

Preservation Partners of the Fox Valley School Tours of the Durant House Museum and Sholes School

Looking for an interactive learning experience to augment your classroom curriculum? Look no further!

The 1843 Durant House Museum, a prairie farmhouse built in 1843, invites your class to step into the past for a unique historical opportunity. Our program enables students to experience what they normally only read in textbooks, granting them an appreciation of life in a 175+ year old prairie house. Students will **participate in hands on activities, guided by costumed docents** who bring the pioneer past to life in this nationally recognized historical site.

Visits to the 1843 Durant House Museum can be coordinated with tours of the Sholes School, located within walking distance to the Durant House, and with the Kane County Forest Preserve Environmental Education Team.

- **Sholes School Museum** - Completed in 1872, you will be visiting an authentically restored and furnished one-room country schoolhouse. While we offer a docent dressed as a School Teacher from the 1870's, to guide the class tour, many Teachers prefer lead the tour on their own as their class experiences a school day as it was 145+ years ago. We have material on our website to assist Teachers in planning activities. View the School Manual, Suggested Schedule, and Historical Background at this link: <https://www.ppfv.org/pioneer-sholes-school>
There is an additional \$25.00 for the costumed docent to act as the School Teacher and led tour at Sholes School. The \$25.00 is applied to each class.
- **Prairie Nature Walk** (optional) - Bring your group on an adventurous hike through our beautiful LeRoy Oakes Forest Preserve. We'll cover many aspects of our local flora and fauna. School groups are welcome to include a guided naturalist hike with your day visiting the Museums.

Planning a School Tour:

We will work with you to create an experience that meets your students' educational needs!

- **Availability:** throughout the year, by appointment
- **Eligibility:** Grades 2, 3, 4 and 5
- **Fee:** \$5 per student - includes Durant House, Sholes School, and Prairie Walk (optional)
 - \$50.00 minimum fee per class
- **Length:** One hour at each site

Illinois Learning Standards: Refer to the ISBE Chart shown on our website.

Common Core: Students will improve reading, writing, listening and speaking skills while learning local history.

Information we require:

- Name and address of school
- Name of lead contact, email and phone number
- Date(s) you would like to bring your school.
- Number of students in each class
- The teacher's names and the date they are bringing their students
- Time you would like tour to start at Durant House
- Will you want to visit the Sholes School?
- Will you want one of our Docents at the School?
- Will you want to include a Prairie Nature Walk?
- Number of adults coming with each class

NOTE: You can schedule 2 or 3 classes in one day. It is okay to reserve a date for your school before you know all the above information, then later you may send the rest of the information when it becomes available to you.

Contact:

Debra Corwin – Director, Durant House and Sholes School Museums

Call 630-377-6424 or email DurantAndSholes@ppfv.org

Our website: www.ppfv.org

Please contact us for information regarding handicap accessibility. We are eager to accommodate your needs.