

KELLEY HOUSE MUSEUM

JOIN US
TODAY



Kelley House is Open!

Visit Us on Weekends
11am – 3pm

Little did we know when we ushered out our last guest (Leo from San Leandro) on March 14, 2020, that it would be a full year before we would re-open to the public. But thanks to Mendocino's move into a lower tier and a handful of dedicated (and vaccinated) docents, we threw the doors open on April 3 and welcomed our very first guests to

the Kelley House. They were greeted with spruced up exhibits, a garden in full

bloom, and docents eager to bring the Kelley family's stories back to life. Talk about a spring awakening!

We feel immense gratitude to all of you who helped the Kelley House get to this point. We know that keeping a historic house afloat was not on most people's minds this year, but thanks to the generosity of so many, the museum will pull through. It is our great pleasure to recognize the individuals and organizations who have made this possible.

DONATIONS, GIFTS & GRANTS



Bill Brazill Family Quilt

A new addition to the upstairs bedroom: a family quilt on loan from Bill Brazill. The quilt is comprised of about 20 squares each made by a different Mendocino coast resident from the late 1800s. At the center of each square is the embroidered signature and locale of the square's creator—come take a look to see if you find a familiar name. In the above photo Bill displays the square from his great aunt Grace Byrnes. Local quilter Frances Casey took the loose squares, which had been stored in an old flour sack, and stitched them into the quilt on display today.

Bishoff Fund COVID Relief Grant

Many thanks to the Jack and Chatter Bishoff Fund for a \$20,000 Covid Relief Grant, awarded to us to help with payroll and operations. Thanks to the Community Foundation for administering the grant and continuing to support non-profits during these times.

Mystery Birthday Donation

To the Kelley House fan who listed us as the donation recipient on Facebook on their birthday around February 23, we say thank you! Ten people donated for a total of \$250. The report showed you as "anonymous," so if you are reading this, here's a ♥ to show our gratitude.

We appreciate the photos and other ephemera donated by Roen Mallory, Susan Mihalyo, Joan Selchau, Lorraine Fulmer, and Katy Tahja.

IN OTHER NEWS...



[Donate](#)

A Plumbing Disaster

While working on the forthcoming *Look Tin Eli* book in the museum's kitchen a few weeks ago, board members heard rain *inside* the house. They discovered water dripping into the Escola Room from a leaking water heater on the second floor. Curator Karen McGrath sprang into action and had the insurance and remediation teams on site immediately. There was some damage to the ceiling that insurance will cover, but we are taking up a collection to help cover our \$2500 deductible.

On the bright side, Karen discovered some scraps of the ceiling wallpaper original to the house, which shows a pale gold leaf or flower pattern.



[Walking
Tours](#)

Mendocino Historic District Tours are Back!

For years Kelley House tour guides have led visitors and locals around our unique historic preservation district, regaling them with stories from Mendocino's past and present. Thank you to volunteer guides David Tahja (shown at left), Mary Jackson, and Jane Tillis, who are now taking tours by appointment only (two person minimum). Feel free to join a tour or to volunteer. It's a great way to meet new people, enjoy a scenic walk, and help the Kelley House.

THANK YOU MEMBERS
You are the backbone of our organization.

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Sarah Nathe & Susan Tubbesing

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Arlene & Jim Moorehead
Zoe Parker
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Donna Worster

JOIN TODAY

THANK YOU DOCENTS

Judy Chapman (pictured below) * Claire Armstrong * Sarah Nathe * Bill Speake *
Victor Simon * Megan Smith * Peggy Smith * Rex Smith * Jane Tillis



Do You Want to Be a Docent?

The first response we usually hear to this question is, "Oh, I couldn't volunteer to do that. I don't know enough about local history." Let us reassure you... we are not looking for people who are walking encyclopedias of Mendocino's history. What we hope to find are friendly people who can commit to at least one 4-hour shift a month to introduce museum visitors to the town of Mendocino and its fascinating coastal history.

[Learn More](#)

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Karen McGrath, Curator

Kelley House Museum & Research Center

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