

Cleveland History Center  
10825 East Blvd  
Cleveland OH 44106  
www.wrhs.org

# CLEVELAND HISTORY CENTER of the WESTERN RESERVE HISTORICAL SOCIETY



## Speaking of Cleveland

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Forgotten Tales from Cleveland's Past

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For a full list of topics go to [www.wrhs.org](http://www.wrhs.org)



## Speaking of Cleveland

Take a front row seat as the Cleveland History Center presents significant stories that capture the Cleveland spirit. Speaking of Cleveland features the intriguing, curious and oft-forgotten tales from Cleveland's past. Pulled directly from the nationally-recognized collections of the Western Reserve Historical Society, these stories showcase the innovation, the grit and the pride that characterize Cleveland's past, present and future.

Our historians and museum professionals are eager to share Cleveland's stories with you. To book a Speaking of Cleveland engagement for your group or facility, please call 216-721-5722 x1502 or email [education@wrhs.org](mailto:education@wrhs.org).

### Scholar

\$250 per program + mileage

#### Cleveland: A to Z

**JOHN GRABOWSKI, Senior VP Krieger Mueller Historian**  
Author and historian, John Grabowski, presents his newest book on Cleveland – a city guide that is focused on the people, places, and events that define a city whose community played a significant but often unrecognized role in the growth of the nation.

#### Symbols of Passage: Immigration and Migration to Cleveland

**JOHN GRABOWSKI, Senior VP of Research & Krieger Mueller Historian**

Today, Northeast Ohio is home to over 120 ethnic groups. How did our city and region, once an outpost of New England, become a global community?

### Curator

\$150 per program + mileage

#### Cleveland at War

**ERIC RIVET, Curator of Collections & Exhibits**  
What was Cleveland's role in World War I and World War II? Learn about how Cleveland's industrial power made key contributions to both wars. Hear the stories of prominent Clevelanders and local heroes who helped achieve victory, and see some of the treasures of the Western Reserve Historical Society's military collections.

#### Mad for Plaid

**PATRICIA EDMONSON, Museum Advisory Council Curator of Costume and Textiles**  
Popularized for the masses by Queen Victoria, plaid connects to history, classic chic, prepsters, grunge, and the hipster known as the urban woodsman. This talk showcases Northeastern Ohio's men, women, and children who wear plaid, highlighting recognizable brands, pop culture, and the heritage behind it all.

#### Ethnicity and Local History

**SEAN MARTIN, Associate Curator for Jewish History**  
How do local groups operate within larger, national ethnic groups? How do they help us negotiate our identities as citizens? Explore the variety of ethnic communities to which we belong and the local communities in which we live.

#### Italian American Life in Cleveland

**PAMELA DORAZIO-DEAN, Associate Curator of Italian American History**

Explore Italian immigration to Cleveland from the late 19th century through present day, with a focus on life in the Italian neighborhoods.

#### Beginning a Family History Project

**ANN SINDELAR, Research Library Reference Supervisor**  
Tracing your family history is a fun and compelling project. Find out how to research and add valuable information to your family tree. Learn how the WRHS Research Library collections, services and classes can help you.

#### Euclid Beach Park's Grand Carousel – PTC No 19

**JOHN FRATO, Carousel Training & Volunteer Coordinator**  
This is the story of Euclid Beach Park's Grand Carousel: its years in Cleveland, its operation in Maine, and its journey back to Cleveland. John Frato will recall the challenging project to restore the 1910 antique carousel to full operation and stories of carousel memories, treasured and new.

#### Euclid Beach Park – Cleveland's Beloved Amusement Park

**JOHN FRATO, Carousel Training & Volunteer Coordinator**  
Food, rides and attractions. Why is Euclid Beach Park so very memorable? Learn about its early beginnings in 1895 and reminisce about its heyday through its final days in 1969. Relive those special memories that Euclid Beach Park holds.

#### Behind the Front Line

**JOHN VACHA, Local Historian & Noted Author**  
Based on David Van Tassel's posthumously published *Behind Bayonets*, this program explores life on the home front in Cleveland during the Civil War. Special attention is given to the role played behind the front line by women and the Soldiers Aid Society.



### EDUCATOR

\$130 per program + mileage

Multiple booking discounts available for programs led by Museum Education Staff

#### Cleveland Starts Here®

Learn about Cleveland's rich and diverse history through objects and images on view in Cleveland Starts Here®, a new exhibit sponsored by the Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Foundation that explores the rich and diverse history of Northeast Ohio.

#### I Had Made Up My Mind To Go Into The Oil Trade: Rockefeller's Cleveland Years

Learn about Rockefeller's tumultuous time as a Clevelander and get to know the divisive figure who would become one of the richest men in the world.

#### Built for Good: Cleveland State Hospital and the Changing World of Mental Health Treatment

Built with good intentions for the treatment of those suffering from mental illness, Cleveland State Hospital's patient practices quickly took a turn. Peek into the underside of the Cleveland Press exposé of mental health treatment in 1950s Cleveland.

#### Battle for the Ballot: Cleveland's Suffragette Movement

Learn about a band of women, inexperienced in politics, who dedicated themselves to public interest and grew into an organization that won the respect and confidence of the nation.

#### Car Capital of the World

At one time, Cleveland was the automobile capital of the world. Take a ride through the Western Reserve at the turn of the 20th century and discover a treasure of Cleveland-made vehicles.

#### Admirable Women of the Western Reserve

Meet the talented, inspiring, creative, and innovative women of the Western Reserve. These admirable women were pioneers, philanthropists, musicians, doctors, educators, suffragettes, judges, legislators, and so much more.

#### Carl and Louis Stokes From Projects to Politics

Two brothers from Cleveland helped reshape American history. Carl Stokes became the first African-American mayor of a major American city. His brother Louis was the first African-American US Congressman from Ohio. Together they advanced civil rights, promoted urban issues, and helped to make the United States a more equitable nation.

#### Eliot Ness' Cleveland

Travel back to the time of bootleggers, beer and unsolved crimes. This program discusses the role of Eliot Ness during his controversial tenure as Cleveland's Safety Director from 1935 to 1942.

#### Garrett Morgan: Cleveland's Civic Minded Inventor

Garrett Morgan, the son of former slaves, moved north from the segregated south and went on to become a self-made business man in Cleveland. Hear the story of how his inventions revolutionized public safety in the automobile age.

#### The Golden Age of Shopping in Cleveland

Which was more glamorous - Riding the elevator (with an operator!)? Or your first few tries on the escalator? Reminisce about Halle Brothers, May Co., Higbee's and the Sterling Lindner Christmas Tree.

Find holiday topics online!