

NAPER SETTLEMENT



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 29, 2020

Contact:

Abbey K. Bobzin, 630.305.5250
bobzina@naperville.il.us

Museum announces launch of HERstory celebration, highlighting local women in 2020

NAPERVILLE, IL — Naper Settlement, a nationally accredited outdoor history museum, announces an open call for stories that highlight the contributions of local women and girls in the community. Female-identifying residents of Naperville are eligible to nominate themselves or be nominated for inclusion in the museum’s 2020 celebration, HERstory. The call for submissions is the first phase in a year-long effort to bring the stories of women and girls of the past and present to the forefront.

Featuring 100 women, HERstory will be held in conjunction with the centennial anniversary of the 19th Amendment’s passage, granting women’s suffrage. Those selected will be featured throughout the year in temporary public art pieces, some of the museum’s events, exhibits, programming, website, social media, and more.

The campaign will begin with a celebration of the legacy of Naperville’s single largest philanthropist, Caroline Martin Mitchell, who upon her death established a perpetual charitable trust benefiting the City of Naperville with her home, carriage house, and surrounding 212 acres. She instructed that her home and orchards, now known as Naper Settlement, be used as a museum and community gathering place, with the remainder devoted for the public good. This includes what is now known as Knoch Park, Naperville Central High School, the garden plots, the Carillion, and more.

“Her story happens every day, in our homes and our communities. Women are mothers, sisters, athletes, artists, professionals, activists, and role models. They inspire every day, and craft their own legacy, just as Caroline Martin Mitchell did when establishing our grounds as a community gathering place and museum. We’re honored to be the storytellers and keepers of Naperville’s history, past and present. HERstory is an exciting opportunity to tell an inclusive story of the amazing women in our community,” said Rena Tamayo-Calabrese, president and CEO of Naper Settlement.

Submissions require either a 250-word written entry or one-minute long video entry detailing how the nominee has made an impact in the community – by overcoming obstacles, showcasing leadership, and/or empowering others. To learn more about Naper Settlement’s year of HERstory and to nominate a woman in the community, visit www.NaperSettlement.org/HERstory.

About HERstory

Naper Settlement is on a mission to tell her story as it happens, while sharing the often-overlooked contributions women have made throughout history. Throughout 2020, in conjunction with the centennial anniversary of the 19th Amendment’s passage, the museum will highlight 100 women and girls in the community. This year-long celebration will be woven into Naper Settlement’s programs, events, exhibits, and more. For a full line-up of HERstory events and programming, please visit NaperSettlement.org/HERstory.

About Naper Settlement

Naper Settlement is a nationally accredited, award-winning outdoor history museum set on 13 magnificent acres in the heart of Naperville. Located 30 miles from Chicago, the museum is home to thirty historical structures dating back as early as the 1830s. Featuring exhibits, special events, educational programming and more, Naper Settlement is where history comes alive and the community comes to connect. For more information, visit www.napersettlement.org or call (630) 420-6010.

About Naperville Heritage Society

Founded in 1969, the Naperville Heritage Society is a not-for-profit organization and administrator of Naper Settlement, the City of Naperville’s museum. With a commitment to the community and a focus to the future, the mission of the Naperville Heritage Society is to collect, document, preserve, and support the history of Naperville, Illinois past and present.