

NEWSLETTER

Explore More with your Campbell Museums Membership

When you become an Ainsley House (Level III) or Water Tower (Level IV) member of the Campbell Museums, you unlock exclusive access to two incredible reciprocal programs: NARM (North American Reciprocal Museum Association) and ROAM (Reciprocal Organization of Associated Museums).

These memberships give you free or discounted admission and member perks at hundreds of museums across North America and beyond—including art museums, historical societies, botanical gardens, children's museums, and even zoos!

NARM includes over 1,400 institutions in the U.S., Canada, Mexico, Puerto Rico, Bermuda, and the Cayman Islands.

ROAM connects you with a network of forward-thinking museums that honor each other's members.

If you love museums—or are planning to travel this summer—don't miss out on this amazing benefit. Your Campbell Museums membership takes you farther than ever!

To sign up or renew
<https://www.campbellmuseums.com/membership>

NARM

ROAM

Reciprocal Organization of Associated Museums



The Ainsley House Celebrates 100 Years!

The Ainsley House, Campbell's iconic English Tudor-style home, turns 100 in 2025. Built by A.M. Whiteside and Davidson for just over \$50,000, construction began in January 1925, and J.C. Ainsley and his wife Alcinda moved in that December. With 90% of its original furnishings intact, this beautifully preserved home offers a rare glimpse into 1920s life and the legacy of one of the Santa Clara Valley's most influential families.

To celebrate, the Campbell Museum Foundation will be hosting a 1920s-themed Gala Fundraiser on Saturday, September 27.

More event details, ticket pricing, etc, will be available in early June.

<https://www.campbellmuseums.com/>

It Takes a Village to Run a Museum— And That's Exactly How We Do It.

The Campbell Museums are proudly owned and operated by the City of Campbell, which provides essential funding for preservation, programs, exhibits, and staffing to safeguard our city's rich history. But preserving history at this scale is no small task.

Our museums encompass three historic structures, four collection storage sites, over 11,000 artifacts, rotating exhibits, and a variety of long-standing community programs. To keep it all running, we rely on the invaluable support of the Campbell Museum Foundation—an all-volunteer nonprofit that provides critical funding for preservation, exhibitions, and education. Together, the City of Campbell and the Campbell Museum Foundation ensure that our shared history is not only protected but continues to inspire and educate for generations to come.



In 2022, the Campbell Museum Foundation funded the restoration of the Ainsley House front door.



Since 1993, the Campbell Museum Foundation has been dedicated to supporting the Ainsley House and Campbell Historical Museum through volunteer efforts, fundraising, and community partnerships.

As a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, the Foundation plays a vital role in preserving Campbell's rich history and enhancing local culture.

Through special events, memberships, store sales, and grants, CMF helps fund exhibits, educational programs, and preservation efforts. In collaboration with the City of Campbell, CMF works to ensure the Museums continue to thrive as key contributors to our community's cultural and economic vitality.

Want to Join Our Board? [Click Here](#)
email Cherri Fontana at
cfonta.cmfboardmbr@gmail.com.

Shop & Support the Campbell Museums

The Museum Store is operated by the Campbell Museum Foundation. Every purchase directly supports exhibits, preservation, and educational programs. Members and volunteers receive 10% off. Shop local, support history!

We want to hear from you: [Take our Store Survey!](#)



[Read More on our website](#)

Volunteer Spotlight!

Volunteering at the Campbell Museums is a fun and rewarding way to connect with your community, meet new people, and share your love of local history.

Our wonderful **Volunteer Coordinator, Derek Ives**, is here to support you every step of the way!

In Derek's own words on why he is a volunteer:

I began volunteering at the Campbell Historical Museum in 2007 while earning community service hours for a communications class at West Valley. After completing the requirement, I stayed on and quickly became a regular. In those early days, it was just me and one other volunteer, taking turns to keep the museum open on weekends.

My love for history and civic duty was inspired by my grandmother, Laura Ives, who was deeply involved in her own community. Over the years, I've worn just about every hat at the museum—greeter, docent, event coordinator, store buyer, garden helper, and even summer concert tomato grower! I've coordinated beer booths, holiday events, school programs, and spoken at City Hall to help protect our museums.

What I cherish most are the friendships I've made and the sense of community I've found. I truly love sharing my passion for Campbell's history—and being hands-on keeps me energized.

Outside the museum, I enjoy gardening, canning, fishing, classic car shows with my '66 Chrysler Newport, and treasure hunting at flea markets. I also volunteer with the Japanese American Museum of San Jose, Santa Clara County Parks, and am a longtime member of the Mountain View Buddhist Temple.

Become a Campbell Museum Volunteer

<https://www.campbellmuseums.com/volunteer>



Derek Ives with the 1952 Ford Pickup at the Bunnies & Bonnets Parade.



Campbell Museum Volunteers Shine at Bunnies and Bonnets Parade.

Campbell Museum volunteers, in partnership with the Campbell Museum Foundation, proudly marched in Downtown Campbell's beloved Bunnies and Bonnets Easter Parade! With the streets packed with excited families enjoying bands, performers, classic cars, and community groups, our team brought energy and joy to the celebration.

Leading our group was the Museum's 1952 mint green Ford pickup, generously donated by Pete and Ida Yerkovich. Volunteers from all areas—docents, greeters, gardeners, event staff, collections, and Foundation members—handed out candy, whistles, stickers, and pencils to delighted kids along the route. It was a fantastic day of community spirit, and we're already looking forward to hopping in again next year!



Garden Grooves at the Ainsley House

Join us for Garden Grooves, a relaxing series of Sunday afternoon concerts in the beautiful Ainsley House Garden! Enjoy live music in one of Campbell's most charming historic settings.

- May 25: Djangatos
- June 22: Tony Lindsay
- August 24: Simon Santiago/ Mary Ellen & Tom Duell
- October 12: Ren Geisick

Tickets

<https://www.campbellmuseums.com/events-main>

Time: 1:30PM – 3:30 PM

Location: Ainsley House, 300 Grant St, Campbell, CA

Tickets: Includes admission and two drink tickets. Prepackaged snacks will be available for purchase.

Join us for a musical journey in a beautiful, historic setting

History Happy Hour at the Ainsley House

The History Happy Hour line-up for 2025 is a must-see! Buy your tickets early and keep posted since more may be added!

Tickets and more information on each lecture can be found on our website, campbellmuseums.com

\$25/person

5:30-7:30 pm

- May 9: **The Room of Knots - the unknown masterpiece of Leonardo Da Vinci**, with Caroline Cocciardi
- June 13 **"Campell Incorporated"** with David Blinn
- July 18: **The Rest of the Story...More Stories from the Santa Cruz Mountains** with Jay Topping
- August 15: **The History of the Bernal Gulnac Joice Ranch** with SCC Parks & Rec Interpreter, Rob McDonnell
- September 12: **History of winemaking in Santa Clara County** with Bonnie Bamburg
- Oct 10: **Genetic Genealogy in Cold Cases** with Cordelia Willis



Become a Sponsor & Champion The Campbell Museums

Help preserve our community's rich history by sponsoring the Campbell Museum Foundation's 2025 Fundraising Events. Your support—monetary or in-kind—funds exhibits, education programs, and preservation projects that keep local history thriving.

As a sponsor, you'll receive exclusive benefits and recognition at our most beloved events.

2025 Events Include:

Spring & Fall Garden Grooves
Ainsley House Centennial Gala (Sept)
Holiday Tea at the Ainsley House (Dec)
Summer Concert Series Concessions.
Join us in celebrating Campbell's past and shaping its future.

Learn more and become a sponsor today:

www.campbellmuseums.com/become-a-sponsor

Thank you for supporting the Campbell Museum Foundation!



arts.gov/bluestarmuseums

The Campbell Museums are proud to be part of the Blue Star Museums program! From May 17 – Sept 1, 2025, we're offering free admission to active-duty military personnel and their families. This national initiative, led by the NEA and Blue Star Families, honors those who serve with access to museums across the country.

Ainsley House Exhibit Opening Sept 2025



From the Archives: Revitalizing History — Transforming the Sleeping Porch at the Ainsley House

Once used as a guest bedroom for the Ainsleys' granddaughters, the sleeping porch at the Ainsley House has long been closed to visitors due to challenges in interpretation. In celebration of the home's 100th anniversary, the room is getting a new purpose.

Launching in September 2025, the sleeping porch will reopen as From the Archives—a brand-new exhibit featuring rarely seen artifacts, personal stories, and a closer look at the legacy of the Ainsley Packing Company. The transformation will also highlight unique architectural features of the Ainsley House not covered in regular tours.

This exciting renovation is made possible by the Campbell Museum Foundation.

Online Collection

Explore the Campbell Museums Collection—Now Online!

Curious about Campbell's history? We're working hard to make our museum collection accessible online! .

[Click Here to explore online:](#)

Hands on History Field Trips at the Campbell Historical Museum

Hands-On History Field Trips Are Back at the Campbell Museums!

After several years of pandemic-related closures and major facility repairs, the Campbell Historical Museum is thrilled to welcome back thousands of 2nd and 3rd grade students through our Hands-on History field trip program.

Running October through June, this immersive experience brings history to life through interactive learning, critical thinking, and historical empathy.

Students explore real artifacts, analyze historical photos, and engage in activities that support Common Core standards—developing skills like evaluating evidence, understanding different perspectives, and building strong content knowledge. Thanks to support from the Campbell Museum Foundation, over 500 students have received admission and transportation scholarships, making this enriching experience accessible to schools across the Santa Clara Valley—from Morgan Hill to Palo Alto.

We're proud to share the joy of history with the next generation and look forward to another inspiring school year ahead!



Donate to the Campbell Museum Foundation

Support the Future by Preserving the Past

Your generosity plays a vital role in protecting Campbell's rich heritage and ensuring the continued success of the Campbell Historical Museum and Ainsley House.

From restoring historic artifacts to expanding our exhibits and welcoming classrooms from across the Santa Clara Valley, your support brings history to life in meaningful, lasting ways. It allows us to connect the community to the people, stories, and legacy that make Campbell unique.

Together, we can ensure that this history is not only remembered but also experienced, shared, and celebrated for generations to come.

Thank you for being a part of this important work.



[Read More on our website](#)