

Education in a Valley Fair



This exhibit explores the growth of education in the New Paltz area from the early Huguenot days through the twentieth century. It is a collaborative effort of the Haviland-Heidgerd Historical Collection at Elting Library, Historic Huguenot Street and the Sojourner Truth Library at the State University of New York at New Paltz, and is based on materials from their respective collections.

The exhibit offers a glimpse at many aspects of education in “the valley fair” from 1700s cipher books, to one room school houses, to the establishment and growth of the Normal School. It is not an exhaustive or complete history but rather an overview of many aspects of the rich heritage of educational efforts, as told through visual materials still located in the Village of New Paltz.

In many ways the characteristics and history of education in the New Paltz area reflects similar trends in the region and country. However the story of education in New Paltz is also unique in that it’s very early history is related to the French Huguenot settlers of the 1600s and in later years reflects the creation of an Academy that became a New York State Normal School.

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If you are interested in more information please see *In A Valley Fair: A History of The State University College of Education at New Paltz, N.Y.* by Elizabeth Lang and Robert Lang. You may also contact the presenting organizations directly by phone, or to set up a visit.

Historic Huguenot Street Library and Archives

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New Paltz, NY 12561
845-255-6738

library@huguenotstreet.org

Elting Library

Haviland-Heidgerd Historical Collection

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New Paltz, New York 12561
845-255-5030

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Sojourner Truth Library

SUNY New Paltz
300 Hawk Drive, New Paltz, NY 12561-2493
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<http://lib.newpaltz.edu>