

## THE FORMAT

Each **HISTORY***alive!* presentation has three parts:

**MONOLOGUE:** Character introduces the historical, social, and political issues that influenced their life. (15 - 25 minutes)

**DISCUSSION WITH THE CHARACTER:** Character initiates a discussion with the audience, allowing an opportunity for questions and discussion. (10 - 15 minutes)

**DISCUSSION WITH THE PRESENTER:** Presenter "breaks character" to answer questions and continue the discussion as a researcher rather than the historical character. (5 - 10 minutes)

## HOW TO BOOK A HISTORY*alive!* PRESENTATION

Booking Request Forms are available at [www.wvhumanities.org](http://www.wvhumanities.org).

1. Interested group contacts the presenter of the character they would like to host for a program to determine date and time for the program.
2. Host group completes and submits a Booking Request Form along with \$150 Booking Fee for each requested program via email to [payne@wvhumanities.org](mailto:payne@wvhumanities.org) or by mail to the Humanities Council at 1310 Kanawha Blvd., E., Charleston, WV 25301 at least two weeks prior to the date of the program.
3. Humanities Council sends an email confirmation to the host group and presenter that the booking request has been approved, and provides publicity material.

Have questions? Contact Humanities Council program officer Mark Payne at 304-346-8500 or [payne@wvhumanities.org](mailto:payne@wvhumanities.org). Visit [www.wvhumanities.org](http://www.wvhumanities.org) for information on all the programs and grants of the West Virginia Humanities Council.

## ALSO

- If the presenter requires overnight lodging the host group is responsible for that cost.
- Booking fee may be paid using Visa, MasterCard, Discover, purchase order, or check.
- **HISTORY***alive!* programs should be offered at no cost to the public or event participants.
- If you need to cancel or reschedule a program, contact the presenter and the Humanities Council immediately.
- Evaluation forms are provided by email.
- **HISTORY***alive!* presentations are not available through the Humanities Council grants program.

**HISTORY**  
*alive!*



W E S T V I R G I N I A



H U M A N I T I E S C O U N C I L

*Bringing historic figures to life!*

**HISTORY**  
*alive!*

# THE CHARACTERS



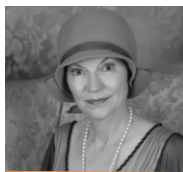
## **GABRIEL ARTHUR** (CA. MID-1600S – MID-1700S)

Arthur is believed to be the first European American to see the Kanawha Valley in 1674. While exploring western lands and traveling with the Indians he followed either the Big Coal River or Paint Creek to the Kanawha River.

Portrayed by Doug Wood of Hurricane 304-550-1006  
chingwe1755@gmail.com

## **NELLIE BLY** (1864 – 1922)

Nellie Bly was the pen name of Elizabeth Jane Cochrane who became a well-known investigative reporter in the late 1800s, rare for a woman at that time. Starting in November of 1889 she traveled around the world to better the time of the fictional Phineas Fogg from the book *Around the World in Eighty Days*.



Portrayed by JoAnn Peterson of Kingwood 304-329-6336  
mountaineer@atlanticbb.net



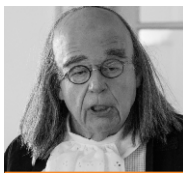
## **JULIA CHILD** (1912 – 2004)

In the 1960s Julia Child became an icon of gourmet cooking. The "First Lady of Food" convinced the nation that anyone could create gourmet meals as she charmed the public with her passion for good food.

Portrayed by Karen Vuranch of Fayetteville 304-575-3636  
karen@wventerprises.com

## **BENJAMIN FRANKLIN** (1706 – 1790)

Benjamin Franklin was one of the most extraordinary men in history and the most famous American of his time. He was the only founding father to sign the Declaration of Independence, Treaty of Paris, and the United States Constitution.



Portrayed by Leon Alexander of Charleston 304-205-5913  
ilcapo@ilcapo.org



## **THOMAS "STONEWALL" JACKSON** (1824 – 1863)

Born in Clarksburg, Jackson was an orphan who became one of the most acclaimed names in military history. He is regarded as a tactical genius and relentless battlefield commander whose death by friendly fire was a blow to Confederate hopes for victory.

Portrayed by Doug Riley of Tunnelton 304-568-2067  
deriley1@frontier.com

## **OSTENACO** (CA. 1703 - 1780)

During the French and Indian War, Ostenaco was a leader of Cherokee warriors who allied with Virginia military leaders against northern tribes fighting with the French. His leadership provided a vital alliance for the British colonial settlements and expansion of English-speaking people into much of present West Virginia.



Portrayed by Doug Wood of Hurricane 304-550-1006  
chingwe1755@gmail.com



## **MINNIE PEARL** (1912 – 1996)

Sarah Colley's first appearance as the character of Minnie Pearl on the Grand Ole Opry in 1940 eased concerns her satire of rural ways might offend country audiences. People instead embraced Minnie and she became a legend in country entertainment.

Portrayed by Denise Giardina of Charleston 304-553-2799  
denisegiardina@gmail.com

## **ELEANOR ROOSEVELT** (1884 – 1962)

Roosevelt changed how the public viewed the role of the president's wife. A vocal champion of social reform and human rights, she traveled widely representing the president, authored books and newspaper columns, gave speeches, and visited troops during World War II. She is remembered in West Virginia for her role in founding Arthurdale in Preston County.



Portrayed by Patty Cooper of Parkersburg 304-917-4929  
goodehuswyfe@hotmail.com



## **THEODORE ROOSEVELT** (1858 – 1919)

The youngest president in our history, Roosevelt was also a Nobel Peace Prize winner, governor of New York, Assistant Secretary of the Navy, colonel of the Rough Riders, deputy sheriff in the Dakota Territory, rancher in the Badlands, and author of more than 35 books.

He established many of our most beloved national parks.

Portrayed by Gene Worthington of Fayetteville 304-574-4840  
gene@wventerprises.com

## **SACAGAWEA** (CA. 1790 – 1812?)

Traveling with her husband, Sacagawea was the lone female member of the Lewis and Clark expedition. She gave birth to a son in early 1805 while on the grueling journey to the Pacific. She was a valuable interpreter and her presence communicated the peaceful intentions of the Corps of Discovery.



Portrayed by Mary Dailey of Meadow Bridge 304-645-0243  
mdinwv@hotmail.com



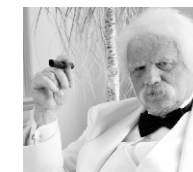
## **HARRIET TUBMAN** (1820 - 1913)

Tubman was born into slavery in Maryland but escaped through the Underground Railroad in 1849. She became the most famous leader of that network, aiding slaves in their escape to free states and Canada.

Portrayed by Ilene Evans of Thomas 301-334-6273  
ilene@vfte.org

## **MARK TWAIN** (1835 – 1910)

The pen name of Samuel Clemens, Mark Twain is celebrated as one of America's great authors and humorists. His work includes fiction, non-fiction, magazine articles, monographs, speeches, and commentaries that provide interesting insight into American history.



Portrayed by Doug Riley of Tunnelton 304-568-2067  
deriley1@frontier.com