



HANCOCK SHAKER VILLAGE

1843 W. Housatonic St.
Pittsfield, MA 01201

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hancockshakervillage.org

MISSION

Hancock Shaker Village brings the Shaker story to life and preserves it for future generations.

Go back in time, forward in thought. Living history museum in the Berkshires of Western Massachusetts.

HUMANITIES EXPERTISE

The Hancock Shaker Village collection, begun in 1960, has grown through purchase, gift, and bequest to become the largest documented and representative collection of Shaker artifacts available to the public at an original restored Shaker site. The broad nature of the collections provides a source of information for those interested in decorative arts, 19th-century technologies, and the community of the Shakers, including their life, architecture, music, and religion.

RESOURCES

- [The Shakers](#): The Shaker story provides fascinating insight into early American history, religion and culture. *Learn more about the Shakers through [online](#).*

CONTACT

info@hancockshakervillage.org

HUMANITIES RESOURCES & PROJECTS

PROGRAMS & EXHIBITS

- [Makers' Day](#): HSV offers one-on-one workshops on weaving, spinning, chair seat weaving, and basic woodworking. Full descriptions of on-demand workshops available [online](#).
- [Fall Specialty Tours](#): Hancock Shaker Village offers a variety of specials tours, including but not limited to Introduction to the Village, Shaker Spirituality, and Shaker Architecture. HSV also offers the option to Create Your Own Shaker Adventure where visitors can also call to create and schedule their own specialty tour of choice.
- [Exhibitions](#): Hancock Shaker Village offers a variety of changing and permanent exhibitions. From artifacts in authentic room settings to ground breaking contemporary art, the museum offers something for everyone. Featured exhibitions include [Anything But Simple](#), [Silo Songs](#), and [Altered Visions](#).
- [Goat Yoga](#): *It's here to namaste. Bleat in. Bleat out. We kid you not. You'd better goat used to it. Bring a mat, towel, and open mind.*
- [Morning Moving Meditation](#): A simple moving meditation to wake your senses, explore the connection between mind and body, and appreciate the grounds anew with dancer **Katie Workum**, whose inventive work has been described as "thrilling" (*Brooklyn Rail*), "whimsical" (*The New York Times*) and "delightful" (*The New Yorker*). This group meditation and guided movement workshop parallels the Shaker practice of spiritual movement. This class is open to all.
- [The Mastheads](#): Explore and write in five studios, designed by architects Tessa Kelly and Chris Parkinson, that architecturally interpret the Berkshire studios of authors, Nathaniel Hawthorne, Oliver Wendell Holmes Sr., Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, Herman Melville, and Henry David Thoreau, who wrote in Pittsfield and connect with the region's literary history. Make a week day studio reservation [online](#).

EVENTS

- [Hancock Shaker Village's heritage Country Fair](#): A heritage fall celebration featuring regional artisans, local farmers, and local food. Take part in workshops, sit in on demonstrations, and compete in our hot sauce contest! Kid-friendly activities range from face painting and crazy balloon creations to egg tosses and chicken races. Country Fair is a convergence of historical enthusiasts, nature lovers, artisans, chefs, and so much more. There's truly something for everyone.
- [Food for Thought](#): Feed your mind, body, and spirit at one of our monthly dinners with an illuminating author. Includes a 3-course farm-to-table dinner prepared by noted regional chef Brian Alberg, wine, and a signed book.
- [Shaker Kitchen Day](#): This celebration of Shaker values gives locals and visitors alike up-close-and-personal insight into this distinct and vibrant culture, bringing the kitchen to the forefront. Attend and enjoy a day of talks, tours, tastes, foodie guest speakers and demos.
- [Shaker Barn Music](#): a Berkshire barn, overlooking the fields and forests of an authentic Shaker village, filled with the soulful sounds of great music. More details and ticket information listed [online](#).

* Additional calendar events listed on [online](#).