

DEC. 1-3, 2023 - SOTH ANNUAL CELEBRATION GALVESTON'S WORLD FAMOUS VICTORIAN HOLIDAY FESTIVAL

TICKETS AND MORE AT DICKENSONTHESTRAND.ORG

landmark event 50 years in the making returns to Galveston's historic downtown for the 50th anniversary of Galveston Historical Foundation's (GHF) Dickens on The Strand, presented by the British Consulate-General Houston.

The event, GHF's largest fundraiser, returns the first weekend in December for three days of the sights and sounds of Charles Dickens' work, surrounded by the island's unmatched Victorian-era architecture. This annual festival begins Friday, Dec. 1, with free admission to Fezziwig's Beer Hall from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. and continues with ticketed entry on Saturday, Dec. 2, from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 3, from noon to 6 p.m.

"This 50th anniversary of Dickens on The Strand is a

milestone in many ways," said GHF Executive Director Dwayne Jones. "It represents years of commitment to developing and maintaining a top-rated festival that brings thousands to our island during the holiday season.

"In the mid-1970s, GHF leaders and volunteers wondered if we could ever see the renaissance of the Strand Mechanic National Historic Landmark District. We questioned if tourists and locals would see the historic area as a place to walk, shop and dine.

"Without any doubt, the Dickens event and its impressive number of visitors have helped to build the credibility of The Strand and contributed to its revitalization. GHF began its work in the area long before others came on board. Our staff and board brought a vision that led the earliest development,

and the Dickens event is a key part of our ongoing vision."

Based on 19th-century Victorian London, the annual holiday street festival features parades, non-stop entertainment on multiple stages, strolling carolers, roving musicians, bagpipers, jugglers and other entertainers. Costumed vendors peddle their wares from street stalls and rolling carts laden with holiday food and drink, Victorian-inspired crafts, clothing, jewelry, holiday decorations and gift items.

Tickets purchased at the gate are \$25 for adults and \$18 for youth. Discounted tickets for GHF members are available for \$15 in advance or \$20 at the gate. Attendees in Victorian costumes receive 50 percent off entry. Tickets are available online at www.dickenson thestrand.org.







Explore new events at Dickens on The Strand

he 50th anniversary events feature callbacks to past event programs and new offerings for 2023.

Pickens Royal Raffle -Presented by Visit Britain

Three unforgettable British experiences are on hand for the lucky winners of this special 50th-anniversary raffle ticket.

- Prize package 1 London Getaway: Enjoy a four-night stay in London, complete with airfare, Dickens-themed itinerary, meet-and-greets and more.
- Prize Package 2 McLaren Tour and Test Drive: A private tour and test drive away the winner of this package at McLaren Automotive's Dallas headquarters.
- Prize Package 3 High tea with Richard Hyde, British Consul General, at his Houston residence.

Raffles are \$20 per ticket and can be purchased at Ebeneezer's Retail and all festival pubs during the weekend.

Visiting Dickens Descendants

Each year, Dickens on The Strand welcomes representatives from the Charles Dickens family. This year's event features nine family members hosting special events, appearing at meet-and-greets, signings and appearances throughout the festival all weekend.

- Lucy Bacon great-great-great granddaughter (first appearance)
- Polly Olivia Boyd great-great-granddaughter (returning guest)
- Mark Charles and Debbie
 Dickens great-great-grandson
 and spouse (returning guests)
- Oliver "Ollie" Dickens greatgreat-great-grandson (returning guest)
- Lucinda Dickens Hawksley great-great-great-granddaughter (returning guest)
- Marion Dickens Lloyd great-great-granddaughter (first appearance)
- Jane Dickens Monk great-great-granddaughter (returning guest)
- Harry Whinney great-great-great-grandson (first appearance)



Buckingham Palace VIP Area - Presented by the British Consulate-General Houston

VIP tickets include access to the Buckingham Palace VIP area, including balcony access overlooking The Strand. This space, located inside the festival grounds, has special programming, meet-and-greets, photo opportunities, drinks and more on both days. VIP ticket holders also will receive a limited-edition Dickens on The Strand medallion.

Saturday, Dec. 2, and Sunday, Dec. 3, \$100 per person.

50th Anniversary Golden Ticket

Holders of this anniversary pass will receive a unique code that allows redemption of one ticket to every event held during the 50th anniversary of Dickens on The Strand. In addition, Golden Ticket passes will include a #GalvestonHistory guest pass good for one admission to Galveston Historical Foundation sites and attractions, a limited edition 50th anniversary Dickens on The Strand Challenge Coin, a reserved carriage ride in the parades, one complimentary membership to Galveston Historical Foundation, early admission to select events and automatic entry to the Dickens Royal Raffle.

\$1,500 per person includes access to every Dickens on The Strand 50th anniversary event.

Golden Jubilee Feast - Hosted by Mark Charles and Debbie Dickens

This special 50th anniversary gathering welcomes nine descendants of Charles Dickens, each reading a portion of Dickens' masterpiece "A Christmas Carol." Guests will enjoy live music, a seated dinner, readings, guests of honor and more at this special gala in the 1880 Garten Verein. Reservation holders also will be gifted a limited-edition Dickens 50 Challenge Coin as a token of thanks while being held in the company of Queen Victoria and her court.

7 p.m.-9 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 2, \$200 per person.

Dickens Descendant Champagne Reception -Hosted by Marion Lloyd

Join in welcoming this year's nine Dickens descendants to the 50th annual Dickens on The Strand. This special meet-and-greet will be held in the 1895 Moody Mansion and is your first opportunity to welcome visiting Dickens descendants, purchase their various books and have them signed. Complimentary champagne, wine, and hors d'oeuvres also will be available.

5:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 30, \$40 per person.



Canterbury Theatre of Variety

Holders of this limited ticket will gain access to a private location within the Dickens on The Strand grounds. Ticket holders will take in a specially created Victorian burlesque performance, drinks and revelry for this new addition to the 50th annual Victorian festival.

7 p.m.-9 p.m., Friday, Dec. 1, and Saturday, Dec. 2, \$60 per person.

FRI, DEC. 1-5-9 pm | SAT., DEC. 2-10 am-9 pm | SUN, DEC. 3-12-6 pm | ADULTS: \$20 adv. / \$25 day of | YOUTH (7-12): \$15 adv. / \$18 day of | GHFMEMBERS: \$15 adv. / \$20 day of | CHILDREN 6 & UNDER: FREE COSTUMED ATTENDED GET 1/2 OFF ADMISSION THE STRAND!

- THREE TICKET TYPES FOR THE SOTH CELEBRATION - VISIT DICKENSONTHESTRANDORG TO GET YOURS TODAY!



GENERAL FESTIVAL ADMISSION

Admission to festival grounds for stages, vendors, street performances, and more! Adults: \$25 | Youth: \$18 | Victorian Costumes 1/2 Off



ADMISSION

Festival admission with exclusive Strand balcony access, commemorative medallion, bar & more. Adults: \$100 | Youth: \$40



SOTH ANNIVERSARY **GOLDEN TICKET**

Access to EVERY Dickens event plus VIP, commemorative challenge coin, parade carriage ride, raffle entry, and more. \$1,500 (limited quantity)



GOLDEN JUBILEE FEAST

This special anniversary dinner welcomes descendants of Charles Dickens, each reading a portion of Dicken's masterpiece A Christmas Carol. Guests will enjoy a seated dinner, live music, commemorative coin, and more in the 1880 Garten Verein. Sat. Dec. 2 at 7 p.m. \$200.

DON'T MISS THE MERCH

Ebenezer's retail at 23rd and The Strand is your festival stop for official Dickens on The Strand merchandise. From a variety of beloved holiday books to logoed products and more, you're sure to find something for everyone on your list. Naughty or nice!



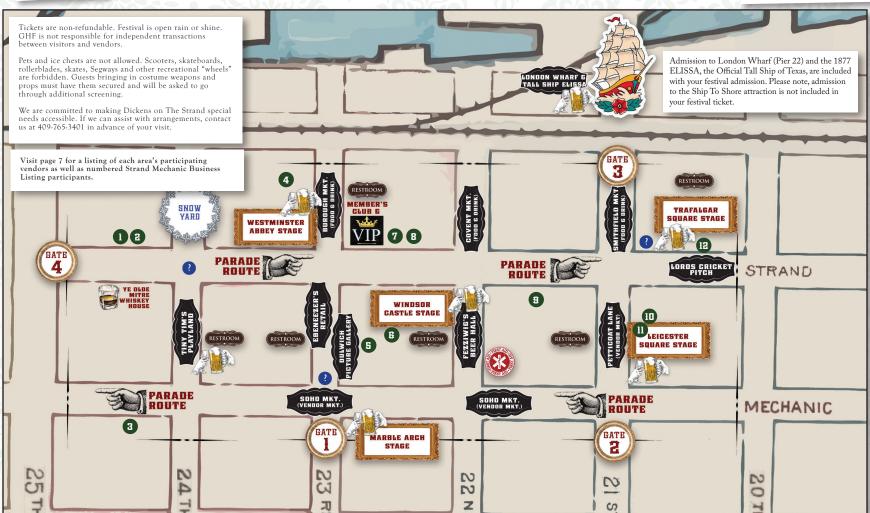
SPECIAL EVENTS ALL WEEKEND LONG

There's more to the 50th anniversary of Dickens on The Strand than just the festival. From sunset toasts board the 1877 Tall Ship ELISSA, Strand walking tours, after-event vaudeville performances, and even breakfast with the descendants themselves, this year's festival offers numerous opportunities to enjoy. Visit dickensonthestrand.org for details and reservations, and make this year's event a history-making one!

COSTUME CONTEST

Ready to show off your hard costuming work? Held on Saturday at 3:30 at the Westminster Abbey Stage, prizes will be awarded for Victorian Woman, Victorian Man, Victorian Family, Dickens Character and Steampunk . Enter via the Costume Contest Booth at the Westminster Abbey Stage!





THE DICKENS ROYAL RAFFLE PRESENTED BY VISITBRITAIN

Three unforgettable British experiences are on hand for the lucky winners of this special 50th-anniversary raffle ticket!



Raffles are \$20 per ticket and can be purchased at Ebenezer's Retail and all

festival pubs during the weekend beginning at 5 p.m. on Friday, December 1 during Fezziwig's Free Friday. The raffle will end at 4 p.m. CST on Sunday, December 3, and the winners will be announced at 4:30 p.m. CST at the beginning of the Victorian Bed Races. The winner does not have to be present to win and will be contacted after the event with prize details. Visit galvestonhistory.org/raffle for full terms and conditions.

PRIZE PACKAGES



LONDON GETAWAY: Enjoy a four-night stay in London, complete with airfare, Dickensthemed itinerary, meet and greets, and more!



MCUAREN TOUR AND TEST DRIVE:

A private tour and test drive await the winner of this package at McLaren's Dallas headquarters.



HOUSTON HIGH TEA: An afternoon tea and visit with Richard Hyde, British Consul General, at his Houston residence.

WITH GENEROUS SUPPORT BY:





WINDSOR CASTLE t & The Strand

nted by Pecos Pete's

The Traveling Pianist

TRAFALGAR SQUARE

TINY TIM'S PLAYLAND

Manvel High School

LEICESTER SOUARE

Bruce Manners

Music in Medicine

Crescent Circus

MARBLE ARCH

The Bilge Pumps

Bay Area Tubadours

Andrew Bateman

Darryl Cleveland Juggler

BUCKINGHAM PALACE VIP AREA

Edgar Allen Poe

Belton HS Choir

Mosaic Ensemble

10:00	\$ PROCLAMATION
10.20	Atascocita HS

Madrigal Singers 11:00 A CHRISTMAS CAROL W/ OLLIE DICKENS 11:30

Galveston Ballet

Joyful Sound Christian Academy

12:00

12:30

1:00

1:30

2:00

2:30

4:30

5:00

5:30

6:00

7:30

8:00

8:30

12:00

12:30

2:00

3:30

4:00

Houston Highlanders Pipe Band

Montgomery A Cappella Muiscale - McNeil High School

Victorian Fencing

Academie Musique at Temple College

Society

Musicale - McNeil High School Silverlynx Lake Belton Nick Sharpe Crescent Circus

KPHS Madrigals

Cirque La Vie

Katy String Ensemble

Darryl Cleveland Juggler

Church

Grimaldi Silverlynx Christmas A Cappella

The Traveling Pianist Bruce Manners

DICKENS FAMILY MEET & GREET

KPHS Madrigals Manvel High School

Daniel Rowan Cello

Bruce Manners

3 Joe Tramonte



Manvel High School Muiscale - McNeil High School THE DICKENS FAST FEAST CONTEST

AUBERT'S WHISKER REVIEW

THE DUEEN'S PARADE



Darryl Cleveland Juggler

Mosiac Ensemble Lake Belton HS Choirs Andrew Bateman Nick Sharpe Saint Thomas Episcopal The Bilge Pumps

The Traveling Pianist

O'Connell College Prep. Mosaic Ensemble Grimaldi School Performers Bah Humbug! A Oneman Christmas Carol Cirque La Vie Bruce Manners The Bilge Pumps

Belton HS Choir David Rowan Cello

Bay Area Tubadours

Darryl Cleveland Juggler Andrew Bateman

Victorian Fencing Christmas A Cappella



COSTUME

CONTEST

PICKWICK'S LANTERNLIGHT PARADE



Christmas A Cappella Crescent Circus

Cirque La Vie

O'Connell College Prep. School Performers Grimaldi

Houston Highlanders Nick Sharpe Pipe and Drums

Bah Humbug! A One-man Christmas Carol

BUCKINGHAM PALACE VIP ARBA

SUN. DEC. 3 WESTMINSTER ABBEY

Carol

WINDSOR CASTLE ented by Pecos Pete's

TRAFALGAR SQUARE

Edgar Allan Poe

TINY TIM'S PLAYLAND

LEICESTER SOUARE

MARBLE ARCH ted by Island Drip St

1:00 A CHRISTMAS CAROL W/ OLLIE DICKENS 1.30

Take Note Young Women in Harmony

Victorian Fencing Society

Christmas A Cappella

Bay Area Youth Singers Bruce Manners

Manvel High School

Houston School of Irish Music Grimaldi

The Bilge Pumps The Traveling Pianist

Christmas A Cappella

Edgar Allen Poe DICKENS FAMILY MEET & GREET

Darryl Cleveland Juggler



THE DUEEN'S PARADE



Honor Choir

Kantorei - Pearland HS

Pearland Choir Houston School of Irish Music

Cirque La Vie

Bruce Manners

Nick Sharpe

Crescent Circus

Crescent Circus

Nick Sharpe

Take Note Young Women in Harmony Grimaldi

4:30

THE DICKENS DASH FOOT RACE VICTORIAN BED RACES

presented by the Trube Foundation

5:00 5:30

SPECIAL

ACTS

Christmas A Cappella Nick Sharpe Edgar Allan Poe

Cirque La Vie

LONDON WHARF ENTERTAINMENT Galveston Historic Seaport, Pier 22 All Day Sat. | Sail Setting & Iron Works

1-2 p.m., Sat. | The Bilge Pumps 12:30-2 p.m., Sun. | Singlestick Tournament 3-4 p.m., Sun. | The Bilge Pumps



FREE FEZZIWIG'S FRIDAY (S-9 P.M.)

Fri., Dec. 1 - 22nd & Strand 5 p.m. | Official Keg Tapping 6 p.m. | O'Connell College Preparatory School 6:30 p.m. | Beaudry Violin and Viola Studio

7 p.m. | Adam Lazoya Traveling Pianist 8 p.m. | Bilge Pumps

Fan favorites

he festival hosts many spirited events, such as the crowd favorite Whimsical Whisker Revue— a facial hair contest for the bearded and the dandy— the Dickens Victorian Bed Races, Victorian Costume Contest, special kid's programming, daily parades through Galveston's Strand Mechanic National Historic Landmark Strand District and more. Participated in some of the 50th-anniversary highlights.

Fezziwig's Friday Night – Hosted by Charles Dickens

Mr. Fezziwig was everything Ebenezer wasn't, and the festival pays tribute to his jovial personality at its Fezziwig's Beer Hall. Enjoy specialty acts, drink some hearty brews and make new friends. Admission is free for this lively start to the weekend.

5 p.m.-9 p.m., Dec. 1

Saint Arnold's Strand Walking Fours - Hosted by Saint Arnold

Learn about the history of The Strand and enjoy some of Saint Arnold Brewing Company's signature ales during this festival-favorite tour. Held daily during Dickens on The Strand, you'll



visit three festival pubs as you walk through the National Historic Landmark district with your guide, learning about The Strand's stories, buildings and history.

5:30 p.m., Friday, Dec. 1; 11 a.m., 1 p.m., 4:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 2; 1 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 3; \$40 per person.

The Dickens Dash & Victorian Bed Races - Hosted by Ollie Dickens

Speed is the name of the game for the big finish of the 50th annual Dickens on The Strand. The Dickens Dash, a costumed run, welcomes individual and team competitions, and the Victorian Bed Races features teams of five as contestants make for the best time across the finish line, cheered along by the adoring crowd.

4 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 3



Special events

ickens on The Strand also highlights many historic sites and attractions that Galveston Historical Foundation owns and operates. These added experiences, hosted by a visiting descendant, occur around the festival and do not include festival admission.

Jubilation Ringers Handbell Concert - Hosted by Harry Whinney

The 1859 St. Joseph's Church, the first wooden-built church in Galveston and well known for its exceptional acoustics, hosts three holiday handbell concerts.

5:30 p.m., 7 p.m. and 8:30 p.m., Friday, Dec. 1; \$25 per person. Reservations are required.

The Smoking Bishop's Soirce – Hosted by Ollie Dickens

Named for the iconic drink featured in "A Christmas Carol" and featuring specialty acts, award-winning performers and a carefully curated food and drink menu, this kickoff to the annual festival is not to be missed. Held at the breathtaking 1892 Bishop's Palace, attendees will enjoy live music, food, wine, an exceptional aerial acrobatics performance and appearances by special guests.

6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m., Friday, Dec. 1; \$100 per person. Reservations are required.

Captain Cuttle's Scaport Salute - Hosted by Lucinda Dickens Hawksley

Toast the end of the day and the beginning of the evening onboard the Official Tall Ship of Texas. The 1877 Tall Ship ELISSA welcomes you aboard for heavy appetizers, a specialty cocktail, cannon fire and special guests leading to Saturday night's Pickwick's Lanternlight Parade.

4:30 p.m. -6:30 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 2; \$95 per person. Reservations are required.



Mrs. Fickit's English Breakfast - Hosted by Jane Dickens Monk and Lucy Bacon

Start your Dickens day with a oneof-a-kind experience in one of Galveston's most beloved historic homes, the 1859 Ashton Villa. Take in an English breakfast with special guests, surprise performances and more in a gorgeous holiday setting inside the house.

8:30 a.m., Saturday, Dec. 2; 10:30 a.m., Sunday, Dec. 3; \$100 per person.

Elevenses on the Pier - Hosted by Polly Olivia Boyd

Join guests at the 1877 Tall Ship ELISSA for tea and cookies with a touch of history. Enjoy a relaxing morning on the harbor alongside the Official Tall Ship of Texas. Listen to live music and receive a welcome by Dickens descendant Polly Olivia Boyd. She will be on hand, helping set the tone for your day at Dickens on The Strand. at

11 a.m., Saturday, Dec. 2 and Sunday, Dec. 3; \$60 per person. Reservations are required.

Stop by vendor stalls for shopping, good eats and lively libations

STRAND MECHANIC BUSINESS LISTINGS

- 1. Hearsay on The Strand 2410 Strand
- 2. Brews Brothers 2404 Strand
- 3. Sound Bar 2411 Mechanic
- 4. Stuttgarden Tavern 111 23rd Street
- 5. Thai Garden 216 23rd Street
- 6. Galveston Psychic 2221 Strand, 106
- 7. Frankie's Liquor Store 2218 Strand
- 8. The Jewel Garden 2216 Strand
- 9. Surf Styles 2119 Strand
- 10. Heaven & Earth 210 21st Street, 4
- 11. The Local Stone 210 21st Street
- 12. Old Oleander 2016 Strand

BOUROUGH MKT. (FOOD & DRINK)

- Linda Chang Concession
- Anakins Tamales
- Ye Old Corndog
- Santa Lucia
- L&V Catering
- Tres Flores Funnel Cakes
- NFA Grill
- Bourbon Street Tacos
- · Concessions World Grill
- · Helgas Strudel
- Old Tyme Concessions
- Pecos Pete

COVENT MKT. (FOOD & DRINK)

- J3 Cajun Kitchen
- Mamas Corny Cob
- Tia Amelias
- Thirsty Bee Meadery
- Tres Flores Funnel Cakes
- Gomez Catering
- Chets Grill
- Old Tyme Concessions

SMITHFIELD MKT. (FOOD & DRINK)

- Sweet T's Rollin Cafe
- Pecos Pete
- El Barrilito
- Scandinavian Immigrants Glogg
- Sky Kings Falconry (Wildlife Revealed)
- Heritage Meatpies
- #GalvestonHistory Chestnuts
- African American Heritage Committee
- · Galveston Seaport

SOHO MKT. (VENDOR MARKET)

- Timeless Finds Jewelscapes
- · Oakhaven Handmade
- Ye Olde Soap Box
- North Star Artisans
- Dickens Bells
- Round Table Gourmet
- Outdoor Republic

House of Casteel

- Pecans By Karen
- Gloria Desygns
- Elks Lodge

- Hipklips by Turnerville
- Amber & Christmas Ornemants
- Paper Pie
- His World Maps
- · Catalano Creations/Madison Avery Designs
- Mark's Woodshop
- Dickens Ornaments and Décor
- Rugged History Beard Co
- · Daily News
- The Bosswench
- Red Beard Treasures
- Phat Dragon, Days of Youre LLC
- Memory Lane Glassworks
- Blue Face Monkey
- Scrooge and Cratchit
- The Lord's Fine Works
- Inca Wasi Arts and Crafts
- Cat and Quill Crafts
- Buddy Bonz
- Strongman Kraftworkz
- Memory Lane Glassworks
- VISION Galveston
- House McGrath Hot Toddies
- Visker & Scrivener Quills, Books & Oddities
- Nan Wright Water Color
- Galvest Psychic
- · Alison Julien Collection
- SizterChick Designs
- Clean & Tie-dv
- The Legendary Candle Company
- · The FlorVino Winery

- Clean & Tie-dy
- The Legendary Candle Company
- The Painters Village

PETTICOAT LN. (VENDOR MARKET)

- Y's Tackle and Metal Art
- Suffrogate on Strand
- A Holistic Solution
- HABA Blacksmith
- Galvestons Own Farmers Market

TINY TIM'S PLAYLAND

- Carmen's Corn & Creations
- Geomilas
- The Jugglers Nest

EBENEEZER'S RETAIL

- Dickens on The Strand Official Merchandise
- Two Tarts Toppers
- Caveat Emptor Historical Millinery
- Little Cherry Toys
- Amber & Christmas Ornaments
- Autism Research Texas
- K9 Café and Boutique
- Galveston Homeschool Performing Arts Co-op
- Gigis Altered Objects
- O'Connell College Preparatory School
- League Kempner House
- Mask Parade
- Galveston Art League
- George Washington Chapter, NSDAR





TAG US ONLINE AND SHARE YOUR DICKENS MOMENTS WITH OUR OFFICIAL HASHTAGS: #GALVESTONHISTORY #LOVEGALVESTON #DICKENSONTHESTRAND

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WITH APPRECIATION TO

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GATES, PUBS & INFORMATION

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Centerpoint Energy Dicken's Champagne Reception: Trube Foundation

The Dickens Dash and Victorian Bed Races: Trube Foundation Dickens Chalk Art Contest: Alice Taylor Gray Foundation

SAVE THE DATE: JOIN GALVESTON HISTORICAL FOUNDAT DECEMBER 7-9, 2024 FOR THE SIST DICKENS ON THE STRAND!



Galveston Historical Foundation was formed as the Galveston Historical Society in 1871 and merged with a new organization formed in 1954 as a non-profit entity devoted to historic preservation and history in Galveston County. Over the last sixty years, GHF has expanded its mission to encompass community redevelopment, historic preservation advocacy, maritime preservation, coastal resiliency and stewardship of historic properties. GHF embraces a broader vision of history and architecture that encompasses advancements in environmental and natural sciences and their intersection with historic buildings and coastal life, and conceives of history as an engaging story of individual lives and experiences on Galveston Island from the 19th century to the present day. Learn more at galvestonhistory.org.