



DOORS OPEN BUFFALO

2025 EVENT REPORT



SEPTEMBER 20

**36 DOWNTOWN
LOCATIONS**



**5,740
REGISTERED**



**13,349
SITE VISITS**



**227
VOLUNTEERS**



Explore Buffalo's signature annual event, Doors Open Buffalo, inspires greater appreciation for Buffalo's unique history and architecture through a day of free public access to several landmarks and historic sites.

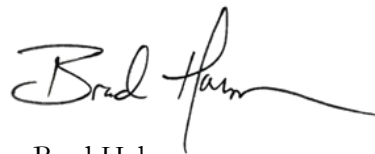
A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

Downtown Buffalo was once again filled with thousands of visitors eager to explore many of our city's landmark buildings, historic sites, and cultural organizations as part of the sixth Doors Open Buffalo event hosted by Explore Buffalo. This year, we celebrated the Erie Canal Bicentennial with new Doors Open locations including the Erie Canal Boat Seneca Chief and the Waterways of Change exhibit at Canalside. With a picture-perfect fall day as the backdrop, visitors of all ages and from across the country and around the world enjoyed this special opportunity to take part in Doors Open Buffalo.

Doors Open Buffalo plays an important role in fulfilling Explore Buffalo's mission of promoting Buffalo's history and architecture: nearly 20% of Explore Buffalo's annual attendance takes place in this one day! We are especially excited to see the continued growth of our Family Friendly Trail, sponsored by **C-SAAHN**. We love to see so many families with children participate in Doors Open Buffalo, gaining an enthusiasm for our city's buildings and its stories from a young age.

We couldn't do Doors Open Buffalo without the support of our entire community, especially the management and ownership of this year's 36 participating buildings. I'm particularly grateful to the Explore Buffalo staff and planning committee who have been hard at work preparing for Doors Open since January 2025. This event would not be possible without the support of volunteers at every location, led by volunteer Building Coordinators at each location. Volunteers at Doors Open Buffalo 2025 contributed over 800 hours of their time! The support of our sponsors and funders who underwrite the costs of this event are essential to keeping this event free for our community.

Buffalo has so much incredible architecture and history to celebrate, and we are thrilled to see thousands of people come each year to be part of Doors Open Buffalo. **Thank you for supporting Doors Open Buffalo 2025, and I look forward to seeing you at Doors Open Buffalo 2026!**

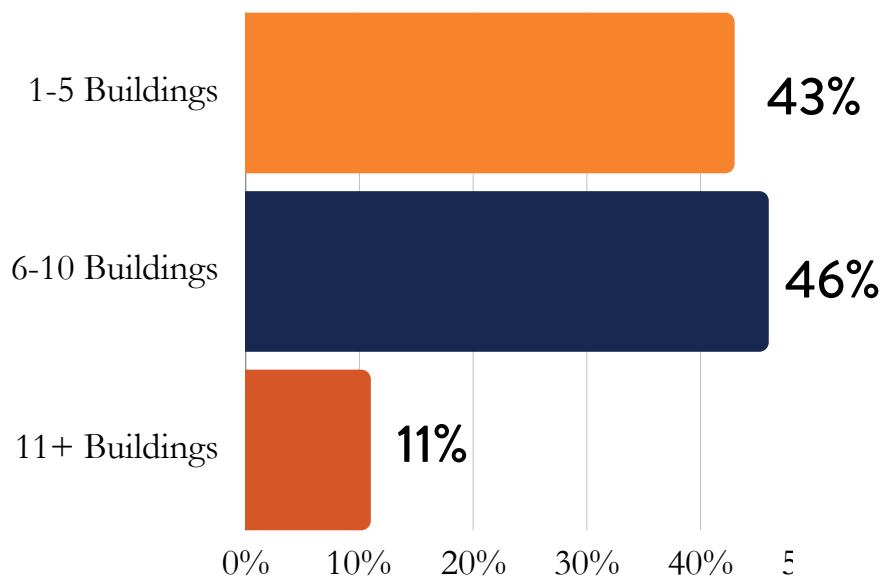


Brad Hahn
Executive Director

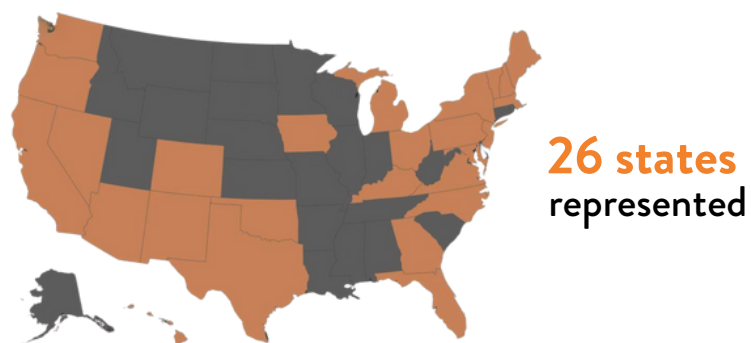


EVENT SURVEY RESULTS

BUILDINGS VISITED:



VISITOR DATA:



TOP ZIP CODES REPRESENTED:

14221 14226 14075
14150 14224

Survey Feedback:

“It’s a wonderful event. So informative and fun!”

“Loved the variety of places that were open!”

“Great job!! appreciate your dedicated work to see so many people enjoying themselves!!”

“We’ve enjoyed the last 2 yrs visiting places and look forward to next year. Thank you for organizing this wonderful event!”

“The map was really well done, color coding, very well organized and easy to follow.”

Social Media Comments:

“Loved our day of exploring Buffalo! Although we’ve lived in the area over 70 years, there is always something new to experience.”

“I will definitely be back next year. I couldn’t see everything in a day. Absolutely amazed at what I saw and learned. Thanks for opening your doors!”

“Thank you to everyone that makes this event possible.”

“Greatly appreciate everyone contributing to this wonderful event!”

“Was a great time to explore Buffalo landmarks.”

“We had a great time, loved seeing all the interesting buildings.”



10,200 (4.6 miles)

average number of steps taken by each visitor



50% of visitors

visited a Downtown restaurant or café



\$25

average spending Downtown per person



\$57,000

estimated total spending by visitors throughout the event



79% of visitors

felt Doors Open positively effected how they perceive Buffalo



79% of visitors

are more likely to visit downtown Buffalo again in the near future



55% of visitors

are more likely to take an Explore Buffalo tour in the near future

TOP BUILDINGS VISITED:



QUIET HOUR:

Quiet Hour has been a new addition to Doors Open Buffalo since 2024. The event had a designated Quiet Hour from 9 am - 10 am (the hour before the event began) for visitors with sensory needs. Four downtown locations were open during Quiet Hour: The Buffalo Presidential Center, the Downtown Library, Hotel at the Lafayette, and M&T Bank's Gold Dome.

135

QUIET HOUR
REGISTRANTS



FAMILY-FRIENDLY TRAIL:

507

KIDS
REGISTERED



2025 PARTICIPATING LOCATIONS

- 500 Pearl (Ellicott Development)
- 40-50 Fountain Plaza
- Avant
- Alleyway Theatre
- Big Ditch Brewing Company
- The Brisbane Building (Hunt Real Estate)
- Buffalo City Hall
- Buffalo Convention Center (Doors Open Hub)
- Buffalo Harbor Museum
- Buffalo Maritime Center Erie Canal Boat Seneca Chief
- Buffalo Naval Park Hangar Building
- Buffalo Niagara Waterkeeper
- Buffalo Presidential Center
- Buffalo School of Culinary Arts & Hospitality Management
- Downtown Library - Buffalo & Erie County Public Library
- Ellicott Square Building
- Explore and More
- Five Points Framing in the Buehl Building
- Guaranty Building (Hodgson Russ LLP)
- HANSA Workplace
- Hotel at the Lafayette
- Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield at Seneca One
- Irish Classical Theatre Co.
- Lafayette Court Building
- M&T Bank's Goldome Branch at Fountain Plaza
- Michigan Street Baptist Church
- Michigan Street African American Heritage Corridor
- Nash House Museum
- Old County Hall
- One M&T Plaza
- Road Less Traveled Theater
- The Sinclair
- St. Paul's Episcopal Cathedral
- WNY Book Arts Center
- WUFO Black Radio Collective
- Waterway of Change Exhibit at Canalside



2025 EVENT TEAM & SUPPORTERS

TOTAL NUMBER OF VOLUNTEERS: **227**

PLANNING COMMITTEE

Duncan Hemink, 2025 Doors Open Buffalo Event Chair

Lynne Baker, 2025 Doors Open Volunteer Coordinator

Bonnie Blatner, Suzanne Ernst, Laura Fitzgerald, Brad Hahn, Nick Householder, Gerri Kozlowski, Scott Nourse, Sabrina Wroblewski, Patrick Kaler, MacKenzie Tierney, Miggie Wong, Malkijah Griffiths

EXPLORE BUFFALO STAFF

Brad Hahn, Executive Director

Suzanne Ernst, Program Director

Susan Reeder, Development Coordinator

Lori DeMaria, Education Coordinator

Sabrina Wroblewski, Marketing Coordinator

Kelsey Dewey, Operations Coordinator

2025 EVENT SPONSORS:



FAMILY TRAIL SPONSORED BY:



ADDITIONAL SUPPORT BY:



