



84 South Pine Street, Doylestown, PA 18901

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MERCER
MUSEUM
&
FONTHILL
CASTLE



Smithsonian Affiliate



CALENDAR OF EVENTS
FEBRUARY – APRIL 2026

OUR CASTLES

DOYLESTOWN, PA

MERCER MUSEUM



Mercer Museum by Kevin Crawford

Located in Doylestown, Bucks County, PA, the Mercer Museum & Fonthill Castle are two National Historic Landmark sites celebrating the legacy of Henry Chapman Mercer (1856-1930), American archaeologist, anthropologist, tilemaker, collector and scholar. Our properties are one mile apart and operated by the Bucks County Historical Society (BCHS).

We are proud Smithsonian affiliates and two of Bucks County's premier cultural attractions.

Mercer Museum

84 South Pine Street
Doylestown, PA 18901
215-345-0210

The Mercer Museum is a six-story reinforced concrete castle designed by Henry Mercer and built between 1913 and 1916.

The museum complex features special exhibitions, as well as a core museum collection of over 17,000 artifacts. This permanent collection offers visitors a unique window into pre-Industrial America through sixty different crafts and trades, and is one of the world's most comprehensive portraits of pre-Industrial Americana. The museum also features a research library that is a center for Bucks County history, with its roots dating back to the founding of the Bucks County Historical Society in 1880.

The Mercer Museum is self-guided and advanced online tickets are recommended.



FONTHILL CASTLE



Fonthill Castle by Kevin Crawford

Fonthill Castle

525 East Court Street
Doylestown, PA 18901
215-348-9461

Fonthill Castle, built between 1908 and 1912, was the home of Henry Mercer and served as a showplace for his collection of tiles and prints. The castle features forty-four rooms, over two hundred windows and eighteen fireplaces. Fonthill Castle's interior features Mercer's renowned, handcrafted ceramic tiles designed at the height of the Arts and Crafts movement. This historic site is an eclectic mix of Medieval, Gothic, and Byzantine architectural styles, and is significant as an early example of poured reinforced concrete.

Fonthill Castle is open for guided 60-minute tours only (unless otherwise noted on special dates). Advanced online tickets are highly recommended, as tickets do sell out.



Mercer Museum & Fonthill Castle are open daily Tuesday – Sunday, 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

The ground floor of the Mercer Museum features a modern wing that is fully accessible and climate-controlled with a changing exhibit gallery, lecture space, museum shop, and restrooms. The historic castle portion of the Mercer Museum has an elevator and offers partial accessibility due to narrow passageways. It is not climate-controlled and may experience fluctuations in temperature and humidity, depending on external weather conditions.

Fonthill Castle is a unique historic site. It offers limited accessibility with steep stairs and narrow, uneven passages throughout the interior of the site. Fonthill Castle is not recommended for those with limited mobility, issues with stairs, those who cannot stand for long periods of time, or those with concerns about small spaces/claustrophobia.



Tickets and up-to-date schedule information available at mercermuseum.org.

Mercer Museum Major Exhibition

Mercer Museum Major Exhibition

The Doan Gang: Outlaws of the Revolution Open Now – December 31, 2026 Included with Museum Admission

The Mercer Museum presents an exciting major exhibition, *The Doan Gang: Outlaws of the Revolution*, that explores the history and intrigue of a group of Revolutionary War-era Loyalists whose legend lives on today. Some called them villains; others hailed them as heroes.

Discover the untold stories of the Doan Gang and journey through a world of espionage, legendary robberies, and mythical lost treasure in the heart of Revolutionary Bucks County.

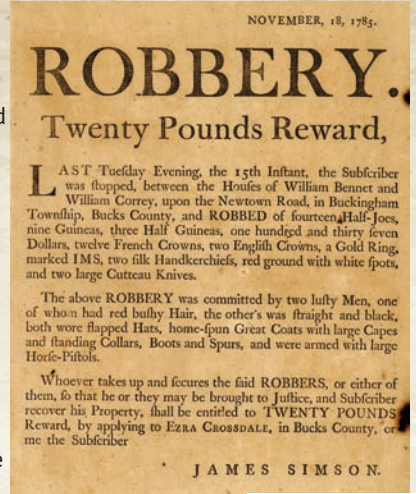
The **DOAN GANG**



★**OUTLAWS**★
of the **REVOLUTION**

Learn how these local outlaws plotted, schemed, and plundered their way through a divided world in the earliest days of a budding American nation, and why their deep loyalty to British rule in the colonies made them enemies of the Founding Fathers.

The Doan Gang: Outlaws of the Revolution investigates the extraordinary tales of the Gang's criminal exploits throughout the region and explores the conflicts that arose among neighbors, friends, and families in Bucks County who were forced to choose sides during a time of great political and social unrest.



Mercer Museum Special Exhibition Programs

Meet the Curator Tours: *The Doan Gang: Outlaws of the Revolution*

February 12, March 12, &
April 16, 2026

6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
(Doors open at 5:30 p.m.)

\$25 General Admission/
\$20 BCHS Member

Experience an intimate after-hours tour of *The Doan Gang: Outlaws of the Revolution* and learn more about the people, places and artifacts showcased in this special exhibition.



Coffee and Doan-uts

February 27, March 20, & April 24, 2026

9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.
(Doors open at 8:30 a.m.)

\$20 General Admission/
\$15 BCHS Member

Join us at the Mercer Museum for morning coffee, donuts, and an exclusive early-bird guided tour of our special exhibition *The Doan Gang: Outlaws of the Revolution*.



Spill the Tea! *The Making of the Doan Exhibition*

February 5 & April 30, 2026

6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. (Doors open at 5:30 p.m.)

\$25 General Admission/\$20 BCHS Member

Our curators tell all in this 90-minute behind-the-scenes tour of *The Doan Gang: Outlaws of the Revolution*. Hear the incredible tales of how these artifacts and stories came together through the eyes of our curators, and delve into the making of this extraordinary exhibition. Tea and light bites will be served courtesy of Wallace & Davis Enchanted English Tea Room.



Tickets at mercermuseum.org

Mercer Museum Programs

Valentine's Day Crafternoon

Saturday, February 7, 2026

1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. • Mercer Museum
\$5/Youth

Join Mercer Museum educators for a creative afternoon of Valentine's Day crafts in this family-friendly drop-in program.



A Taste of Cacao – *The Mount Vernon Way*

Saturday, February 14, 2026

11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. • Mercer Museum
Free

Commemorate Presidents' Day weekend with your sweetheart in the Mercer Museum historic Log House with food historian Susan Plaisted. Join as she prepares cacao tea and hot chocolate, favorites of America's First President George Washington. Dress warmly for this outdoor program.



Treasures from the Library Vault: True Crime in Bucks County

Sunday, March 1, 2026

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. • Mercer Museum
(Doors open at 1:30 p.m.)

\$15 General Admission/
\$10 BCHS Member

Delve into archival and museum objects that tell the fascinating stories of true crime in Bucks County. Discover the history of the 1831 Mina-Chapman murder case, the 1893 Rightly murders, and other surprise treasures from the collections and archives, including clues from investigations, images of suspects, and stories of attempted jail breaks!

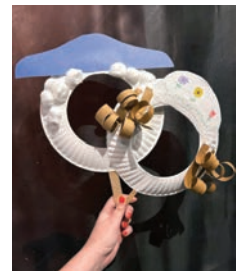


Crafternoon: *The Doan Gang*

Saturday, March 7, 2026

1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. • Mercer Museum
\$5/Youth

Join Mercer Museum educators at this family-friendly drop-in afternoon of crafts inspired by our major exhibition, *The Doan Gang: Outlaws of the Revolution*.

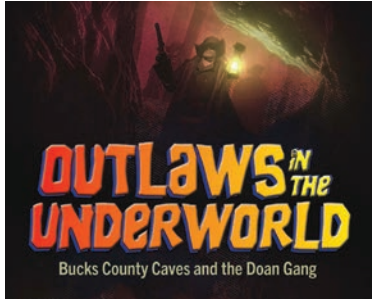


Tickets at mercermuseum.org

Mercer Museum Programs

Outlaws in the Underworld: Bucks County Caves and the Doan Gang

Sunday, March 8, 2026
2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Mercer Museum
(Doors open at 1:30 p.m.)
\$15 General Admission/
\$10 BCHS Member



Did the notorious Doan Gang really hide out in Bucks County caves while they were on the run at the time of the American Revolution? This program unravels Doan myths and legends and unveils the latest active findings on Doan Gang hideouts, secret caves, and the unique geological and historical landscapes of Bucks County.

Library 101: Exploring the Mercer Museum Research Library Open House

Wednesday, March 11, 2026
11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Mercer Museum
Free

If you are interested in learning more about the wonderful resources that the Mercer Museum Research Library has to offer, join our library and archives staff at this free "Research Library 101" Open House drop-in program!



Oscar Hammerstein – The Journey of Highland Farm

Saturday, March 21, 2026
2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. • Mercer Museum
(Doors open at 1:30 p.m.)
\$15 General Admission/\$10 BCHS Members

Hear the story of Highland Farm, the historic locale where Oscar Hammerstein II lived from 1940 to 1960 in Doylestown, PA. Julie Flack of the Oscar Hammerstein Museum & Theatre Education Center takes us on a journey through Hammerstein's life, family, and musical works.



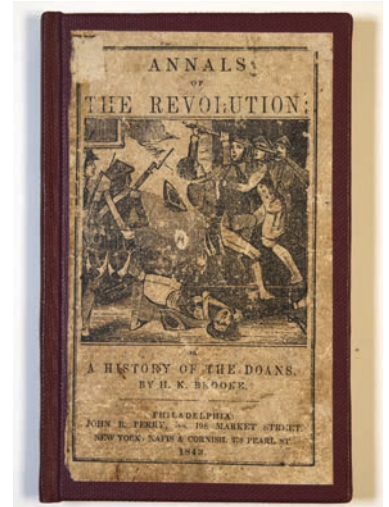
Tickets at mercermuseum.org

Mercer Museum Programs

Doans and the Revolution

Sunday, March 22, 2026
2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Mercer Museum
(Doors open at 1:30 p.m.)
\$15 General Admission/
\$10 BCHS Members

Join us for an afternoon of stories about the Doan Gang's exploits in Bucks County and hear about infamous events like the Loyalist raid of the Bird in the Hand tavern and the Battle of Crooked Billet.



Spring into Crafternoons

Saturday, April 11, 2026
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. • Mercer Museum
\$5/Youth

Welcome the new season by spending a creative afternoon with Mercer Museum educators making spring-themed crafts at this drop-in family program.



Treasures from the Library Vault: Seeds & Gardening

Wednesday, April 22, 2026
6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Mercer Museum
(Doors open at 5:30 p.m.)
\$15 General Admission/
\$10 BCHS Member

Do you love gardening? Explore the origins of Bucks County's historic Burpee Seeds and Landreth's Seeds companies at this special presentation featuring archives from the Mercer Museum Research Library.



Tickets at mercermuseum.org

Fonthill Castle Programs

SAVE THE DATE

Behind the Scenes Tours: Fonthill Castle From Tower to Crypt

February 7, 8, & 28

March 1, 4, 11, 14, 18, 21, 22, & 25

April 1, 4, 8, 11, 12, 15, 18, 22, 25,
26, & 29

\$50 Adult/\$25 Youth (14-17)



Looking for both adventure and history? Join a *Behind the Scenes Tour* of Henry Mercer's Fonthill Castle and explore the site's tall towers, hidden passageways and "secret rooms" for an unforgettable and immersive historical experience.

This intimate 90-minute special-access tour goes beyond the daily tour route and offers deeper insights into Fonthill Castle's unique architecture and the lives of its inhabitants.

Fonthill Castle Meander Days

Sunday, February 15, 2026

Sunday, April 19, 2026

\$20 Adult / \$17 Senior / \$15 Student

\$10 Youth (6-17) / Free Child (5 and under)
BCHS Members – Free

Ever wish you could visit Fonthill Castle at your own pace? Follow our special tour route at your speed during our Meander Days! Our knowledgeable tour guides are stationed throughout the home to make this experience fun for the whole family.



Fonthill Castle Beer Fest

Saturday, August 22, 2026

Join us for this annual fundraising event on the beautiful grounds of Fonthill Castle in Doylestown, PA, supporting year-round education, community program and conservation efforts. Enjoy local and regional craft beers, live music, delicious food and more in a one-of-a-kind outdoor setting.



Summer Camp 2026

Mercer Wizarding Academy

Session:

#1: Monday, July 6 – Friday, July 10, 2026 | 9:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m.

#2: Monday, July 13 – Friday, July 17, 2026 | 9:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m.

#3: Monday, July 20 – Friday, July 24, 2026 | 9:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m.

#4: Monday, July 27 – Friday, July 31, 2026 | 9:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m.

BCHS Family-Level Members: \$300 per child / \$280 multi-youth
from same household

General Admission: \$325 per child for
non-BCHS members/ \$305 multi-youth
from same household

Calling all witches and wizards!

Join us for a week-long half-day summer camp filled with magic and excitement at the Mercer Museum. Get sorted into your houses, prepare your wands, and



take classes in *Potions, Care of Magical Creatures, Herbology, Quidditch*, and more! This indoor-outdoor summer camp experience for ages 7-12 connects history, science, literature, and magic in a one-of-a-kind setting inside of the Mercer Museum and on its grounds.

