pennsylvania (where admission is always free!); Conrad Weiser Homestead; Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania; Ephrata Cloister; Cornwall Iron Furnace; and Landis Valley Museum;
- **Northeast Pennsylvania Mountains** - Scranton Iron Furnaces; Eckley Miners' Village; and Pennsylvania Anthracite Heritage Museum;
- **Pennsylvania's Great Lakes Region** - Drake Well Museum; Erie Maritime Museum and U.S. Brig Niagara; and
- **Pennsylvania Wilds** - Pennsylvania Lumber Museum.

For more information about these sites, visit www.phmc.state.pa.us.

The Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission is the official history agency of the commonwealth of Pennsylvania.