

Love was in the air at the historic McHenry Mansion on Friday, February 14th. In celebration of Valentine's Day, the Clerk-Recorder's Office held "Marriage at the Mansion," conducting civil ceremonies for 34 couples with over 350 guests throughout the day. This marks the 21st wedding event the department has conducted at the McHenry Mansion since the first in 2003.

Department staff and volunteer officiants came together to make the event unforgettable in the beautifully preserved mansion. The docents of the mansion were dressed in elegant Victorian-era gowns, and wedding parties journeyed through time as they entered the mansion's halls in awe of its architecture, intricate décor, and furnishings. In the dimly lit rooms, couples held hands as they exchanged vows and rings under the light shining through the windows.

The couples were surrounded by an intimate group of friends and family showing their support—some applause, others with joyful tears or witty remarks like, "It's about time!" As a keepsake for the momentous occasion, the docents kindly gifted each couple an ornament specially personalized with their names engraved.

Each Valentine's Day, the entire Clerk-Recorder team is honored to take part in celebrating each couple's commitment and love for one another. As we look forward to holding the event again in 2026, we plan to host more themed weddings in the office through the end of the year. Our events will be posted on our website so you can share them with the lovebirds closest to you!

