

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Andrew E. Masich
President & CEO



The Smithsonian's Home in Pittsburgh

The Senator John Heinz History Center has proudly been “the Smithsonian’s home in Pittsburgh” for more than two decades.

As the Smithsonian’s flagship affiliate, the History Center partnership with the largest museum in the world allows visitors to experience Smithsonian exhibitions, artifacts, and programs right here in Pittsburgh.

From nationally significant objects like “Gramps”—the oldest jeep on the planet—to epic traveling exhibitions like the National Air & Space Museum’s blockbuster *Destination Moon: The Apollo 11 Mission* in 2018–19, the affiliation helps the History Center provide visitors an unparalleled look at American history with a Western Pennsylvania connection.

National Portrait Gallery.

This year, we are partnering on another amazing project: *Smithsonian’s Portraits of Pittsburgh: Works from the National Portrait Gallery* exhibition.

The exhibit will feature 100 Pittsburghers whose portraits are found in the Smithsonian’s National Portrait Gallery, which draws more than a million visitors each year. It’s the largest loan this esteemed art museum has ever made—and it’s coming here.

The *Smithsonian’s Portraits of Pittsburgh* exhibit will feature paintings, sketches, and prints depicting notable Americans—and all of them are men and women who have shaped our region and our nation.

The collection will showcase musicians and entertainers including Lena Horne, Gene Kelly, and Mary Lou Williams; trailblazing innovators such as Jane Grey Swisshelm,

George Westinghouse, and Jonas Salk; world-class athletes like Josh Gibson, Johnny Unitas, and Joe Namath; and many more.

If the National Portrait Gallery had a wing dedicated solely to Pittsburghers, this would be it!

And following *Smithsonian’s Portraits of Pittsburgh*, the History Center will host *American Democracy: A Great Leap of Faith*, an exhibition created by the National Museum of American History, that will help us better understand what the Founders had in mind and how we can build a more perfect union (yes, some assembly is required).

The History Center is proud to be “the Smithsonian’s home in Pittsburgh,” and we hope you join us for the exciting exhibitions and programs we have in store for you! 🌟

