

The Fire Museum of Maryland offers 6 improved and new tours, guided by a new staff of fire fighters, historians and an archeologist.

Tours meet Maryland State Curriculum Standards in History, Geography and Political Science. Tech Tour meets STEM



- The new “Where’s the Fire?” tour shows how democracies solve social and public safety problems.*
- An archeological dig for Great Baltimore Fire ‘artifacts’
- Mapping skills learned on Smart Board, using an 1873 map to fight a fire
- Build and operate a working fire engine in the technology tour.
- Preschool, Special Needs, and Elementary students pass the buckets to fight the fire, dress up in fire gear and climb on a 1938 fire engine.
- *See next page for more details.*

Special Summer Discount: Institutions that schedule 4 tours during the summer months get a 20 percent discount for each child.

Book 2 tours and get a 10 percent discount!

A special grant from State Farm Insurance provides \$100 bus subsidies to cut the cost of buses.

For more information or to schedule, call 410-321-7500, Tuesday – Friday.
1301 York Road, Lutherville, Beltway Exit 26B. Ample free parking

* “Where’s the Fire?” Tour was made possible by a grant from the Maryland Humanities Council, through the support of the National Endowment for the Humanities. Any views, findings, conclusions, or recommendations expressed in this program do not necessarily represent those of the National Endowment for the Humanities or the Maryland Humanities Council.

Tours for All Ages, New Tours for 2nd Grade and Above

“Where’s the Fire?” Tour, Solving Problems in a Democracy

Where’s the Fire? Tour offers students, 3rd grade and above, a glimpse into how Baltimore citizens threw out corrupt politicians and street gangs who controlled the city before the Civil War. In the process, they created the modern Baltimore City Fire Department.

This tour is a remarkable story of citizens’ courage and a community coming together to regain their rights. Artifacts, fire engines, and newspaper accounts are used to show how citizens gained control of rampant corruption in city government during a time of social unrest and despotic rule. This is a time when politicians used street gangs connected to the volunteer fire companies to keep people in fear and themselves in power. The tour meets state requirements in political science, geography and history for 3rd – 6th grades, and is of interest to teenage and adult groups.

After the tour, students role-play as actual firemen of the 1870s and fight the historic Clay Street Fire of 1873, using a Smart Board program and 1873 street map. They learn to locate their firehouses on a map and the importance of following orders in an emergency.

This tour is made possible by a grant from the Maryland Humanities Council

Digging Baltimore: The Great Baltimore Fire of 1904 and archeological dig tour

Students and campers on the *Digging Baltimore Tour* hear the accounts of how 17 fire companies from the city and surrounding states fought the third worst fire in U.S. history. The fire raged for 30 hours and destroyed 70 acres of downtown Baltimore. Over 1,500 buildings were lost and 35,000 people were put of work. Undaunted, Baltimore citizens and their leaders rebuilt the City without federal funds within two years. In the process, they build the modern city that is Baltimore today.

Students see actual engines that fought the fire, see a video of period photographs and movies by Thomas Edison of the fire, and see the artifacts collected by citizens after this historic fire.

Afterwards, they dig for “artifacts” from the period in sandboxes while discovering from the evidence how people lived at the time of the fire. For groups, 2nd grade and above studying archeology and history.

Build the Engine: technology and science tour

Children learn how pumps work using atmospheric pressure, how fires are extinguished, and how fire engines are built and equipped to put out fires and save lives. After the tour, children build a child-size working fire engine. They don fire gear, answer a call, take the engine out. Each child gets to participate in a bucket brigade to fill the fire engine and then gets to work the pump and sprays an imaginary fire. Limited to 20 students, this tour meets STEM requirements.

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