

# MOVING LOCAL HISTORY FORWARD IN YOUR COMMUNITY

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The following are steps that *your* library can take to promote engagement with Maine history. There are many ways to mobilize; the steps you take will depend on your community's interests, goals, and the resources you have available. For more information about how Maine Memory Network (MMN) can help your library and community build skills and capacity, please visit [www.mainememory.net/libraries](http://www.mainememory.net/libraries).

## MAINE HISTORY IN YOUR LIBRARY

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- Make sure your library's existing resources related to local history—books, articles, collections—are up-to-date, accessible, and displayed prominently.
- Set up a display or exhibit of historical items from your library's archive or collection (if applicable).
- Work with your local historical society to display items or an exhibit from its collection in your library.
- Bookmark Maine Memory Network on your library's public access terminals (MMN icon available for download at [www.mainememory.net/libraries](http://www.mainememory.net/libraries)).
- Display "Every town has a history..." poster in a prominent location in your library (additional posters available from MHS or for download at the link above).
- Distribute "Every town has a history..." bookmarks at your circulation desk and at public access terminals (additional bookmarks available from MHS or for download at the link above).
- Feature a weekly online exhibit from Maine Memory through your library's eNewsletter, Facebook page, or other social media tools, or on public access terminals in your library (sign up at the link above).

## MAINE HISTORY IN YOUR COMMUNITY

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- Reach out to your local historical society—get to know each other, explore common interests, needs, and goals, explore resources that might be shared, and consider collaborating on a local history initiative.
- Reach out to local schools—get to know teachers and their current curricular interests, explore resources that might be shared, and consider collaborating on a local history initiative.
- Work with local historical society to offer public programs related to local, Maine, or U.S. history.
- Invite MHS to present a public program regarding Maine Memory in your community (details at link above).

## BUILD CAPACITY WITH MAINE MEMORY NETWORK

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- Review the flexible ways that communities can participate in Maine Memory Network in the **Share Your Local History** section of the site: [http://www.mainememory.net/share\\_history](http://www.mainememory.net/share_history).
- Sign up for a 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills workshop (half day) in which your staff learns more about Maine Memory, training, support, and grants available through MHS, and how participation can serve *your* library and community (register at [www.mainememory.net/training](http://www.mainememory.net/training)).
- Contact MHS staff to discuss your ideas, interests, and goals—we are here to help!

## MORE INFORMATION

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Maine Memory Network is a digital museum presented by Maine Historical Society in partnership with 250+ organizations across Maine.

