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DANVILLE MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS & HISTORY

The Danville Museum of Fine Arts and History is housed in the historic Sutherlin Mansion of Danville, Virginia. Originally built in 1859, the mansion served as the temporary residence and cabinet meeting space of Confederate President Jefferson Davis which earned Danville the title of "Last Capital of the Confederacy." In the 1960s, the house became the site of Civil Rights sit-ins while operating as a segregated library. Today, the mansion serves as a historical museum featuring exhibits on the Civil War, the civil rights movement, and the Camilla Williams Collection, the first African American to sing lead roles with the New York City Opera. The museum site is now a Virginia Historic Landmark listed on the National Register of Historic Places offering diverse exhibitions, classes, and educational programs in partnership with the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts and Virginia Civil War Trails.

POTENTIAL STORY ANGLES:

- **Women of the Civil War: Unsung Heroes** – Highlight an exhibit on the roles and contributions of women during the Civil War, including those who served as nurses, spies, and activists.
- **Art Education: The Museum's Impact on Local Schools** – Feature the museum's educational programs and how they enhance students' understanding of history and art.
- **Art and Activism: The Intersection of Creative Expression and Social Justice** – Explore how art has been used as a tool for social change, from the Civil War to contemporary issues.
- **Interactive Civil Rights History: Virtual Experiences** – Give history a modern twist through virtual tours that immerse visitors in key events of the Civil Rights movement.
- **National Impact** – The Danville Hall of Fame honors citizens who have worked within their respective field to attain national stature for themselves and Danville and Pittsylvania County.

MEDIA CONTACT

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