

FRANCES PERKINS CENTER

HOPEFUL FUTURE-MAKING

HOME FOR A NATION

THE FRANCES PERKINS HOMESTEAD

Preservation and restoration activities are in full swing at the Frances Perkins Homestead. This National Historic Landmark in Newcastle, Maine serves as a tangible reminder that America is intended to be a vast homestead for all its people, a lively household for one and all, and that concern for the common good should govern our life together. We look forward to welcoming visitors in 2023.

Preserving the Homestead and the development of a new place-based education program are of immense value now, and for the future. The story of Frances Perkins, her family, and the history of the land on which the Homestead stands provide an important resource for understanding American history for generations to come.

As we work to complete the preservation of the Homestead, we are also planning to show and explain the furnishings and memorabilia—the site's collections—as we open the site to visitors. Tasks ahead range from cataloguing the collection, further researching Frances Perkins and her family, her national and international significance, as well as engaging with Maine historians, naturalists, and Native American communities to understand a full history of these 57 acres on the Damariscotta River.



Top Row (left to right): Brick House complex and first of several storage containers to begin restoration activity; Bricks and stone removed from Brick House cellar to allow for new footings—returned to their original locations upon completion; **Bottom Row (left to right):** New stone footings under now leveled barn; Barn and ell roof repair and re-shingling following the leveling of the barn structure; Brick House ell north-facing roof stabilization and repair

PROGRAMS

Frances Perkins Center programs focus on inspiring each of us through the efforts and perspectives of current and future leaders addressing critical issues affecting America's culture today. We accomplish this through virtual productions, Exhibit Center visitations, summer internships, the preservation and interpretation of the Frances Perkins Homestead National Historic Landmark, and collaborative partnerships with other organizations across the country. We envision a hopeful future for the Frances Perkins Center and our nation.

In years past, we gathered in person for public policy forums and summer garden parties but couldn't for the past two years due to Covid-19 when we turned to virtual programs. This year, we continued with virtual gatherings in the midst of restoring the Perkins Homestead.

We invite you to visit our website often to learn more about a remarkable woman whose legacy continues to benefit all of us today. And we look forward to welcoming you to new programs that will be virtual and in-person in 2023.

NYC NAMES "FRANCES PERKINS PLACE"



March 26, 2022

The City of New York honored Frances Perkins, the 'Mother of Social Security,' former Hell's Kitchen resident, and the first woman to serve in a US presidential cabinet, by naming West 46th Street between 9th and 10th Avenue "Frances Perkins Place."

Left to Right: Holding a replica of the new Frances Perkins Place sign (l-r) NY Mayor Eric Adams, Frances Perkins' grandson Tomlin Perkins Coggeshall, NYS DOL Commissioner Roberta Reardon, NYC Council Member Erik Bottcher, and NY Senator Brad Hoylman. Photo courtesy of NYS DOT

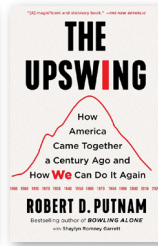
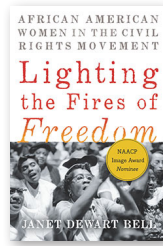
PROBLEM SOLVING IN A DIVIDED AMERICA

April 3, 2022

Keynote *Intelligence and Courage* and *Steadfast* Awardees continue to inspire us by their data-driven insights on America's history and their shared optimism about how diverse, collaborative, intergenerational problem solvers can—again—shape an upswing in America's trajectory.

To view the full program, visit

francesperkinscenter.org/events/upswing.



Left to right: Maya Rockey Moore Cummings, Robert Putnam, Shaylan Romney Garrett, Janet Dewart Bell



LIVE THEATER: THE ONLY WOMAN IN THE ROOM

Written and Produced by Teralyn Reiter

July 15-17, 2022

This stage production introduced 403 audience members at the Lincoln Theater in Damariscotta to Frances Perkins. FPC Board Chair Sarah Peskin joined a panel of actors following the final show to chat and answer questions. This wonderful program drew even more visitors to the FPC Exhibit Center!

CRITICAL HISTORY: A CONVERSATION WITH AMERICA'S ARCHIVIST

July 27, 2022

Former Head Archivist and Chief Administrator of the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) during the Obama, Trump, and Biden administrations, David Ferriero, with distinguished Duke University professor emerita Caroline Bruzelius, reflected on his 12-year tenure launching an agency transformation dedicated to the principles of open government, transparency, participation, and collaboration.

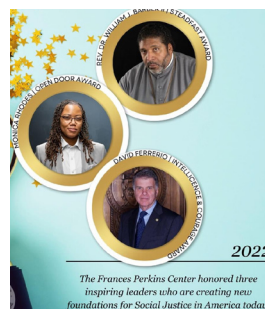
To view the program recording, visit [FrancesPerkinsCenter.org/Ferriero](https://francesperkinscenter.org/Ferriero)



INAUGURAL HOMESTEAD DAY

September 18, 2022

A virtual gathering in the midst of restoring the Perkins Homestead celebrated the work we have accomplished at the Homestead and plans for the future. Three inspiring leaders who continue Frances Perkins' legacy in the fields of preservation, government, and social justice, justice advocate Rev. Dr. William J. Barber II, historic preservationist Monica Rhodes, and the former U.S. Archivist David Ferriero, spoke about their work and the Frances Perkins Center's vision for this National Historic Landmark. To watch the full event recording, visit [FrancesPerkinsCenter.org/homestead-day](https://francesperkinscenter.org/homestead-day).



2022 Inaugural Homestead Day Awardees.
Image by: @themonicarhodes

SUMMER INTERNS 2022

After a two-year hiatus due to COVID-19, we joyously welcomed summer interns Mount Holyoke College sophomore **Madeleine Myers** and Bates College sophomore **Esmeralda Alfaro** for their six-week internships. While here, they greeted and shared Frances Perkins stories with visitors at our Exhibition Center in Damariscotta and were introduced to artifacts and archival processes at the Frances Perkins Homestead. FPC Program and Education Director Emma Wegner took the two under her wing, expanding their experience with visits to other Maine cultural institutions including the Maine Maritime Museum, the Museum L-A, Fort Pemaquid and Pemaquid Lighthouse.



Maddy and Esme on a trip to Maine's iconic Pemaquid Lighthouse and Museum

Join us in helping others know about Frances Perkins and ways her vision of a more just society can come to fruition.

TO MAKE YOUR DONATION:

Secure Online:

[FrancesPerkinsCenter.org/donate](https://francesperkinscenter.org/donate).

Mail:

PO Box 281, Newcastle, ME 04553

Phone:

(207) 563-3374

Securities:

Email lchaney@francesperkinscenter.org

We accept Stock gifts and donations from Donor-Advised Funds.

STAY IN TOUCH:

To receive Frances Perkins Center updates via email, sign-up at [FrancesPerkinsCenter.org](https://francesperkinscenter.org).