



## HIDDEN LEGACIES of HELEN KELLER

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For Immediate Release

### **Louisville to Host Helen Keller Symposium, September 17-18**

**LOUISVILLE, Ky (August 11, 2022)** - The Museum of the American Printing House for the Blind will present “Hidden Legacies of Helen Keller,” the 2022 Helen Keller Symposium, on Saturday, September 17, and Sunday, September 18, at the Filson Historical Society in Louisville, Kentucky. This two-day symposium offers scholars, historians, and authors a forum to share their work with history enthusiasts through presentations centered on lesser-known stories from the life of the great American activist and author.

Everyone thinks they know Helen Keller’s story. But Keller – an author, activist, fundraiser, advocate, sister, daughter, ambassador, friend, celebrity, and champion of women, people with disabilities, and those living in poverty around the globe – defies easy description. The talks will be accompanied by highlights from the rich archives of the American Foundation for the Blind (AFB), Keller’s employer for forty years. The AFB collections are now located at the American Printing House, the largest maker of educational products for people who are blind or low vision.

The symposium will feature a keynote speech by Dr. Sanjay Gulati, a deaf child and adolescent psychiatrist at Cambridge Hospital and Boston Children’s Hospital. Gulati will explore how language acquisition creates our emotional and intellectual worlds, allowing us to appreciate the value of communication strategies more fully, from American Sign Language to braille.

Registration for “Hidden Legacies of Helen Keller” is \$75, with an optional box lunch available on Saturday, September 17. A behind-the-scenes tour of the AFB Helen Keller Archive is available on Sunday, September 18. Attendees must register in advance. A complete schedule, session descriptions and registration details are available at [www.aphmuseum.org](http://www.aphmuseum.org). Registered participants may attend any or all sessions, pre-keynote reception, and the keynote. The deadline for registration is Friday, September 9. The meeting is supported by the Filson Historical Society, the University of Louisville American Sign Language Program, and the NYU Center for Disability Studies.

The APH Museum would like to recognize Dean Dorton Allen Ford, PLLC; The Gheens Foundation; Kentucky Select Properties; and Thornton's Inc. for their contributions to this event.

The Museum of the American Printing House for the Blind creates encounters with artifacts, images, and ideas that engage people with the history of literacy and learning for people who are blind or low vision and the role of the American Printing House for the Blind, changing their minds, attitudes, and actions. For more information visit [www.aphmuseum.org](http://www.aphmuseum.org).

### **About American Printing House for the Blind**

American Printing House for the Blind is a worldwide leader in designing innovative lifelong learning solutions for children and adults who are blind or low vision. In this fast-changing world, we believe in the power and necessity of learning to open the doors to educational success, satisfying employment, social inclusion, active citizenship, and personal well-being. We level the learning playing field by providing specialized technology, materials, products, and services that are essential for education and life. American Printing House for the Blind is headquartered at 1839 Frankfort Avenue in Louisville, Kentucky. For more information, please visit [www.aph.org](http://www.aph.org).

### **About the Filson Historical Society**

The Filson Historical Society, founded in 1884, is a privately supported historical society dedicated to collecting, preserving, and sharing the significant history and culture of Kentucky and the Ohio Valley. We have served the public through our extensive and historic collections of original manuscripts, letters, diaries, photographs, architectural records, rare imprints, books, maps, newspapers, textiles, portraits, and other three dimensional items. Our collections form a regional educational resource that attracts national and international researchers. For more information, please visit [www.filsonhistorical.org](http://www.filsonhistorical.org).

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