

Ethnic/Cultural Heritage in the Calumet Region

Community Conversations



Spanish , Polish , Serbian, Croatian, English, Swedish. These are just some of the languages that would have been spoken in the mills of early 20th century Calumet. No matter how *your* family came to the Calumet region--such as through Ellis Island, as part of The Great Migration, or out of the Appalachian foothills--they brought with them the diverse cultural practices that enrich the region. From festivals and cuisine, to art and language, these practices continue to shape the region's identity. Whether you are a recent resident or your roots go back for generations, we want to hear what *your* cultural heritage means to the region and how you would like to see cultural heritage represented in a future Calumet National Heritage Area.

Wednesday, September 23, 2015*

5:30 - 7:30 pm

Porter County Public Library

2665 Irving St.

Portage, IN 46368

Thursday, September 24, 2015*

5:30 - 7:30 pm

Public Safety Building

725 W. 138th St.

Riverdale, IL 60827

Please bring a photo or object that tells a story about the ethnic and cultural heritage of the Calumet region . We will use these to start the conversation, so come ready to share!

About Community Conversations: These community conversations are being

hosted by The Field Museum in collaboration with the Calumet Heritage Partnership to identify themes that can be used to interpret the region to residents and visitors. Insights from the conversations will inform the feasibility study for a Calumet National Heritage Area. This set of ethnic/cultural heritage conversations is the sixth in a series of community discussions and will be the last set of community conversations to gather input prior to putting together the first draft of the Calumet National Heritage Area feasibility study.

Save the Dates! 16th Annual Calumet Heritage Conference: The results from the community conversations will be shared on **October 21 & 22, 2015** as part of the Calumet Heritage Conference. This year's conference includes public input meetings to comment on key sections of the feasibility study to create a Calumet National Heritage Area --and-- an All-Day Tour on **October 24**, highlighting the natural, industrial, and cultural resources that make the Calumet region nationally significant. For conference details and registration information: [Visit the Calumet Heritage Partnership Website](#) for updates on the conference and the feasibility study.

About a Calumet National Heritage Area: Across the country, National Heritage Area designations have helped to benefit local communities and landscapes. Learn more at <http://www.nps.gov/heritageareas/> and <http://www.nationalheritageareas.us>.

* To RSVP for the community conversations or for more information, contact Madeleine Tudor: mtudor@fieldmuseum.org or (312) 665-7471

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