

ROOT HOUSE MUSEUM/COBB LANDMARKS JUNIOR HISTORIAN CAMP POLICIES, PROCEDURES, AND FAQs

Hello Junior Historians and Parents,

We are excited to have you join us at the William Root House for our second annual Junior Historian camp. The Root House is the oldest wood frame house in Marietta (c. 1845) and is operated as a historic house museum by the non-profit organization Cobb Landmarks & Historical Society (CLHS). Below you'll find some important information and commonly asked questions about our policies and procedures as we embark our journey back to the 19th century!

WILLIAM ROOT HOUSE

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80 N. Marietta Parkway
Marietta, GA 30060

Phone
770-426-4982

Program Coordinator
Liz Malone
program.coordinator@
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*Email is the best way to communicate with Liz, especially during non-operating hours.

Schedule, Fees & Age Ranges

In order to accommodate a variety of needs and summertime activities, we have actively chosen to offer our two-day camps at several different times. This year, all our camps will be held on Monday and Tuesday; the museum is normally closed those days so the campers will have the entire campus to themselves without any outside visitors. Please double check your sign-up to confirm what dates and times you have registered for. You will receive a reminder email from the Program Coordinator a few days before your camp. The 2024 schedule is:

AGE RANGE	PROGRAM TITLE	DATES	TIMES
Ages 5-10	Pioneer Camp	Mon. June 3 – Tues. June 4	1pm-4pm
Ages 5-10	Bees & Botany	Mon. June 17 – Tues. June 18	10am-1pm
Ages 5-10	Pioneer Camp	Mon. July 8 – Tues. July 9	10am-1pm
Ages 10-14	History Investigators	Mon. July 15 – Tues. July 16	10am-1pm

The cost is \$60 per child. The targeted age range for our elementary school programs are rising first, second, third, fourth, and fifth graders (ages 5-10) and rising fifth, sixth, seventh, and eighth graders (ages 10-14) for our middle school programs. We highly recommend you register your child for the program designed for their age range, but the choice is yours. Rising fifth graders, for instance, would do well at either program. Siblings of different grade levels are welcome to register for the same camp. Please be aware that some content and programming may be more or less challenging for your child and we cannot always make accommodations for younger/older children.

Sign-In & Permission Forms

Junior Historians can begin arriving 15 minutes before the scheduled start time. All camps will begin in the conference room attached to the Manning Cabin/Gift Shop (the log cabin). Please do not enter the Root House Museum (the white house) on your own. Each camper must be walked into the building and signed into camp by an adult/guardian. We do have a small parking lot attached to the Root House where you can park while you bring your child in. Otherwise, you can park at the 2-hour parking lot next to the Marietta Square Market. If you will be more than 15 minutes late, please call the Root House at 770-426-4982 to let us know.

Parents will need to fill out a safety and liability waiver, medical information, emergency contacts, and photo release form for each Junior Historian. There is also a list of people who are authorized to pick up each Junior Historian (including the parent/guardian filling out the form). All individuals picking up a

Junior Historian must show their photo ID before we can release the child. Pick-up time is exact. There is no after care option. Campers who are picked up more than 15 minutes late may be subject to additional fees. Some of the junior historian camps may include activities that take place off-site, like a walking tour of historic Marietta landmarks. Any activities that take our Junior Historians off the Root House campus will be explicitly communicated to the parents beforehand and a separate field trip permission slip will be required. Please complete the forms ahead of time. They are a part of this parent handbook, but they will also be emailed to you in PDF format by the Program Coordinator. Extra forms will be available at the Root House should you forget them/cannot print them ahead of time.

Dress Code

Junior Historians should dress comfortably for walking, playing, and moving around. Close toed shoes are preferred or other sturdy sandals. Please no flip flops or platform/wheeled shoes. Some programs will involve dirt and the outdoors so dress to make a mess. Each program will spend some time outdoors (weather dependent) so we recommend wearing sunscreen and/or bringing a hat.

Food, Snacks, Water & Breaks

Each Junior Historian should bring their own water bottle and a **peanut-free** lunch/snack. We do have a water fountain where they can refill their bottle. Unless it is an emergency, Junior Historians are asked to wait until one of our scheduled bathroom breaks to use the restroom.

We will have one 15-20 minute snack break each day. Campers here over the lunch period (10am to 1pm) are welcome to eat a lunch at this time if one has been packed for them. Some camps (Pioneer Camp and Bees & Botany) will also include a garden tea party with snacks provided by the Root House. The menu typically includes lemonade, bread, freshly churned butter made by our campers, and cookies. All food is purchased from a commercially licensed kitchen. For this reason, it is extremely important that any food allergies be clearly marked on the release forms, especially for those with nut or gluten allergies. All efforts will be made to accommodate these dietary restrictions.

Medication & Emergencies

If a Junior Historian has medication that needs to be taken during our camp or needs to be on hand in case of emergency—like an epi pen or inhaler—we recommend that you leave it (with directions for use) at our front desk or with the Program Coordinator. We rely on our Junior Historians to communicate their health needs to us, but regulations require that the Root House staff know exactly what is needed and where to find it in case of an emergency. No over the counter medicine (Tylenol, Advil, etc.) will be administered to your child unless permission is explicitly granted on our medical release form. All injuries or use of medication will be logged on an incident report form.

Cell Phone/Electronic Device Policy

We're journeying back in time to the 19th century where computers, tablets, and cell phones didn't exist. All electronic devices that are brought to our Junior Historian camps should be silenced and only used when instructed by the camp leaders. Some programs may allow our older Junior Historians to use their devices for research purposes, but other electronic devices will be made available to them if they don't have/bring cell phones.

Class Size

Since the Root House has a small campus and we want our campers to have the best possible experience, we have limited our class sizes to 10 kids per class. However, if you are interested in registering for a camp has reached capacity, please contact the Program Coordinator to let us know. We

may be able to open up a few additional spots or put you on a waitlist to let you know when a spot is now available if there have been any cancellations.

Refunds & Cancellations

The Root House will refund 100% of any fees in the event that the Root House must cancel the Junior Historian Camp (i.e. for unexpected closures of the museum). The camps will proceed, rain or shine, so no refunds will be issued on account of weather except in very severe cases where power has been lost. Parents may cancel their child's spot and receive a refund only if they cancel **at least two weeks** prior to the start of their selected camp. If it is less than two weeks, no refunds will be issued.

COVID Protocols

The Root House follows all the current CDC guidelines and protocols. Currently, masks are not required inside the museum or the gardens. We have kept the class sizes small in order to practice safer social distancing (where possible) and to limit the risk of exposure. The touchscreens, bathrooms, and other high-touch areas of the Root House are cleaned and sanitized daily. If additional COVID protocols are needed, please contact the Program Coordinator to discuss any concerns.

Root House Staff

The Root House staff are all parents, and we believe that it's important that you know who will be working with your children while they're on our campus. The Cobb Landmarks staff consists of Trevor Beemon, Executive Director; Liz Malone, Program Coordinator; and two guest services coordinators: Janice Hoover and Sheena Yoe. Junior Historians will be supervised by the Program Coordinator during the entirety of their program with the aid of our docent volunteers including some of our Junior Docents. Junior Docents are middle and high school students who volunteer at the Root House during our special events. We welcome any of our Junior Historians to join our Junior Docent program. Many of our volunteers are retired teachers with a great knowledge of history, gardening, and life during the 19th century. It is our intention to have at least two adults for every 10 students.

History Content at the Root House Museum

The Root House is a historic house museum that represents the life and times of a middle-class family who lived in Marietta in the 1840s through 1890s. There were four enslaved individuals who also lived and worked at the Root House until the end of the Civil War and a slave quarters is part of our campus/tour. Junior Historians will learn about Lall Burge, Elsay Blake, and two other unnamed enslaved workers, their jobs and responsibilities, and their lives after emancipation as they tour the house and gardens. We cannot tell the complete story of the Root family or Marietta without including the stories of the enslaved men and women who also called the Root House their home. All our programming adheres to the curriculum standards as outlined in the Georgia Standards of Excellence, with particular focus on grades 4 and 8. Parents with any concerns about the content are invited to contact the Program Coordinator in advance to determine if this program is the right fit for you and your family. Our programs have been carefully considered and planned. For this reason, we will not be able to make accommodations except in the cases of students with severe learning and/or developmental and physical disabilities. We are committed to providing Junior Historians with a safe, educational, and accessible experience.