



NATIONAL
GENEALOGICAL
SOCIETY

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Press Release

National Genealogical Society Announces Virtual 2021 Family History Conference Registration Opens 1 February 2021

FALLS CHURCH, VA, 1 FEBRUARY 2021—[Registration](#) for the National Genealogical Society (NGS) 2021 Family History Conference opens 1 February 2021 at 1:00 p.m. (EST). Plans for NGS's forty-third annual conference include a full week of virtual events* for individuals, societies, and organizations 17–21 May 2021.

Monday, 17 May, begins the week with a [Kickoff Workshop](#) for the NGS Delegate Council. The Delegate Council is the new advisory committee for NGS member organizations created as part of the 2020 merger with the former Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS). This inaugural workshop will focus on helping delegates understand their role within the National Genealogical Society.

Tuesday, 18 May, presents the debut of the [SLAM! Idea Showcase](#), which highlights creative and innovative projects or programs by societies, libraries, archives, and museums (SLAMs). The day will also include presentations that assist librarians and others who serve genealogists.

On **Wednesday and Thursday, 19–20 May**, NGS's premier two-day virtual conference event—[NGS 2021 Live!](#)—features award-winning authors Dani Shapiro and Ric Murphy; an opening session by esteemed genealogist and Virginia expert Barbara Vines Little; and presentations by nationally recognized speakers including Elizabeth Shown Mills, Thomas W. Jones, Judy Russell, Eric Grundset, Craig Scott, Janice Lovelace, and more. Two full days are planned by NGS to offer exciting new ideas to

energize family historians' research, announce the winners of NGS awards, and offer a unique experience—the camaraderie of thousands of fellow genealogists from throughout the United States and the world. [Program content](#) will include bonus lectures provided by conference sponsors and sponsoring organizations.

The week ends with [Focus on Societies](#) on **Friday, 21 May**. This all-day event is devoted to presentations offering expert advice for society leaders on managing and growing their genealogical or historical society. The day will feature fourteen session topics, and Jill Morelli will kick off the event with ideas and new opportunities for societies based on lessons learned during the pandemic.

In addition to [NGS 2021 Live!](#), NGS will offer a choice of either a twenty or forty lecture package on-demand. Those who purchase a package may choose from more than [eighty-five on-demand sessions](#) available for viewing starting in June. Other programs will be priced separately. Throughout the week a virtual Expo Hall will be available.

Take advantage of the discounted Early Bird registration fee, plus member discounts, when you [sign up](#) by 15 March 2021.

*Note: Due to ongoing mandates in Virginia in regards to COVID-19 and our concern for the well-being of our attendees, exhibitors, volunteers, and staff, NGS is unable to host an in-person conference in Richmond, Virginia in May 2021.

Founded in 1903, the [National Genealogical Society's](#) mission is to inspire, connect, and lead the family history community. We foster collaboration and best practices in advocacy, education, preservation, and research. We enable people, cultures, and organizations to discover the past and create a lasting legacy.