



Thames River Heritage Park

DOCENT ACADEMY

**History lovers,
you are in for a treat!**

Join the 3rd Cohort!

10-week highly-acclaimed
local history program
for current and prospective volunteers

**Lively Informative Talks and
Presentations**

Tours of Heritage Sites

See the 10-week schedule on back.

Every Wednesday, 9 AM–12:30 PM

Wednesday, February 14, 2024 – April 20, 2024

Make-Up Date: Wednesday, April 26, 2024

[More Information / Registration](#)

ThamesRiverHeritagePark.org/Docent-Academy

Funding is pending for scholarship for
Groton & New London residents.

A collaborative program by the
heritage sites that comprise

**Thames River
Heritage Park**

ONE RIVER. A THOUSAND STORIES.

Docent Academy Tentative Schedule

Week 1

Welcome / Park Overview
Mohegan Life on the Thames
Fort Trumbull State Park
Conference Center*

Week 2

Colonial Life on the Thames
Shaw Mansion*, Hempsted Houses
Old Town Mill, Nathan Hale School House

Week 3

American Revolution on the Thames
Bill Memorial Library*, Ebenezer Avery House
Fort Griswold Battlefield Museum State Park

Week 4

Whaling Industry on the Thames
The Amistad Story
Fort Trumbull Conference Center *
NL Custom House

Week 5

Military on the Thames
Submarine Force and Nautilus Museums*

Week 6

The Immigration Story
Engaging Your Audience
Avery-Copp House Museum*

Week 7

The Gilded Age and Fine Arts on the Thames
Learning Styles
Lyman Allyn Art Museum*
Monte Cristo Cottage, Pequot Chapel

Week 8

The Visitor Experience
New London Black Heritage Trail
Fort Trumbull Conference Center *
NL Black Heritage Trail

Week 9

**Pulitzer Playwright, Performing Arts and Culture
on the Thames**
Garde Arts Center*

Week 10

Heritage Partner Site Fair
Graduation & Commissioning
Fort Trumbull Conference Center*

* The day starts here.



Docent Academy

2023 Testimonials

I anticipated an overview and introductory information on the many sites involved in the TRHP. What the Docent Academy actually offered far exceeded my expectations in both the depth and quality of presentations. It is indeed a protector of heritage.

I was honored to be selected for the 2023 TRHP Docent Academy. Our diverse group grew into a unified class as we rotated through the sites- all such treasures, each with its own intriguing story.

I thoroughly enjoyed the program and looked forward to each week's session. While the site visits and presentations varied in quality, each one offered a positive learning opportunity.

This course is a must for anyone being educated in the region. The info it provides is enough to inspire further research. The organizers were diligent and their outcomes coherent.

I fully benefited from this program. I have been telling family and friends about sites to visit this summer. I had my first volunteer experience at the Garde and this program helped me with the knowledge and confidence I needed to do this.

The Docent Academy was well worth my time. My interest in The Thames River Heritage Park and collaborating partners was heightened. I am eager to share this knowledge with others.

Thames River Heritage Park's Docent Academy exceeded my expectations, both in terms of historical depth and site exposure. I learned so much, and I am looking forward to continuing my education through volunteer and docent experiences.

The knowledge shared about the region's past helps me to better comprehend the more recent and current times.

The course set up me to participate in the telling and advancement of the local history through volunteer opportunities at one or two heritage sites.

As I focus on volunteering at a specific site or two, staying aware of activities and learning other about other sites in Thames River Heritage Park will be helpful in enhancing the work at each our our specific volunteer sites.

**I have a passion about our area that I did not have before and I now act as an ambassador for the sites in Thames River Heritage Park whenever and wherever I have the opportunity.
I have found my niche in volunteering.**