

PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Willard House & Clock Museum
The Center of Early American Clockmaking
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Willard House & Clock Museum to Host the Gravestone Girls At The Grafton Public Library

“Welcome to the Graveyard” examines the reasons for cemeteries, focuses on the interesting history of Grafton and explores the Willard family connection.

North Grafton, MA: After a several year hiatus, the Gravestone Girls return to Grafton with a new and intriguing presentation. “Welcome to the Graveyard!” is a 90-minute illustrated ‘virtual tour’ chronicling cemetery art, history, and symbolism.

From colonial New England burial grounds of the 1600s and 1700s, through the nation-wide rural cemetery movement of the 19th century and into 21st century locations, the program examines why we have cemeteries and gravestones, why they look like they do and how styles and art have evolved over almost 400 years.

“Welcome to the Graveyard” is loaded with photographs of original gravestones and burial grounds from Grafton and surrounding towns visited by Gravestone Girls in preparation for this program.

The presentation will take place on Thursday, May 4 from 6:30 to 8:30 PM in the Grafton Public Library Community Room.

“When Gravestone Girls approached us for the May event, it was something we simply couldn’t pass up”, says Beverly Snow, museum Program Coordinator. “We expect a large turnout, hence the reason to move it to a larger venue and the newly expanded library was an ideal setting.”

The event is expected to fill up quickly so register at <https://willardhouse.org/events/calendar/2023/gravestone-girls>

Grafton Public Library 35 Grafton Common, Grafton, MA

About Gravestone Girls

Gravestone Girls create replicas of old New England tombstones in the form of wall hangings, magnets, coasters, mirrors, tombstone chocolate and more! Cast directly from originals still on cemetery landscapes, their art is a piece of history in your hand! "Keeping Our Dead Alive" through lectures, tours, classes and art, they work nationwide, raising cemetery awareness and teaching citizens the history buried under their feet.

Visit Gravestone Girls at <https://www.gravestonegirls.com/#/>

About Willard House and Clock Museum - Celebrating its 50th Anniversary

Located at 11 Willard Street in North Grafton, MA, Willard House and Clock Museum exhibits more than 90 Willard clocks in the birthplace and original workshop of the Willard clockmakers, along with family portraits, furnishings and other family heirlooms. The work of all three generations of Willard clockmakers, focusing on the famed brothers, Simon Willard and Aaron Willard are displayed. The Museum tour includes the original Willard House built in 1718, the original 1766 clock-making workshop, and three modern galleries.

Willard is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Visit the Willard House and Clock Museum website at www.willardhouse.org and follow on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) and [LinkedIn](#).

For more information about the museum, please contact Beverly Snow, Program Coordinator, at 508-839-3500.

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