Immigration is as American as apple pie and even older than the country. It is part of the story of American history, New York State history, and Hudson Valley history. Join us in experiencing the world’s greatest melting pot. Examine how one community has addressed the issue. Learn how America’s Pastime also is America’s story.

9:00 Welcome and Introductions

9:15 The Immigrant Experience in American History – Peter Feinman, IHARE

10:15 The New York State Narrative – Peter Eisenstadt, Editor-in-chief of the Encyclopedia of New York State

11:15 The Immigrant Experience in Poughkeepsie – Harvey Flad, Vassar College

12:15 Lunch with speakers


2:15 Ellis Island History – Dorothy Hartman, Ellis Island Institute

3:15 Expressing the Immigrant Experience: A Panel Board Display – George Lukacs, Poughkeepsie City Historian

Governing in an Immigrant Community: A Mayor’s Perspective – Nancy Cozean, former Poughkeepsie Mayor

4:15 Teaching the Melting Pot Workshop – Peter Feinman, IHARE