

The Noah Webster House & West Hartford Historical Society presents



“Uncovering the Hidden History in your Town”

***Make slavery and freedom an integral part of
the local colonial story***

A new opportunity for communities in the Greater Hartford area!

Historical societies, community, and town groups in the Greater Hartford area are invited to apply for this program that creates a learning cohort where groups learn how to shift the narrative of colonial history to dismantle structural racism.

What does the program include? Participate in this workshop series to shift the narrative of your town’s colonial history to include slavery and freedom with the support of a cohort from the Greater Hartford area. Your team will address the legacies of discrimination in the re-telling of your town’s story. Uncover probate records, church records and account books which help to restore the stories of freedom and slavery in your town.

Participate in the Program:

- **January 27, 2023** - Complete an online needs survey
- Attend two half day workshops (9:00 a.m. - noon) with cohort members to develop content and strategies.
 - **February 23, 2023 (snow date March 1) and**
 - **March 22, 2023 (snow date March 23)**
- **April 2023** - Receive half day support at your site. Devise action plans to amplify stories that will address structural racism in the telling of your town’s colonial story.
- **May 10, 2023** (9:00 a.m. - noon) - Share your research and civic engagement plans

To complete a cohort application: [click here](#) (Open December 1, 2022 - January 9, 2023)
Five town applications will be selected and notified by January 13, 2023.

Cost: \$500 for 2-4 member team from your historical society, community or town group.

The Hartford Foundation for Public Giving Access Grant on Structural Racism is heavily subsidizing your participation; must be in the HFPG funding region to participate.

For more information contact: Amy Boulton boultona@noahwebsterhouse.org

Who will lead these workshops and support your town’s plan of action?

Since 2017, historians and retired teachers Tracey Wilson, Liz Devine, and Denise DeMello have researched and shared the stories of enslaved people in West Hartford. The team has worked to amend the Revolutionary War memorial, changed the name of a street to that of an enslaved woman, contributed to the Rise Up! Martin Luther King 39 mural, worked collaboratively to change the name of the center green named after an enslaver, spoken to community groups and religious institutions, and published articles in the local on-line newspaper. The team has helped the Noah Webster House make slavery and freedom integral parts of their colonial life field trips.



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