

Society, Dolls and the Civil War

Presented by Nancy Walker and Jef Savage

This program provides an opportunity to learn about the social aspects of the Civil War and to produce a Civil War soft doll sewn by hand. The program, plus all fabric, materials and sewing tools for the dolls are being provided FREE by a Grant from Pennsylvania Partners in the Arts, with additional funding from White Rose.

Most Civil War programs are about leaders, logistics, battles and the men that fought them. This program focuses on the social activities of the War. What was everyday life like for the civilian population in the home, in public and on the battlefield. Explore their fashions, entertainments, toys, games and sports. Have fun participating in a guessing game to identify common everyday items of the Civil War and their uses. Explore the changing roles of women in support of the war effort. How much have they changed and what it still common today? Have fun joining in an interactive parlor game. Investigate the influence Queen Victoria and Prince Albert had on America and the War? Find out how Charles Dickens and other authors influenced the abolition of slavery.

From the oldest to the newest, dolls have been around forever. From earliest times, children around the world have had dolls as companions, confidants and collections. What is their history, their characters and their journeys? What did they see and what impact did they have on the Civil War?

During the Civil War many children played with dolls that were lovingly handmade by their mothers from scraps of cloth. You can recreate the past by hand sewing a Civil War era cloth doll of your choice – Miss Victoria or Humpty Dumpty. You will have the opportunity to make Miss Victoria or Humpty as gift for a favorite person or for yourself!

DATES FOR THE PROGRAM:

8-Week Program in June & July – 10:00-11:15 AM

- Wednesday, June 9, 16, 23, and 30
- Wednesday, July 7, 14, 21, and 28

Sign Up by telling the staff you would like to participate. We will provide the tables and chairs outside plus the canopies and big tree for shade.