

# Living History: Effective Costumed Interpretation and Enactment at Museums and Historic Sites (American Association for State and Local

## **History**)

David B. Allison



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Engaging audiences through costumed staff at museums and historic sites is one of the most effective ways to interpret the past for a public used to multimedia presentations on their TVs and computers.

Here, David Allison, who has worked at several museums known for effective enactments, provides:

- the fascinating stories of three large living history museums as they adapt to changing audience expectations.
- a solid overview of the types of interpretation that living history museums use.
- best practices (and practices for you to avoid) from the reams of data and studies compiled by evaluators over the past 10 years.
- an exploration of the the intersection of public history, individual agency, and business imperatives at museums and historic sites.

*Connecting with Guests in Museums: Living History Techniques Then and Now* looks at the history of these compelling techniques, provides best practices and strategies for implementing them today, and provides a roadmap for the future of costumed interpretation.

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