History Making at Richmond History Makers
The 19th annual event celebrated 125 years of history makers.

Portraits: The Style Weekly Photograph Archive
Opening July 11, 2024, revisit imagery from Richmond’s long-running alternative news publication in this upcoming exhibition at the Valentine.

Explore the Second Floor
For the first time in four years, the second floor of the Historic Wickham House is back open for tours with new spaces for hands-on learning.

TIMELINE
SUMMER 2024
June 18 | 12–1 p.m.
Join us for the next installment in the Valentine and Montpelier’s ongoing lecture series that explores the evolution and contemporary relevance of America’s founding philosophies. Dr. Nicole Meyers-Turner will join us for a virtual lunchtime talk discussing her book *Soul Liberty: The Evolution of Black Religious Politics in Postemancipation Virginia* which examines how freedpeople in Virginia adapted strategies for pursuing the freedom to worship and participate in society in the evolving landscape of emancipation.

Learn more at: thevalentine.org/events

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**The Oasis: A High Noon Summer Concert Series**

The Oasis returns for the fifth year starting July 11, 2024! Take a break from daily life in the Valentine Garden with a rotating, diverse lineup curated by Nickey McMullen. The Oasis is a free concert series open to the public.

**July 11, 2024 | 12–1 p.m.**

**July 18, 2024 | 12–1 p.m.**

**July 25, 2024 | 12–1 p.m.**

**August 1, 2024 | 12–1 p.m.**

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**Life, Liberty & Happiness**

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**Visit the Valentine & the First Freedom Center**

There’s more to see than ever at the Valentine! Plan your visit to explore new tours, exhibitions and special events. Plus, get two hours of free parking in the Valentine lot with your admission.

**The Valentine**

**Monday, Closed**

**Tuesday, 10 a.m.–5 p.m.**

**Wednesday, 10 a.m.–5 p.m.**

**Thursday, 10 a.m.–7 p.m. (free admission)**

**Friday–Sunday, 10 a.m.–5 p.m.**

**The Valentine First Freedom Center**

**Monday, Closed**

**Tuesday–Sunday, 10 a.m.–5 p.m.**

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**Celebrating Richmond Stories**

On Friday, April 12, 2024, the Valentine hosted its 125th Anniversary Gala: An Evening of Richmond Stories. Our 125-year legacy would be impossible without this community, and this event honored not only the impact the Valentine has had on Richmond, but also the impact Richmond has had on the Valentine. Featured throughout the night were an expansive group of storytellers, who brought their skills and artistry to our downtown campus for a night of celebration.
History Making at Richmond History Makers

As part of the Valentine’s 125th anniversary celebrations, on Thursday, April 11, 2024, the community gathered for our 19th Richmond History Makers event. Over nearly two decades, the Valentine has typically recognized individuals and organizations currently making an impact on the Richmond region in six different categories. This year, in honor of our 125th anniversary, we decided to mix things up and opened up public nominations for any person, place, business, organization, moment, movement or work of art that has had a great impact on the history of Richmond over the past 125 years. Our final honorees were selected to represent five categories: the James River, Education, Arts & Public Memory, Family & Community Philanthropy and Civil Rights & Advocacy.

We were excited to welcome many of the honorees, their friends and families as well as descendants of those who are no longer with us but who have still left an indelible mark on this region.

2024 Richmond History Makers Honorees:

Family & Community Philanthropy
Edwin Claiborne Robins, Sr.
Richard S. Reynolds, Sr.
Jim and Bobby Ukrop
Sydney and Frances Lewis

Edwin Claiborne Robins, Sr.
Richard S. Reynolds, Sr.
Jim and Bobby Ukrop
Sydney and Frances Lewis

Civil Rights & Advocacy
Breanna Diaz & Narissa Rahaman
Clarence, Earl & Chester Hunter
Cornelius Mims
Elizabeth Johnson Rice & The Richmond 34
Adele Clark

Breanna Diaz & Narissa Rahaman
Clarence, Earl & Chester Hunter
Cornelius Mims
Elizabeth Johnson Rice & The Richmond 34
Adele Clark

Arts & Public Memory
Monument Avenue Monuments & the Rumors of War Statue
Elisabeth Scott Bocock & Historic Richmond Foundation
Bev Appleton
Hammond Organ Studios of Richmond
Noah Oddo

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Education
Barbara Grey
Dr. Carmen Foster
Camp Alkulana
Albert V. Norrell
Adolph Brown IV

Barbara Grey
Dr. Carmen Foster
Camp Alkulana
Albert V. Norrell
Adolph Brown IV

The James River
Richmond Tobacco Row Factories
Legend Brewing Company
Wilfred Clutchow
The James River Association

Richmond Tobacco Row Factories
Legend Brewing Company
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Richmond Tobacco Factories

Photos by Duane Berger and Doug Buerlein.
April 10, 2024–February 2, 2025

In the 1890s Richmond saw incredible expansion in its infrastructure, political machinery and cultural institutions, many of which are still with us today. The City of Richmond supported new buildings, expanded streetcar lines and updated its water supply system. Conservative politicians and Black leaders used local newspapers to inform and shape public opinion. And, as a new generation of leaders took over the city’s cultural organizations, some older institutions went through overhauls while new groups formed to address current issues in their community. Much like today, the 1890s in Richmond were a time of great transition. Turning Points: Richmond in the 1890s outlines those changes and the lasting effects on the region today.

Portraits: The Style Weekly Photograph Archive

Opening July 11, 2024

For more than 40 years, Style Weekly has been a source of culture, arts, opinion and creative thought for the Richmond community. As someone who “grew up in a home full of magazines,” founder Lorna Wyckoff started Style in 1982 after moving to Richmond from Washington, DC, where local magazines provided alternative news and bold commentary. Wyckoff saw a need in Richmond for a similar publication that would contrast with the major daily newspapers. In 2021, as the publication was facing possible closure, the Valentine acquired Style newspapers. In 2021, as the publication was facing possible closure, the Valentine acquired Style Weekly.

For the first time since 2020, we are excited to welcome visitors to the second floor of the historic Wickham House. In addition to viewing the bedrooms of John and Elizabeth Wickham and Dr. James McClurg, two newly reinterpreted spaces provide visitors with a deeper exploration into the 1812 home and Federal Richmond, while highlighting untold stories and hands-on experiences.

Explore the Second Floor

Our new Hands-on Stories Room focuses on the lives of four lesser-known individuals who resided and worked in the house, including Robin Brown, John Wickham’s enslaved manservant or aide, and Amy Green, who worked as an enslaved caretaker to a young infant. Brown’s and Green’s stories prompt us to imagine the details of their daily lives as well as the constraints forced upon them through the system of slavery. Also highlighted are two Wickham children, Elizabeth and Cary, whose lives allow visitors to explore 19th-century childhood, women’s rights, leisure-time activities and the reality of child mortality. Through a collection of reproduction artifacts and primary sources for each individual, their stories come to life and prompt our visitors to explore the differences and parallels between their lives and ours today.

Explore more entries on our interactive timeline at: thevalentine.org/richmond-stories

This Just In: Psychic Horse “Lady Wonder” Died in Chesterfield, 1957

Lady Wonder, the psychic horse, died at 33 years old after suffering a heart attack at her farm in Chesterfield County on March 19, 1957. The horse, through her owner Claudia Fonda, began making predictions in the 1920s, including the stock market crash, the election of several presidents, Pimlico race winners, the location of several missing persons and her own death. Thousands of people came to Fonda’s farm to pay between 25 cents and 1 dollar to ask Lady Wonder questions, often with mixed results. Lady Wonder would flip up tiles with letters and numbers on them to reveal her answer.

Explore more entries on our interactive timeline at: thevalentine.org/richmond-stories
Your support of the Valentine is the bee’s knees!

There’s never been a better time to be a member of the Valentine! With exciting upcoming exhibitions and an ever-growing list of member-exclusive programs and tours, you’ll get even more from your gift while contributing to our mission of collecting, preserving and interpreting Richmond’s diverse history.

Celebrate the Valentine’s 125th anniversary by renewing your gift today! An envelope is enclosed for your convenience. We also accept gifts of stock or IRA distributions or you can donate online at thevalentine.org/give.

If you have questions about giving, please contact LaChelle Lewis, PhD, Director of Development, at (804) 649-0711 ext. 339 or at membership@thevalentine.org.

Cover Images: (A) Jack Berry (left) and Katherine O’Donnell of Richmond Region Tourism, and Duncan Owen of TowneBank celebrating at Richmond History Makers, photo by Duane Berger and Doug Buerlein (B) Students at Bellevue Elementary at the Valentine for a student program (C) From left: Deborah Valentine, Eliza Holzbach, Bill Martin, Thomas Valentine, and Grant Holzbach enjoying the 125th Anniversary Gala (D) The Richmond Flower Truck creates custom bouquets at Richmond History Makers, photo by Duane Berger