

2024 Open Talks Online Event

HISTORIC HOUSE MUSEUMS AND THEIR COMMUNITIES



local
history

involving
audiences

shaping
the future

Video presentations
Virtual cafe

Interactive discussions
and workshops

25-27
November
2024

Online
16.00-19.00 CET

Save the date!!

OPEN TALKS 2024

HISTORIC HOUSE MUSEUMS AND THEIR COMMUNITIES

Dates: 25-27 November 2024
(Monday - Wednesday)

Timeslot: 16 - 19 pm CET
(Paris Time)



THEME



Historic house museums hold a unique position as bridges between the past and present, embodying local histories and cultural narratives within their walls. Beyond preserving artifacts and stories, these institutions play a crucial role in connecting with and serving their communities in meaningful ways. At the heart of this connection is the house museum's ability to anchor community identity. By preserving and showcasing local heritage, historic house museums provide residents with a tangible link to their roots, fostering a sense of pride and continuity. This connection is often strengthened through community involvement in preservation efforts, historical research, and cultural programming.

There are many ways house museums connect with the communities around them, larger palaces and estates have a different relationship to the local community (both historically and today) than houses within the community that have become museums because of past residents (artist, author, social leader etc.). Either way, today historic house museums serve as gathering places where community members can engage with shared histories: they offer spaces for dialogue, reflection, and learning, promoting a deeper understanding of cultural diversity and social change over time. Educational programs tailored to local schools, interactive exhibits, and public events further enrich these interactions, making history accessible and relevant to all. An additional aspect of this is the important role they play in preserving intangible heritage — traditions, oral histories, and customs — that define community identities. By acknowledging and celebrating these elements, historic house museums contribute to a sense of belonging and inclusivity among diverse groups within the community.

THEME



Looking to the future, and the role of house museums in their communities, they have the potential to act as catalysts for social change. By addressing contemporary issues through historical lenses, they encourage dialogue on topics such as equity, justice, and sustainability. Collaborative initiatives with community partners, such as cultural festivals, neighborhood revitalization projects, and outreach programs, extend the museum's impact beyond its walls, promoting positive social outcomes.

Historic house museums are not just repositories of the past but vibrant community assets that inspire, educate, and unite. Their ongoing relevance lies in their ability to adapt to changing community needs while staying true to their mission of preserving and sharing local heritage for future generations. Through these efforts, they ensure that the stories of the past continue to resonate and inspire meaningful connections within the communities they serve.

This online meeting will provide an open forum for discussions on the role historic house museums play in their communities – historically, in the present and with an eye to the future.

PROGRAM



Three online meetings all dealing with different aspects of Historic House Museums and their communities. The sessions include presentations, virtual tours, discussions, and interactive activities. Virtual cafes are open-mic sessions held during breaks for casual conversations.

SCHEDULE

** [PROGRAM SUBJECT TO CHANGE]

Monday 25.11.24 - SESSION 1 - INSPIRE (3 hours)

16.00	Introduction	15 min
16.15	Keynote speaker - followed by Q&A	45 min
17.00	Break / virtual cafe	15 min
17.15	Paper presentations [3] - followed by Q&A	50 min
18.05	Break / virtual cafe	15 min
18.20	Virtual tours [2]	15 min
18.35	Wrap up	

Tuesday 26.11.24 - SESSION 2 - INTERPRET (3 hours)

16.00	Paper presentations [4] - followed by Q&A	50 min
16.50	Paper presentations [3] - followed by Q&A	40 min
17.30	Break / virtual cafe	15 min
17.45	Virtual tours [2]	15 min
18.00	Interactive gamification	30 min
18.30	Wrap up	

Wednesday 27.11.24 - SESSION 3 - IMPACT (3 hours)

16.00	Paper presentations [4] - followed by Q&A	60 min
17.00	Break / virtual cafe	15 min
17.15	Virtual tours [3]	20 min
17.35	Interactive gamification	30 min
18.05	Wrap-up discussion and general feedback	30 min

PROGRAM

SESSION 1 - INSPIRE



This first day will revolve around the key word “inspire”, showing the role of house museums in inspiring current and future generations through their commitment communities, cultural heritage, and societal growth. Papers highlight the way house museums use collections and storytelling to preserve and celebrate local history, promote ethical reflection, and foster cultural sustainability and development.

SESSION 2 - INTERPRET



For our second day, papers will focus on how museums and cultural institutions interpret historical and cultural heritage in ways that resonate with present-day communities. We will emphasize the role of interpretation in bridging the past with the present, fostering community engagement and addressing contemporary societal issues.

SESSION 3 - IMPACT



With impact as our key word, papers on the third session will highlight how historic house museums can influence societal transformation within their communities. This theme will underscore the importance of innovation, empowerment, and sustainability in museums and heritage sites, demonstrating their potential to address contemporary social challenges and foster community engagement.

FAQ



REGISTRATION

How to attend the Open Talks? Registration for the Open Talks will be open from October 1. to November 21.; you will be able to register through the DEMHIST website. The event is free of charge for all participants. A single link will be provided for accessing the sessions, through the Visio Agent platform (no personal account required; on registration you will be required to sign a GDPR compliance form).

Technical Requirements: Ensure you have a stable internet connection. Use a device with audio and video capabilities (e.g., computer, tablet, smartphone). It is recommended to use updated browsers such as Chrome, Firefox, or Edge for the best experience.

Joining the Sessions: The Open Talks link will be sent to registered participants 3 days before the event date. Simply click the link to join the conference sessions. Follow the prompts to enter your name and join the session. Please remember to connect with the same email account you made your registration with, and to properly identify yourself (name, institution) when joining the sessions.

Support and Assistance: If you encounter any issues with registration or accessing the conference, please contact our support team via the contact information that will be provided on the DEMHIST website.

PROGRAM

The posted program is subject to change, the full and final schedule of speakers will be posted by October 15.

PROCEEDINGS

Will ICOM-DEM HIST publish the papers or will there be any other chances for wider engagement? The conference proceedings will be published online, there will be no printed version and it will be accessible on DEMHIST website.

CONTACT US!
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