



## Benjamin Harrison Presidential Site announces \$6 Million transformation

INDIANAPOLIS (April 20, 2021)– The Benjamin Harrison Presidential Site today announced a \$6 Million *Old Glory, New Vision* capital campaign that will significantly enhance its 2+ acres of museum grounds and make renovations to the National Historic Landmark home of the 23<sup>rd</sup> president of the United States. Construction begins late April/early May and the Presidential Site is inviting community support in its fundraising efforts.

*Old Glory, New Vision* will help transform the museum into a gathering place in the heart of Indy's Old Northside, complete with expansive greenspace. This welcoming space will host almost 18,000 students—and a total of 30,000 visitors—each year at more than 30 special events, and bring visitors and the community together for the naturalization of new citizens, to vote in local and national elections, and for civil civic discourse.

The cornerstone of the *Old Glory, New Vision* initiative is a new public commons that will give the Presidential Site the prominence the home of America's Hoosier president has long deserved. As one of Tripadvisor's top 5 "Things to Do" in Indianapolis, the [Benjamin Harrison Presidential Site](#) is poised for even greater outreach locally and nationally. Key components will include:

- **The Johnson-Floyd Family Presidential Commons** will feature a beautiful wood and glass portico to greet visitors. The Presidential Commons will be the entry way into Citizenship Plaza with limestone viewing cases featuring America's founding documents and "The Book of History" honoring naturalized citizens.
- **The Stan & Sandy Hurt Presidential Promenade** will guide visitors to the home of the 23<sup>rd</sup> President, following the "footsteps of the founders," with a president represented each step along the way.
- **A new neighborway** will connect Pennsylvania and Delaware Streets, enhancing walkability and bikeability. In conjunction with the recently completed Talbott Street restoration. This beautifully landscaped neighborhood connector will help restore accessibility that was lost with the construction of the interstate system in Indianapolis 50 years ago.
- **New signature signage** will highlight the Presidential Site's presence to thousands of vehicles driving up Delaware Street daily and to the more than 170,000 motorists on I-65/70 with a prominent new Centennial flagpole that will fly both the American and presidential flags.

- **Residence enhancements:** In addition to investing in the continued preservation of the National Historic Landmark residence, exciting enhancements to the first, second and third floors will make the museum even more engaging for students, visitors and scholars.

“Benjamin Harrison once said, ‘Great lives don’t go out, they go on.’ But it takes engaged citizens to keep the torch of good citizenship burning--and ready to hand off to the next generation,” says Charlie Hyde, President & CEO of the Benjamin Harrison Presidential Site. “We are setting the stage for a stunning transformation of the Benjamin Harrison Presidential Site. One that will increase our visibility and create a more civically engaged community by improving livability and offering new outdoor educational opportunities and events accessible to everyone.”

The *Old Glory, New Vision* capital campaign’s successful launch was made possible largely in part due to grant awards from The Arthur Jordan Foundation and Lilly Endowment Inc., which have each supported the project with \$1.5 million gifts. In addition, the Benjamin Harrison Presidential Site, a 501(c)3 organization has raised over \$5.5 million towards its \$6 million goal with gifts from R.B. Annis Educational Foundation, Allen Whitehill Clowes Charitable Foundation, Inc., The Dorsey Foundation, and many individuals making lead gifts. The Presidential Site has also received \$75,000 in matching gift commitments it is seeking to unlock through the support of new donors. Any gift between \$50 and \$5,000 will be eligible for up to a 1:1 match.

To learn more or to make a gift in support, visit [PresidentBenjaminHarrison.org](http://PresidentBenjaminHarrison.org) or [OldGloryNewVision.org](http://OldGloryNewVision.org).

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### **About the Benjamin Harrison Presidential Site**

Recognized as one of the top 5 things to do in Indianapolis by Tripadvisor, the Benjamin Harrison Presidential Site celebrates the remarkable legacy of America’s Hoosier President. The museum is a national historic landmark situated within easy walking distance of downtown Indianapolis and the bustling 16th Street corridor. The 1875 Italianate mansion is exquisitely restored and has an exceptional collection of more than 10,000 artifacts. Daily tours of the property include a 75-minute guided tour through the Harrison house and private quarters. Highlights include an awe-inspiring collection of Gilded Age finery, paintings, furniture and personal presidential gifts and mementos. The privately operated, non-profit organization receives no direct tax support and is dedicated to sharing the life stories, arts and culture of an American President to increase public participation in the American system of self-government. Find out more at [PresidentBenjaminHarrison.org](http://PresidentBenjaminHarrison.org).

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