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"Bringing History To Life"

Dear Friends,

With stormy weather and cold waters beating our shores, imagine what the Pilgrims were experiencing 400 years ago as they suffered through their first winter in New England! This year, the Atwood Museum presents insights into the treacherous journey and the arrival of these brave travelers. We will also remember the Native Americans who helped the colonists survive. As towns on the Cape, UK, Holland, and Plymouth, commemorate the arrival of these early travelers, Chatham offers the unique distinction of being the Turning Point of the Mayflower, and therefore a Turning Point in American History.

We look forward to you joining us to learn more about the Mayflower journey and other important events that shaped our history over the last 400 years.

See you soon - At the Atwood
Danielle Jeanloz - Executive Director



Sunday Lecture Series

Mark your calendars!
You will not want to miss these two fascinating lectures.

January 26 **Mayflower** **Double Feature**



Join Professor Bill Horrocks for a lecture about the Mayflower Journey and a Sneak Preview Documentary by Filmmaker Andrew Buckley about one of the travelers aboard the ship.

[Details About this Event](#)

February 9 **Slavery on** **Cape Cod**



Yes it's true, on Cape Cod, slavery was a serious problem. Author Jim Coogan will discuss the seldom-heard stories during his lecture about Slavery, Indenture, and the Abolition Movement on Cape Cod.

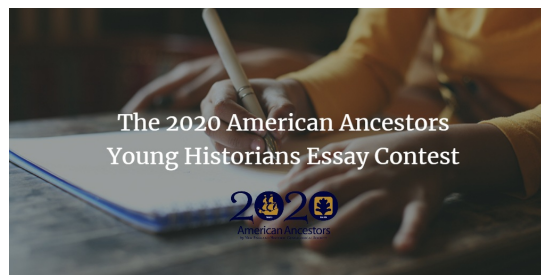
[Details About this Event](#)



Essay Contest for our Students

A Massachusetts Statewide Student Essay Competition will commemorate the 400th Anniversary of the Landing of the Mayflower. Below are portions of a reprinted invitation for our students:

American Ancestors/The New England



Historic Genealogical Society challenges Massachusetts students to reflect upon the relevance of the voyage of the Mayflower 400 years after its arrival.

Four hundred years ago, the Mayflower landed on the shores of what would later be known as Massachusetts, forever changing the course of history of four nations: America, England, the Netherlands, and the Wampanoag. American Ancestors—also known as New England Historic Genealogical Society (NEHGS)—a national family history organization headquartered in Boston and one of the groups leading activities to commemorate the quadricentennial of the landing of the Mayflower, has announced a statewide student competition in Massachusetts to honor the story of the Pilgrims and of the native Wampanoag people. The 2020 American Ancestors Young Historians Essay Contest asks students to explore how this 400-year old history relates to our national, familial, and/or personal stories and identities.

Open to students currently enrolled in grades 5–12 in public, private, and parochial schools, and those in home-study programs across the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the contest asks participants to address one of three topics:

- How is the story of the Mayflower still relevant today?
- How does your family’s journey to America compare to the journey of the Pilgrims in 1620?
- As a native student, what does your tribal history mean to you?

American Ancestor’s Director of Education Ginevra Morse described the statewide competition as an opportunity to honor the story of the Pilgrims and of the native Wampanoag people. “Their stories, collectively and individually, embody the triumphs and tragedies of life in early New England and in the country itself. These stories are still relevant today.”

“Involving some of the youngest minds in a process of reflection upon this historic event will lead to new insights and understanding for historians of all ages. We’re delighted to offer an opportunity for Massachusetts students to interpret and express the significance of the Mayflower voyage in their own words. We have no doubt that it will be revealing for many of us,” she added.

A panel of judges will announce winners of the 2020 American Ancestors Young Historians Essay Contest in early August 2020. Cash prizes will be awarded to six winners; three winners will be selected from grades 5–8 and receive \$500 each and another three winners will be selected from grades 9–12 and receive \$750 each. All winners will be invited to present part of their essay at special events in Boston, Massachusetts, commemorating the Mayflower 400 year.

The deadline for essay submissions is June 10, 2020. Submission guidelines may be found at <https://mayflower.americanancestors.org/essay-contest>, the Mayflower companion website of American Ancestors.



Time to Renew Your Membership

Members are the Keys to Our Success!



Please Join Us Today!

You may belong to many organizations who rely on your support. The Chatham Historical Society which owns the Atwood Museum is a 501 C3 non profit organization. While we periodically qualify for some Community Preservation Act grants, we do not receive annual funds from the Town of Chatham. We therefore need to raise funds often to cover our expenses. At this time, we want to remind you that we also rely on every membership to help us keep the Museum going. Your membership expires at the end of each calendar year and we hope that you will join or renew for 2020. Thank you to all of you who have already renewed for this year.

Membership renewal letters providing forms to renew by mail were just sent out. We want to make it as easy as possible for you to join or renew your membership now. Simply click on the button below to renew or to find out more about membership benefits.

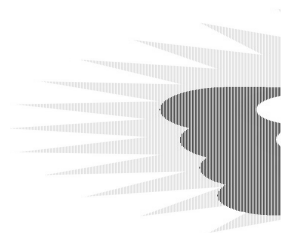
We need and appreciate your support!

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You can do this by clicking on the "Like" button here or by going to the bottom of this email and clicking on the "F" for Facebook or the

camera icon for Instagram.



Ring in the New Year

Our staff had a great time leading the Noise Parade during Chatham's First Night Celebrations on New Year's Eve. With perfect weather, it was a fun way to celebrate a successful year at the Museum and to prepare ourselves for another action-packed year.

Photo taken by Kat Szmit and recently published in the Cape Cod Chronicle.



Atwood Museum Home of the Chatham Historical Society

Events

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Reach Out To Us

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