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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **“Historic Mackinac on Tour” to Begin Visiting Classrooms in Michigan**

MACKINAW CITY, MICH. — Just because the Mackinac State Historic Parks’ historic sites are closed for the season, it doesn’t mean that the rich history of the Mackinac area isn’t still available. The historical interpreters will just come to you.

Michigan’s early history comes to life right in the classroom! Two historical interpreters will share stories of the Anishnaabek, French-Canadian, and British people who called northern Michigan home in the 18th century, and students will see how the fur trade shaped Michigan as we know it today. Each program is a trip back in time, with ample opportunities to see, touch, and participate in history.

“While our museums and historic sites are closed for the winter, our interpreters go to schools across the entire state to engage students with Mackinac’s many rich stories,” said Craig Wilson, curator of history for Mackinac State Historic Parks. “Students experience Michigan’s early history, the fur trade, and the relationships between indigenous people and Euro-Americans. One classroom at a time, students learn the historical stories of Michigan that make our state great.”

Mackinac State Historic Parks’ education outreach programs are made possible, in part, by the generosity of Mackinac Associates, the friends group to MSHP.

More information about our education programs can be found online at [mackinacparks.com/education](http://mackinacparks.com/education), by email at [outreach@mackinacparks.com](mailto:outreach@mackinacparks.com), or by calling 231-436-4100.

## VISIT SCHEDULE

January 28 – Lincoln Elementary, Petoskey, 9:00 a.m.  
February 3 – Johannesburg-Lewiston Elementary, Johannesburg, 9:30 a.m./noon  
February 7 – Shay Elementary, Harbor Springs, Noon/1:15 p.m.  
February 12 – Concord Academy, Petoskey, 1:00 p.m.  
February 13 – Cheboygan Intermediate School, Cheboygan, 8:45 a.m./10:00 a.m.  
February 18 – Wilson Community School, Herron, 11:15 a.m./1:30 p.m.  
February 18 – Mather Elementary, Munising, 10:30 a.m./12:20 p.m.  
February 19 – Lakeview Elementary, Negaunee, 1:10 p.m./2:15 p.m.  
February 21 – Moran Township, St. Ignace, 8:30 a.m./9:45 a.m.  
February 26 – Pellston Elementary, Pellston, 11:40 a.m.  
February 28 – Lakeland Elementary, Elk Rapids, 10:15 a.m./1:00 p.m.  
March 3 – St. Francis de Sales Catholic School, Manistique, 12:30 p.m.  
March 5 – Mackinaw City School, Mackinaw City, 8:00 a.m./9:00 a.m./10:15 a.m.  
March 6 – Rogers City Public School, Rogers City, 12:30 p.m.  
March 24 – Charlevoix Elementary, Charlevoix, 12:30 p.m./1:30 p.m.  
March 25 – Sheridan Elementary, Petoskey, 1:00 p.m.  
April 3 – Collins Upper Elementary, Houghton Lake, 11:30 a.m./12:45 p.m.  
April 21 – Boyne Falls Elementary, Boyne Falls, 10:00 a.m.  
April 24 – Lincoln Elementary, Sault Ste. Marie, 9:30 a.m./10:30 a.m./1:30 p.m.

*Mackinac State Historic Parks, a family of living history museums and parks in northern Michigan's Straits of Mackinac, is an agency within the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. Its sites—which are accredited by the American Alliance of Museums—include Fort Mackinac, Biddle House, Historic Downtown Mackinac, The Richard and Jane Manoogian Mackinac Art Museum, and Mackinac Island State Park on Mackinac Island, and Colonial Michilimackinac, Old Mackinac Point Lighthouse, Historic Mill Creek Discovery Park, and Michilimackinac State Park in Mackinaw City. Mackinac State Historic Parks is governed by the Mackinac Island State Park Commission, established in 1895 to protect, preserve and present the parks' rich historic and natural resources for the education and recreation of future generations. Visitor information is available at (231) 436-4100 or online at [www.mackinacparks.com](http://www.mackinacparks.com).*

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