

WRHS

Annual Report

Fiscal Year 2021

July 1, 2020 –
June 30, 2021



Western Reserve Historical Society

MISSION

To inspire people to discover the American experience by exploring the tangible history of Northeast Ohio.

VISION

To be the first stop for the exploration of Cleveland and American history in Northeast Ohio.

CORE VALUES

INTEGRITY

We are honest and accurate in every aspect of our operation.

STEWARDSHIP

We are committed to the custody, care, and honoring of the history of Northeast Ohio.

CONNECTIVITY

We embrace sustained engagement through interaction and discovery.

INNOVATION

We empower the entrepreneurial spirit to enrich our community.

EXCELLENCE

Underscores all that we do.

A Message from Kelly Falcone-Hall, WRHS President & CEO



During FY 21, WRHS continued to invest in people, place and purpose in ways that stabilized WRHS's financial position, and contributed to the growth and sustainability of our organization in a changing society. We are building a new team, a new headquarters, new experiences and directions for WRHS.

At the onset of the pandemic, we took early, decisive actions and relentlessly pursued all available coronavirus relief funding. Today, we're investing in key staff positions to rebuild WRHS's capacity to serve increasing audiences and clients, increase earned and contributed revenue, steward our considerable resources, and better reflect all of the communities we serve. We pledged to take the steps necessary to guarantee that WRHS not only survives, but thrives 'when the pandemic is history,' and positioned WRHS for a return to operations with a strategic recovery plan for a stronger, more relevant institution. Today, WRHS is a changed organization and because of our unwavering focus on these objectives, we are investing in people, places and resources in ways that have, historically, been out of reach.

State and federal pandemic restrictions notwithstanding, WRHS accelerated its work to digitize and create online experiences, continued to collect library and museum collections, amplified its people-first mindset, and put its core values to the test. We continued to focus on our work to create and sustain equity across the organization through our Beacon of Light DEI (diversity, equity, and inclusion) Initiative, initiated a Strategic Asset Review (SAR) review of our properties, collections, and services,

and built capacity across the organization to manage and leverage our considerable assets. We celebrated the 50th Anniversary of the African American Archives in proud partnership with a revitalized African American Archives Auxiliary (Quad A) with a series of events and initiatives to elevate and amplify African American History in Northeast Ohio. Women and Politics: Empowered to Vote, Empowered to Lead, sponsored by PNC, opened first online and then onsite as a permanent exhibit to mark the milestone 100th anniversary of women's suffrage. WRHS's Youth Entrepreneurship Education Program, YEE for CLE, made possible with leadership funding from the Burton D. Morgan Foundation, was made available online to students in Cleveland Metropolitan School District (CMSD), Akron City Schools, and others.

In 2021 and 2022, WRHS is investing more than \$4,000,000 in capital improvements across the organization, including the \$3,000,000 project to renovate and reimagine the Library and WRHS's Administrative Headquarters generously funded by the Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Foundation. Notably, WRHS secured \$750,000 for the Crawford Auto Aviation Museum Lower Gallery, and \$500,000 for the continuing transformation of the Gatehouse Welcome Center at HFV from the State of Ohio 2020-2021 Capital Budget. With major funding from The Howland Memorial Fund and The A.W. and J. Belle Bowman Charitable Trust, WRHS continued the project to fully restore and improve accessibility to the historic Maryann Sears Swetland Memorial Meetinghouse at

Hale Farm & Village. The work to maintain, restore, preserve and make accessible WRHS's six properties, 39 historic buildings, modern facilities and more than 200 acres of land continued despite disruptions to operations in 2020 and 2021. For that, our team of staff, Board of Directors, volunteers, interns, consultants, partners and stakeholders are to be commended, and I thank you. Thanks to excellent fiscal management and the unwavering commitment of a small, entrepreneurially minded team throughout the pandemic, WRHS is well positioned as it enters its next fiscal year again with a balanced budget and a unique opportunity to engage and excite audiences of all ages. This is history in the making. Thank you for being a part.

Kelly Falcone-Hall,
President & CEO, WRHS



Western Reserve Historical Society (WRHS) is dedicated to making all staff and guests feel welcome, safe and engaged. At WRHS, we prioritize people – the WRHS community and the communities we serve. WRHS strives for a culture of excellence, diversity, equity, access and inclusion. We apply best practices to the stewardship of our places, collections and digital resources. It is our purpose to empower an entrepreneurial spirit to create, promote, and sustain a relevant, experience driven organization. We approach our work through an equity lens to ensure that collections, experiences, staff and board reflect the rich diversity of Northeast Ohio.



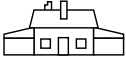


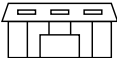
WRHS is dedicated to providing a safe and harassment-free experience for everyone, including ALL guests, vendors and independent contractors, volunteers, interns, stakeholders, community partners and employees. Accordingly, WRHS prohibits harassment or discrimination based on race, national origin, ethnicity, citizenship, religion, gender, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, age, pregnancy, ability, veteran or military status, or other dimensions of diversity.

Harassment and/or offensive behavior (which may include slurs, epithets, sexual advances, discrimination, demeaning comments, exclusion from participation, comments on appearance or ability, threats, etc.) is not tolerated. If you find yourself in a situation where you feel your safety is at risk, or if you bear witness to behavior that you feel is unacceptable, please immediately visit one of the admissions desks or reach out to a WRHS staff member. WRHS will investigate all reported incidents with discretion, and urgency. As a consequence, WRHS reserves the right to revoke, without refund, access to the museum sites and/or WRHS membership.

Since 1867, WRHS is committed to preserving and providing access to the history, culture and development of Cleveland and Northeast Ohio. We pledge to provide a safe, welcoming, accessible and enriching experience to all, with integrity and adhering to the highest level of standards for personal and professional conduct.

Sites



		CITY	COUNTY
	Cleveland History Center	Cleveland	Cuyahoga County
	Hale Farm & Village	Bath	Summit County
	Shandy Hall	Geneva	Ashtabula County
	Loghurst	Canfield	Mahoning County
	Holsey Gates House	Bedford	Cuyahoga County
	Restoration & Storage Facility	Macedonia	Summit County



Cleveland History Center

7,031

Visitors to experience the Cleveland History Center

3,124

Riders on the historic Euclid Beach Park Grand Carousel

*Carousel was closed March 2020 through February 2021

Exhibits



15 exhibits on display, showcasing WRHS's extensive collections, including:



- 1 Cleveland Starts Here® Sponsored by the Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Foundation
- 2 Carl and Louis Stokes Making History
- 3 Celebrate Those Who Give Black (on site and virtual)
- 4 Si Jolie! French Fashion in Cleveland (on site and virtual)
- 5 Holiday Traditions Virtual Experience
- 6 Women and Politics: Empowered to Vote | Empowered to Lead presented by PNC (on site and virtual)
- 7 Shandy Hall Virtual Tour
- 8 Euclid Beach Park Grand Carousel
- 9 Setting the World in Motion
- 10 REVolution
- 11 Hay-McKinney Mansion & Guided Tours
- 12 Bingham-Hanna Mansion
- 13 Amanda Wicker | Black Fashion in Cleveland
- 14 Celebrating the Principles of Kwanzaa
- 15 Art from the Collection | Open Storage display of WRHS Portraits and Paintings

Education



Combined Schools and Youth Served

744

In Person	147
Virtual	597



329 students from 15 schools registered 219 projects at Region 3 Ohio History Day 2021 on the theme of "Communication in History"

22 projects from our Region 3 contest competed in National History Day, held virtually.

General	Students served (non-CMSD)	536
	Groups or Classes	19
	Programs Served	5
	Schools Served	6

CMSD	Students Served	249
	CMSD classes attending YEE and CHC's other programs	21

Homeschool	Students Served	8
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Events



Guests attending
30 rental events

1,935




Adult
Programming

Including Speaking of Cleveland,
College Programming, and Virtual/In-Person
Classes, Events, Programs, and Tours:

College Students, Adults, and Seniors Participated	1,079
Presentations	78
Virtual	60
In-Person	18
Programs Presented	44
Groups, Locations Served	51
Virtual Online Classes Presented	6
Virtual Events	17
In-Person Programs	4
Presented hybrid virtual and in-person	3



Library, Archives, Collections

 The Library was closed throughout FY21 as a result of Covid-19 Protocols and the extensive Library Renovation Project.

In order to continue to serve the community in FY21, the WRHS team set up a temporary research center allowing researchers uninterrupted access to WRHS collections.

23,525

Photos, video, documents, and more now available online on [Digital Cleveland History Center](#)

52

Digital photograph orders processed remotely using the Digital Cleveland Starts Here® portal

77

Researchers used the WRHS collection onsite at the Library

6,388

1,264 phone calls
5,124 email responses

Remote requests for access to WRHS collections in the form of phone calls and emails



Over 50 collection items on loan and on display both locally and nationally, including a 1932 Cadillac 355B Sport Phaeton on display at the Frick Pittsburgh Museum for its exhibition 'Cast in Chrome: The Art of Hood Ornaments.'



Collections accessioned into the WRHS archives

42

Linear feet processed and made accessible to the public

100+

Requests to access on-site closed stack collections

423

Including

Books	89
Newspaper Titles	13
Photograph and Manuscript archival collections (includes Automotive Marque File/Automotive literature file collections)	321



Hale Farm & Village

14,621

General admission visitors
experienced Hale Farm & Village

34

Historic structures

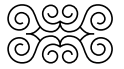
6

Signature Events Held

Events

HALE FARM & VILLAGE

BY THE NUMBERS



Number of Rental events
Attended by 2,495 guests

34

6 Signature events held over
the course of 23 days

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 | Harvest Days |
| 2 | Adult Trick or Treat Night |
| 3 | Holiday Lantern Tours |
| 4 | Maple Sugar Days & Pancake Breakfast |
| 5 | Mystery on the Farm |
| 6 | Sow and Grow Pollinator Festival & Plant Sale |
-

Education

HALE FARM & VILLAGE

BY THE NUMBERS



Students experienced history at Hale Farm & Village through School & Youth programming, including through virtual programming sessions

5,570

Attendees over 42 Adult Craft & Trade Workshops

168

Preservation, Agriculture, & Horticulture

HALE FARM & VILLAGE

BY THE NUMBERS



Preservation
Hours at HFV

500+

Heritage Breeds
On-site

3

Including

- Tunis Sheep
 - Milking Short Horn Cattle
 - Various Historic Chicken Breeds
-



Financials & Leadership

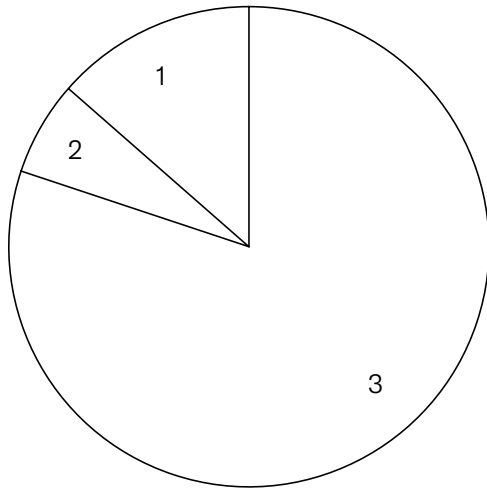
\$3,904,511

Annual operating budget

\$2,910,000

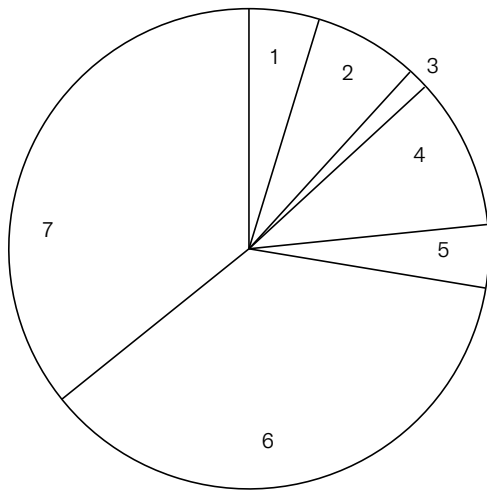
Spending in capital projects for the Mary Jane Davis Hartwell Community Room at the Hale Farm & Village Gatehouse, Hale Farm & Village Meeting House, and Library Renovations.

Financials



Expenses
\$5,236,775

1	Management and General Expense	\$793,464	15%
2	Fundraising Expense	\$329,033	6%
3	Program Service Expense	\$4,114,278	79%



Revenue
\$7,934,296

1	Admissions	\$374,510	5%
2	Earned Income	\$557,335	7%
3	Other Income	\$111,676	1%
4	Endowment Support	\$811,680	10%
5	Support from Perpetual Trusts	\$327,266	4%
6	Capital Grants	\$2,910,000	37%
7	Gifts, Grants and Project Support	\$2,841,829	36%



Officers

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Leadership Team

Kelly Falcone-Hall	President & CEO
Glenn Anderson, Jr	Senior Vice President Advancement
Rich Arlesic	Chief of Facilities & Security
Dennis Barrie	Director, Experience Design
Hilary Frank Beatrez	Chief Financial Officer
Jennifer Dukes	Systems Administrator/HR Manager

Lisa Leaman	Vice President Heritage Management
Angie Lowrie	Director, Cleveland History Center
Emily Poznako	Assistant to the CEO
Margaret Roulett	Acting Library Director
Catherine Sterle	Acting Director, Hale Farm & Village
Regennia N. Williams	Distinguished Scholar of African American History and Culture

Thank You

Western Reserve Historical Society (WRHS) deeply appreciates our donors' commitment to our mission: To inspire people to discover the American experience by exploring the tangible history of Northeast Ohio. The following gifts were made to WRHS between July 1, 2020 and June 30, 2021. Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this donor list. We apologize for any errors or omissions.

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We would like to recognize and thank those individuals who have decided to remember WRHS in their estate plans. We are eternally grateful.

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