



Archives Awareness Week
July 12-18, 2026

**With Special Thanks to
Our Archives Awareness
Week Partners:**



**TPA Presents: The Story of Aviation
in Tampa Bay**

Friday, July 17th • 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Tampa International Airport
4100 George J. Bean Pkwy
TPA Main Terminal Event Space (Level 3)

Explore Tampa Bay's rich aviation heritage through archival materials, historic photographs, and original concept drawings of Tampa International Airport's Main Terminal. This year's exhibit also highlights Peter O. Knight, Tampa Executive, and Plant City airports, honoring the people and innovations that shaped our region's aviation story. The event will feature a special screening of the new documentary *America 250: A Portrait of Florida*, celebrating Tampa Bay's role as the birthplace of commercial aviation.



Land Records

Saturday, July 18th • 11:00 a.m.
John F. Germany Library
900 N. Ashley Drive
Cecil Beach Conference Room

Land Records are not an obvious choice for genealogical research. During a time when vital records were not well kept, they can be one of the few records to have names of ancestors and family names.



**Downtown Tampa's Revolutionary
Streets: The Story Behind the
Street Names**

Saturday, July 18th • 1:30 p.m.
Tampa Bay History Center
801 Water Street

Join Rodney Kite-Powell for an engaging talk held in *Mapping the 14th Colony: British Florida and the American Revolution* in the Touchton Map Library. Learn the interesting history of how downtown Tampa's streets were named and why so many of them are named for military and political figures from our nation's past. Who named them and why?



Library Microform

Saturday, July 18th • 3:00 p.m.
John F Germany Library
900 N. Ashley Drive
Cecil Beach Conference Room

Take a tour through the Florida History and Genealogy Library's microform collection and discover how these resources can help you with your historical and genealogical research.

Exhibits

Admission fees apply to view museum exhibits.

Gallery on the Avenue: Made in Florida

Highlights from the Tampa Museum of Art Collection
Robert W. Saunders, Sr. Library
1501 N. Nebraska Avenue

**Gaspar's Gold: Carnival and Community
in a New South City**

Henry B. Plant Museum • 401 W. Kennedy Boulevard

One Hundred Years Ago: Tampa in 1926

City of Tampa • 315 E. Kennedy Boulevard
Mascotte Room Display Case

Soulwalk Historical Markers

City of Tampa Community Case
Robert W. Saunders, Sr. Library
1501 N. Nebraska Avenue



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For more information, contact
**City of Tampa
Archives and Records**
Phone: (813) 274-8030
tampa.gov/aaw

About Archives Awareness Week

Recognizing the need to document and preserve the development and unique heritage of Tampa and its government, the City of Tampa Archives was founded in 1987.

Archives Awareness Week was established in 1992 by the City of Tampa Archives Advisory Committee. During this week, local archives come together to present their collections through exhibits and programs that convey the value of archives in the identification, preservation and conservation of historic records.

Archives and Records is a division of the City Clerk's Office.

Programs

All programs are free of charge unless otherwise noted.



Guitars and Galleries

Sunday, July 12th • 10:30 a.m.
Tampa Bay History Center
801 Water Street

Enjoy a guided tour of *America at the Crossroads: The GUITAR and a Changing Nation* and explore America's evolution through the lens of its most popular instrument. Discover how the guitar has reflected generational change, racial division, politics, consumer culture, and shifting trends throughout the nation's history. Registration is free but required.



In Conversation with the Latin American Fiesta Association

Sunday, July 12th • 1:00 p.m.
Henry B. Plant Museum
401 W. Kennedy Boulevard

Lights, camera, action! Join the Henry B. Plant Museum for the screening of the restored newsreel, "The 1970 Latin American Fiesta Association Tour." Following the film there will be a conversation with past Latin American Fiesta Association queens and court members. Artifacts for the Latin America Fiesta Association are currently on view in the exhibit, *Gaspar's Gold: Carnival and Community a New South City*. Complimentary admission, light refreshments.



Sacred Heart Catholic Church

Sunday, July 12th • 3:00 p.m.
Sacred Heart Church
509 N. Florida Avenue

Please join the docents of the Sacred Heart Historical Society as they give you a verbal history and tour of the oldest Catholic church on Florida's West Coast. Learn about the oldest, continually operational parish in central Florida, which dates to the pioneer days of Tampa. Then how in 1888, its congregation survived the tragic loss of three priests due to yellow fever. They then built one of the oldest structures in downtown Tampa.



Tampa in 1926

Monday, July 13th • 3:00 p.m.
City of Tampa • 315 E. Kennedy Boulevard
3rd Floor, City Council Chambers

Celebrate Tampa's 139th birthday by learning more about its history. Tampa Bay History Center historians Rodney Kite-Powell and Fred Hearn will talk about two historical events that happened 100 years ago. Learn about the creation of Black History Month, as well as the mysterious death of Davis Islands founder D.P. Davis. Birthday cake will be served following the program. Guests will receive a commemorative booklet: *100 Years Ago: Tampa in 1926*.



Cigarmaking: 140 years of Excellence in Tampa

Tuesday, July 14th • 11:00 a.m.
J.C. Newman Company
2701 N. 16th Street

Join Holden Rasmussen, Company Historian for the J.C. Newman Cigar Co., for a journey through 140 years of cigarmaking history in Tampa. From 1886 to 2026, the traditions, tools, and craftsmanship of cigar production reveal a remarkable continuity across generations. Drawing from the J.C. Newman archives, this presentation explores the people, artifacts, and enduring culture that shaped Tampa into the Cigar Capital of the World.



Hillsborough Black Experience Collection: Be a Community Contributor

Tuesday, July 14th • 2:00 p.m.
C. Blythe Andrew, Jr Public Library
2607 E. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard
Room 118

Learn about this community-crowdsourced collection, the focus of the collection, and the steps to contribute content to this digital archive.



Preserving Your 2D Treasures: Materials Handling and Digitization Demonstration

Tuesday, July 14th • 3:00 p.m.
C. Blythe Andrew, Jr Public Library
2607 E. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
Florida Sentinel Reading Room

Learn how to properly handle and store old family photographs and documents for long-term preservation. Participants will get a demonstration on the digitization process and hands-on practice on preserving their 2D treasures.



Places That Matter

Wednesday, July 15th • 10:00a.m.
City Center at Hanna Avenue
2555 E. Hanna Avenue

Part storytelling, part cultural asset mapping, Places That Matter is a new community-based platform developed by the City of Tampa. Its goal is to create a resource about cultural spaces and their meaning within the communities they are located.



The Tampa General Hospital Heritage Archive

Wednesday, July 15th • 1:00 p.m.
Teams Meeting

The Library Services team at Tampa General Hospital is building a heritage archives program from the ground up to capture nearly a century of institutional history. From organizing an archival governance council made up of long-term employees, physicians and hospital leaders to developing collection workflows and gathering submissions, this project shows how library professionals can champion archival preservation.



Unlocking the Shoebox Panel & Preservation Workshop

Wednesday, July 15th • 5:30 p.m.
Tampa's Black History Museum
1213 N. Central Avenue

Bring a few items from your personal collection! We will kick off with an inspiring panel featuring local historians, community elders, and preservation experts. You will learn the best practices for handling, digitizing, and storing delicate photos and documents. More importantly, we'll discuss the profound cultural significance of everyday Black history and why your family's personal narrative is a vital piece of Tampa's story.

USF Libraries Special Collections

Thursday, July 16th • 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
4202 E. Fowler Avenue, 4th Floor



No appointment? No problem! Join the USF Tampa Special Collections for open access hours. Learn how to use Special Collections and get a mini tour while you're here. *Please note:* USF Tampa

Library visitors must present a USF Smart ID Card or government-issued photo ID for entrance. See USF Libraries - Library Guidelines for details. Contact Terry Eagan, eagant@usf.edu for information and assistance.



Remixed: Florida Artists Look at Art History

Friday, July 17th • 11:00 a.m.
Robert W. Saunders, Sr. Library
1501 N. Nebraska Avenue

Joanna Robotham, Curator of Modern and Contemporary Art at the Tampa Museum of Art, will present a talk on Florida artists Pepe Mar, Mernet Larsen, Purvis Young, and Theo Wujcik.



Curating the Tampa Bay Timeline

Friday, July 17th • 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Tampa Bay History Center
801 Water Street

Join Michelle Hearn, Director of Curatorial Affairs to learn about the process of curating an exhibition that spans more than 14,000 years of regional history. Then head into the gallery for an up-close look at the finished installation and the stories it brings to life. Registration is free, but required.

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