



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**3/23/2021**

**DANVERS HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

Web: [www.DanversHistory.org](http://www.DanversHistory.org)  
Facebook: @danvershistory  
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Twitter: @DhsSociety  
YouTube: Danvers Historical Society

**PRESS CONTACTS**

Laura Cilley  
Nora Whouley  
[dhs@danvershistory.org](mailto:dhs@danvershistory.org)  
(978) 777-1666

**Danvers Historical Society Awarded Danvers Local Cultural Council Grant**

The Danvers Historical Society is a place of preservation, education, and skill-building opportunities. The third graders from Danvers Public Schools had the extraordinary opportunity of visiting the Page House and Tapley Memorial Hall within their history curriculum. When the Pandemic hit in 2020, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade History Week Program quickly shifted to provide materials via Facebook and YouTube @danvershistory. Thanks to Mass Cultural Council and Danvers Local Cultural Council, the Danvers Historical Society will be able to enhance the 2021 program with this \$700 grant.

This program has been active since 1986. Sheila Cooke-Kayser, retired National Park Service Educator, became chair of the program in 2012. Sheila Cooke-Kayser trains her volunteers, and makes sure the program gives the students a comprehensive and valuable learning experience.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade History Week program has benefited many families and teachers since 1986. Students have the opportunity to bring in their own favorite object and compare it to old fashioned objects, and discuss how it may change fifty years from now. Critical thinking skills are also developed using old photographs, maps and other hands-on objects.

Teachers, who have been here with their students have shown so much appreciation and love for the program. The program is very hands-on and students become researchers with the objects they work with. In 2019, a boy and his grandmother visited the Page House a week after his field trip. He wanted to see the upstairs of the

house. The program was so engaging he was able to tell his grandmother the history and facts of the people in the pictures.

The Danvers Historical Society, is grateful for this award to fund the 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade History Week Program entering its 35<sup>th</sup> year. This grant will help fund additional virtual features. Please visit our website for details on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade History week program. <https://www.danvershistory.org/programs/#history-week>

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“This program is supported in part by a grant from the Danvers Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency.”



Volunteers, Sheila Cooke-Kayser and Ann Fouhey guide students through many hands-on artifacts at Tapley Memorial Hall