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Tweet It: Major art exhibits and epic anniversaries — go women's rights! — take place in @visitphilly in 2020: vstphl.ly/2p9Qdh8

PHILADELPHIA WELCOMES MAJOR ART CELEBRATIONS, A CENTENNIAL FOR WOMEN'S RIGHTS & NEW HOTELS IN 2020

Coming Year Promises Major Celebrations, Serious Openings In Philadelphia And The Countryside

PHILADELPHIA, December 3, 2019 – Philadelphia and The Countryside® will give visitors many reasons to visit in 2020. The **Philadelphia Museum of Art** will complete phase one of its dramatic renovation—and unveil its new spaces in concert with an exhibition of works by **Jasper Johns**, which will occur alongside a complementary mirror exhibition of Johns work at the Whitney. The entire region is getting behind the 19th Amendment's centennial with **Women 100** programming throughout the year. In other anniversary news, the **Philadelphia Orchestra** has planned a weeks-long musical celebration to mark Beethoven's 250th, and **PHILADANCO** wraps its 50th year of innovating in dance with must-see performances. Hotel openings include the city's first **W Hotel** and a luxurious revival of **River House at Odette's** in New Hope, Bucks County. All these new events are amazing, but in truth, Philadelphia and The Countryside has enough [amazing annual events](#), visiting is great any time of year.

Here are some of the major events and openings to cover in the new year:

Museum News:

- **Philadelphia Museum of Art** – The Benjamin Franklin Parkway's landmark circa 1928 institution unveils the completion of its Core Project, a major redesign by architect Frank Gehry. The last phase of the project will welcome 23,000 square feet of new gallery space, reclaiming space beneath the East Terrace (site of the *Rocky* steps) for galleries of early American, modern and contemporary art. It will also reveal the renovation of the West Entrance and Lenfest Hall, create a major gathering space called the Forum (replacing Van Pelt Auditorium) and reopen the southern portion of the Vaulted Walkway. **Fall 2020**. In addition, the museum is partnering with the Whitney Museum of American Art on simultaneous exhibitions of the work of **Jasper Johns**, considered the country's most significant living artist. The unprecedented collaboration chronologically shows paintings, sculpture, drawings, prints, books and costumes that mirror the other's display, creating an immersive exhibition that itself, is a study in Johns' fascination with reflections. **October 20, 2020 – February 2021** (end date TBD). 2600 Benjamin Franklin Parkway, (215) 763-8100, philamuseum.org
- **Faith and Liberty Discovery Center** – The American Bible Society (ABS) debuts a \$60 million, 40,000-square-foot museum on Independence Mall to explore and share the role of biblical principles and messages in the founding of the United States. The space will include

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interactive galleries, a 3D theater and an education center. Highlighted Americans include civil rights and Baptist leader Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Catholic anti-war activist Dorothy Day and Quaker William Penn, founder of colonial Philadelphia. ABS will also direct visitors to explore a Faith and Liberty Heritage Trail of some of the nation's early religious institutions, including Mother Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church (A.M.E.), home to the denomination's founding congregation, and Mikveh Israel, home to Philadelphia's oldest and the nation's second oldest Jewish congregation. **Late 2020.** 101 N. Independence Mall East, (215) 309-0401, faithandliberty.org

Performances:

- **BeethovenNOW** – The Philadelphia Orchestra marks Ludwig van Beethoven's 250th birthday in two epic celebrations. The first invites pianists Yefim Bronfman, Daniil Trifonov and Emanuel Ax to perform all five of Beethoven's piano concertos (**January 23 – February 8, 2020**). Next, the Fabulous Philadelphians spend four weeks juxtaposing Beethoven's nine genre-transforming symphonies with contemporary works from composer-in-residence Gabriela Lena Frank and her diverse composers from the Creative Academy of Music (**March 12 – April 5, 2020**). January performances, Academy of Music, 240 S. Broad Street; following performances, Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts, 300 S. Broad Street, (215) 893-1900, philorch.org
- **PHILADANCO's 50th** – The Philadelphia Dance Company (PHILADANCO) continues its 50th anniversary celebration by hosting the 32nd International Conference and Festival of Blacks in Dance at the Kimmel Center Cultural Campus' Merriam Theater and SEI Innovation Studio, as well as the DoubleTree Philadelphia, Cambria Hotel Philadelphia and The University of the Arts (**January 14-19, 2020**). The company's season culminates with *Fast-Forward*, a look at the future of choreography in a co-commission with Toronto's Dance Immersion, Vietnam's Thang Dao, Broadway's Ray Mercer and choreographer Kathy Smith. **April 17–19, 2020.** Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts, 300 S. Broad Street, (215) 387-8200, philadanco.org

Sports:

- **KPMG Women's PGA Championship** – The Women's Professional Golf Association second-longest running tournament — and one of five majors on the tour — brings 156 of the world's best golfers to Delaware County's circa 1896 Aronimink Golf Club for the first time. Aronimink's course was designed in 1926 by renowned Scottish architect Donald Ross. **June 23–28, 2020.** 3600 St. Davids Road, Newtown Square, (610) 356-8000, KPMGWomensPGA.com

100th Anniversary of 19th Amendment:

- ***Votes for Women: A Visual History*** – The Brandywine River Museum of Art displays and explains century-old political cartoons, plays, posters, parades and fashion that formed the visual culture of the U.S. women's suffrage movement. Drawings, illustrations, photographs of marches and rallies, clothing and accessories — especially sashes — re-create and contextualize this time of tangible art and physical action, long before social media or television. **February 1 – June 7, 2020.** 1 Hoffman's Mill Road, Chadds Ford, (610) 388-2700, brandywine.org
- **WomenNOW Concert Series** – Women who are composers, conductors, instrumentalists and vocalists star throughout the Philadelphia Orchestra's season. **Through May 31, 2020.** Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts, 300 S. Broad Street, (215) 893-1900, philorch.org

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- **19th Amendment** – The National Constitution Center’s upcoming exhibit about the movement for women’s voting rights will expand on the permanent exhibit *Civil War and Reconstruction: The Battle for Freedom and Equality*. The new exhibit explores constitutional arguments for and against women’s rights and offers fascinating historical context, spotlighting multiple generations of advocates and exploring the complex debates surrounding rights for African Americans versus rights for women. **Late spring 2020**. National Constitution Center, 525 Arch Street, (215) 409-6700, constitutioncenter.org
- **Women 100** – This series of programs and events that celebrates American women and sparks new ideas about the path to gender equality, presented by Drexel University’s Vision2020, is the largest centennial celebration in the United States honoring the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. women100.org
 - **Seat at the Table** – A free, seven-day-a-week, interactive art exhibition by Dome Collective invites the public to experience women’s representation in places of power (seats at tables) through 3D infographic furniture, while a wall of interactive screens introduces gender barrier-breakers throughout women’s history. **March 1 – September 30, 2020**. Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts, 300 S. Broad Street, (215) 893-1999, domecollective.com
 - **SHE Leads Road Rally** – Race car drivers pull an all-night, roundtrip road trip from East Falls in Philadelphia to Seneca Falls, New York, site of the first Women’s Rights Convention. (Buses also available.) **June 19–20, 2020**. Drexel University College of Medicine, 2900 W. Queen Lane, women100.org
 - **Toast to Tenacity™** – Independence Mall honors the 100th anniversary of voting rights for women — Women’s Equality Day — with midday speakers, live music and glasses raised to suffragists. **August 26, 2020**. 599 Market Street, phlvisitorcenter.com
 - **Celebrating Women** – A 2,500-person celebration of American women begins with a ceremony of music, performance segments and a salute to 100 diverse women who have blazed trails in a multitude of fields. **September 16, 2020**. Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts, 300 S. Broad Street, (215) 893-1999, women100.org, kimmelcenter.org

Hotels:

- **The Hyatt Centric Hotel** – Philadelphia firm DAS Architects is behind the rustic modern design — and targeting LEED Silver certification — for 13-story, 332-room new construction one block from Rittenhouse Square. The Hyatt Centric will offer a second-floor restaurant and onsite underground parking. **June 2020** (exact date TBA). 17th & Chancellor Streets. hyatt.com
- **River House at Odette’s** – The site of Bucks County’s beloved cabaret greets a 38-room boutique hotel overlooking the Delaware River. Cabaret queen Odette Myrtil’s legacy remains in the vaulted-ceilings Piano Lounge, luxurious textiles, amazing views, a members-only rooftop bar, spectacular river view ballroom for weddings and events of up to 200 guests and a resurrected Odette’s, known for whiskey cocktails and local menu. **June 2020**. 274 S. River Road, New Hope, (215) 682-2022, riverhousenewhope.com
- **W Philadelphia and Element Philadelphia** – Center City will welcome two 52-story, side-by-side Marriott properties. The vibrant, modern W Philadelphia (the city’s first W hotel) will have 295 luxurious rooms, along with a bar terrace, Living Room lounge, lap pool and 22 meeting rooms. Philadelphia’s rapidly expanding, wellness-focused Element (another first for the region) will have 460 rooms. **June 2020** (exact date TBA). W Philadelphia, 1439 Chestnut Street, w-hotels.marriott.com; Element Philadelphia, 1441 Chestnut Street, element-hotels.marriott.com

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Note to Editors: For high-resolution photos and high-definition B-roll of Greater Philadelphia, visit the Photos & Video section of visitphilly.com/mediacenter.