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**Tune into a fresh year at the History Center as we turn up the volume on bagpipes, punk rock, natural Florida, diverse Orange County, and more!**

Welcome to a whole new year at the Orange County Regional History Center, where we're also welcoming our new executive director, Azela Santana, as we roll out a wealth of programs. Some are designed for the whole family, on topics ranging from Florida's plants and animals to the Scottish Highland Games. We're also kicking off our "Closing Time" program series, which wraps up the award-winning exhibition *Figurehead: Music & Mayhem in Orlando's Underground* with a look this month at a pathbreaking music show, *Bootleg TV*, and a convention-defying punk rock museum with Florida connections. Get out your calendars and don't miss the fun! Learn more at [TheHistoryCenter.org/Events](http://TheHistoryCenter.org/Events).

**Lunch & Learn: The Community Paper**

***Friday, January 3, 2025, Noon – 1 p.m.***

*The Community Paper* has been downtown Orlando's trusted resource for all things local since 1989. Learn about the publication and its collaboration with the History Center in our monthly feature, "The Way We Were." Join Debbie Gunter of *The Community Paper* and museum staff members who'll share stories from some favorite history-focused articles about fascinating people and places from the past.

Cost: Free for History Center Members; General Public \$5. Cost with lunch: \$12 for History Center Members; General Public \$17. (Lunch must be ordered by 9 a.m. on Thursday, January 2.)

**Details and to register:** [TheHistoryCenter.org/Event/Lunch-Learn-The-Community-Paper/](http://TheHistoryCenter.org/Event/Lunch-Learn-The-Community-Paper/)

**History Alive: Our Natural Environment**

***Saturday, January 4, 2025, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.***

Focus on the flora and fauna of Florida with family-friendly activities and guided museum tours. Activities include Cypress Circles, including how to tell a tree's age, plus our Archeological Dig Puzzle and Florida Plant & Animal Matching Game, featuring manatees and much more. Earn prizes as you play.

**Guided tours:** 10:30 a.m., Noon, 1:45 p.m., 3:30 p.m.

**Details:** [TheHistoryCenter.org/Event/Our-Natural-Environment](http://TheHistoryCenter.org/Event/Our-Natural-Environment)

**Third Thursday @ The Museum**

***Thursday, January 16, 2024, 5 – 9 p.m.***

The History Center is open late on the third Thursday of each month with four hours of free admission! It's part of a wider event organized by Orlando's Downtown Arts District celebrating arts, culture, and

history at various downtown venues. This month, we'll feature a program (see below) on documenting live music in Orlando – part of our “Closing Time” series for the popular *Figurehead* exhibition.

**Details on Third Thursday:** [TheHistoryCenter.org/Event/Third-Thursday-the-Museum-Nov/](https://TheHistoryCenter.org/Event/Third-Thursday-the-Museum-Nov/)

### **Bootleg TV: Documenting Live Music in Orlando**

*Thursday, January 16, 2025, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.*

Airing from 1998 to 2006, *Bootleg TV* was Orlando's first and only local music and art television series. Dave Segal, the show's creator and producer, will screen never-before-seen clips set in the Sapphire Supper Club, Will's Pub, Skinny's, Go Lounge, and other beloved venues as they host favorite hometown bands and nationally known acts. It's free as part of Third Thursday, but registration is requested.

**Details:** [TheHistoryCenter.org/Event/Bootleg-TV](https://TheHistoryCenter.org/Event/Bootleg-TV)

### **A Conversation with The Punk Rock Museum**

*Saturday, January 18, 2025, 2 – 3:30 p.m.*

Since 2023, The Punk Rock Museum in Las Vegas has explored the fiercely independent world of punk rock through thoughtfully curated exhibitions. Museum core member Vinnie Fiorello, a founder of the Florida ska-punk band Less Than Jake, will join us to talk about his experiences as a musician and his views about the relationship between underground music and the often more strait-laced museum culture. A ticket includes all-day museum admission; members are free.

**Details:** [TheHistoryCenter.org/Event/Punk-Rock-Museum/](https://TheHistoryCenter.org/Event/Punk-Rock-Museum/)

### **Sensory Sunday: Highland Hustle**

*Sunday, January 19, 2025, Noon – 4 p.m.*

Huzzah! Immerse yourself in the sounds, sights, and sensations of Scottish Highland Games. This family-friendly day at the museum features activities kids and parents will enjoy! Test your strength as you try tossing foam cabers, see the bold colors of traditional kilts, and hear the lively melodies of bagpipe music.

**Details and more about Sensory Sundays:** [TheHistoryCenter.org/Event/Highland-Hustle/](https://TheHistoryCenter.org/Event/Highland-Hustle/)

### **Orange County Heritage Day**

*Saturday, January 25, 2025, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.*

The History Center continues its annual tradition of celebrating Orange County's official beginnings with live performances and fun activities for the whole family. This year, we honor our county's diverse and vibrant cultural landscape through dance, spoken word, and other performances. Our Heritage Day partners for 2025 include the Raymi Dance School, Native Insights, Valada Flewellyn, Puzzled Peace, and Shally Wong. Admission to Heritage Day is free through the support of History Center Members.

**Details:** [TheHistoryCenter.org/Event/Orange-County-Heritage-Day/](https://TheHistoryCenter.org/Event/Orange-County-Heritage-Day/)

**The Orange County Regional History Center**, housed in a historic courthouse at 65 E. Central Blvd. in downtown Orlando, features four floors of permanent and special exhibitions. The museum is a Smithsonian Institution affiliate and accredited by the American Alliance of Museums. It is funded in part by Orange County Government through the Community & Family Services Department under Orange County Mayor Jerry L. Demings and the Board of County Commissioners. The Historical Society of Central Florida Inc. is supported by United Arts of Central Florida and sponsored in part by the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Arts and Culture, and the Florida Council on Arts and Culture. For more information, visit [TheHistoryCenter.org](https://TheHistoryCenter.org).

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