



THE HISTORY  
MUSEUM  
discover. experience. immerse.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TOPIC: Mystery at the Mansion: Biting Criticism (October 14 and 28, 2022)

CONTACT: Marilyn Thompson, Director of Marketing, (574) 235-9664, ext. 231 or  
mthompson@historymuseumSB.org

### **Tickets Now on Sale for The History Museum's Mystery at the Mansion**

South Bend, IN— Tickets are now on sale for The History Museum's "Mystery at the Mansion: Biting Criticism," taking place on Friday, October 14 and 28. Tours leave every 15 minutes, with the first tour at 5:30 p.m. Tours are limited, and reservations are strongly recommended. Tickets are \$25/general and \$20/members. Purchase online at [historymuseumSB.org](http://historymuseumSB.org).

This year's Mystery at the Mansion, written by local author Roger A. Chrastil, turns the clock back to 1907. The author Bram Stoker is in South Bend after giving a talk in Chicago about his book *Dracula*. He plans to have dinner with the Olivers and attend the play *The Vampire*, which is being performed at the Oliver Opera House. However, a theater critic who has devastated many an actor, director, and producer with his nasty comments has just been murdered. There are marks on the victim's throat, and it looks like he was killed by a vampire! Who—or what—might have done such a thing? Participants will need to listen carefully to all the clues to discover the villain.

Mystery at the Mansion is a popular annual event at The History Museum. As participants walk through the elegant 38-room Oliver Mansion, they listen to the characters' dialogues, with the rooms of the house as a backdrop to each scene. Details of the crime surface as the play unfolds. This popular mystery needs good investigative skills to track down "whodunit." Those who solve the case win a chance at the grand prize.

The Oliver Mansion, once home to the J.D. Oliver family, is a historic house museum owned and operated by The History Museum. The Oliver family moved into the three-story, 12,000 square-foot house on January 1, 1897. The Victorian mansion would be home to the family for the next 75 years. All of the mansion's furnishings are original, showing the house just as it appeared when the family lived there. The Oliver Mansion (named Copshaholm by the family) is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Roger A. Chrastil has scripted past Mystery at the Mansion plays as well as The History Museum's Christmas at Copshaholm specialty tours. Chrastil has also written several other works, including the plays *An Immigrant's Story* and *"Or Does It Explode?"*--both of which were performed at the museum.

For information, call (574) 235-9664 or visit [www.historymuseumSB.org](http://www.historymuseumSB.org)

###