



For Immediate Release
September 18, 2012

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August Wilson: His House History and Yours: Resources for Researching Your Heritage

Learn about the latest efforts to revitalize the childhood home of playwright August Wilson and how to apply the same house history techniques to researching your own home.

A special program, "August Wilson: His House History and Yours," will be held from **10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, September 29**, in Pittsburgh's Hill District.

The event will provide an update on the project to turn the August Wilson House into the home of the Daisy Wilson Artist Community (DWAC). Named for Wilson's mother, DWAC is a nonprofit formed in 2010 to interpret the literary and social legacy of August Wilson, the Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright best known for his series of ten plays, "The Pittsburgh Cycle," each of which depicts a decade of the African-American experience.

- **10:00 am – 11:00 am: History of the August Wilson House (and a brief look inside) August Wilson Childhood Home in the Hill District (1727 Bedford Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15219)**
Learn about the history of this significant community resource, exciting plans envisioned for its future, and the almost-completed process to nominate the building to the **National Register of Historic Places**.
Then take a peek inside the home that inspired one of the nation's foremost playwrights.

Speakers: **Paul A. Ellis, Jr., Esq.**, Daisy Wilson Artist Community;
Kevin Acklin, Daisy Wilson Artist Community and Executive Director of RenewPittsburgh;
Jeff Slack, AICP, preservation planner at Pfaffmann + Associates, author of the National Register nomination, and Instructor, University of Pittsburgh, Architectural Studies Program

- **11:00 am – 11:30 am:** Make your way to the Hill District Library. Walk, bike or drive. . .it's 6/10 of a mile.
Copies of a self-guided tour of Wilson-related historic sites along the route will be provided.
- **11:30 am – 12:30pm: Top Ten Resources for Researching Your Heritage Hill District Branch of the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh (2177 Centre Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15219)** Learn about the resources used to uncover the history of the August Wilson House (built in 1841!). Preservationists and historians will be on hand to answer questions about how these tools can unlock the history of your house.

Speakers: **Jeff Slack**, AICP;
Laura Schwartz, Preservation Pittsburgh; historic preservation consultant at Church Restoration Group, LLC;
Colleen Gribbin, Preservation Pittsburgh, house history and genealogy consultant

Special Guest Speaker: **Larry Glasco**, Hill District scholar and Professor of History, University of Pittsburgh will discuss recent research into "The Wilson's Neighbors, The Wilson's Neighborhood."

- **12:30 pm – 1:00 pm: Reception and Refreshments**
Stay for refreshments, courtesy of **RenewPittsburgh**, and an informal question-and-answer period.

All events are free and open to the public. Attend any or all. No registration required. Rain or shine.

This project is supported jointly by a grant from
 Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission

and Preservation Pittsburgh, The Daisy Wilson Artist Community, Inc., Pfaffmann + Associates, Renew Pittsburgh

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