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## Keeping the Doors Open – Virtual Tours

**PITTSBURGH, May 29th, 2020** - DOORS OPEN Pittsburgh has begun to offer virtual tours, launching the series on June 6<sup>th</sup> with “Finding Solitude: George Westinghouse.”

DOORS OPEN Pittsburgh explores what happened to the mansion called Solitude, the Pittsburgh home of one of the world’s greatest inventors, why can’t we visit it today...or can we?

Peek inside the underground tunnels and re-live the fiery explosion on Solitude’s front lawn that led to one of Westinghouse’s greatest inventions.

Presentation will be live-streamed and will include photos that will help to tell the story of George Westinghouse, and his home in Pittsburgh, Solitude.

“Doors Open Pittsburgh relies heavily on ticket revenue to sustain operations. With COVID-19 we have had to cancel our monthly Specialty Tours beginning in March, and there is no clear path ahead to know when we can re-schedule those tours. So, I am hoping this new virtual tour series will help in some small way to offset the substantial impact COVID-19 has had on the organization. I also hope this pivot keeps us in front of people, as we anticipate being able to present the annual event over the weekend of October 3 & 4” says Bonnie Baxter, Founder and Executive Director of DOORS OPEN Pittsburgh.

To date, the June calendar has been released, which also includes virtual tours about the Development of Oakland, and George Washington at Jumonville Glen.

July’s schedule announcement is forthcoming, but will include topics such as suffrage, and the local jazz scene for starters.

For tickets: [www.DoorsOpenPgh.org](http://www.DoorsOpenPgh.org)

**ABOUT DOORS OPEN Pittsburgh:** DOORS OPEN Pittsburgh (non-profit, 501c3) is best known for presenting the annual DOORS OPEN Pittsburgh event every October. That two-day event

celebrates our city's heritage, architecture and communities by providing behind-the-scenes access or just the opportunity to explore a diverse collection of buildings.

However, in 2020, DOORS OPEN Pittsburgh expands to include monthly tours, called Specialty Tours. These tours will be guided, either bus or walking. The purpose of these tours is to provide a thematic tour experience in various neighborhoods and buildings beyond the annual event.

DOORS OPEN Pittsburgh is the brainchild of Bonnie Baxter, who was inspired to create this event in her native Pittsburgh after attending the Open House Chicago event, while living in Chicago for a handful of years.

You can see the complete story at <https://doorsopenpgh.org/page/history-of-dop>

DOORS OPEN Pittsburgh, Inc. (501c3).