

## Media

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## YOUR PLACE TO "BEE" THIS WEEKEND at the N.C. Museum of History



**RALEIGH, N.C.** — Summer is nearly here, so we are all about having fun on a warm day or evening. Meet up with your friends or bring those out-of-town guests, the kids or just yourself to the North Carolina Museum of History. We'll start you off with our **First Friday, June 2, from 5 to 9 p.m.**

### **First Friday's "Bee" Happy Happy Hour has a combination of winning elements:**

- Sample **handcrafted beers** and North Carolina **specialty wines**.
- Listen to **14-year-old rising star Eliza Meyer play bluegrass**.
- Explore incredible exhibits such as our new 6,500-square-foot **experiential exhibition, *North Carolina and World War I***.
- Create **kid-friendly bee-inspired crafts**.

And it's ALL FREE. After this, you may want to join the Museum Associates, so pop into the Museum Shop to do so. Want another reason to join? There's even more going on for **MUSEUM MEMBERS** this night — you'll get to sip on a glass of wine or drink a beer while you listen to the **Environmental Award-winning Alice Hinman of Apiopolis speak on the causes of bee decline at 6:30 p.m.**, and receive a 10 percent discount on anything that catches your eye in the museum's gift shop.

**Sunday, June 4, 2-4 p.m., the arts are highlighted with the program *The Black Ballerina Experience with Debra Austin*. Debra Austin**, Ballet Master, Carolina Ballet, and **Sherri Holmes**, Founder, Triangle Friends of African American Arts, will tell the story of

Austin, who became the first African American female principal dancer of a major American ballet company.

- Austin received a scholarship to the School of American Ballet when she was 12. At 16, she was **handpicked by George Balanchine to join the New York City Ballet.**

Following a Q&A session with Austin, stay for a screening of the documentary “Black Ballerina.” The film explores the history of African Americans in the world of classical ballet and chronicles groundbreaking dancers like Austin, who paved the way for artists such as Misty Copeland.

**ALL programs are FREE unless otherwise noted. Parking is free on weekends.**

**For information about the N.C. Museum of History,** a Smithsonian-affiliated museum, call 919-807-7900 or access [ncmuseumofhistory.org](http://ncmuseumofhistory.org) or follow on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Google+ or YouTube.

#### **IMAGES Dropbox link, caption and credit**

File Museum of History’s June programs and events:

[https://www.dropbox.com/sh/ir40ia5udqfw1ye/AAD\\_LdmW3Ujo4aNGeDNarNuxa?dl=0](https://www.dropbox.com/sh/ir40ia5udqfw1ye/AAD_LdmW3Ujo4aNGeDNarNuxa?dl=0)

#### **Image – Bees**

First Friday promotion piece. Credit: N.C. Museum of History Associates.

#### **Image – Girl with fiddle**

Eliza Meyer playing her fiddle in Raleigh. Credit: ABC11.com.

#### **Image – Ballerina**

Debra Austin dances. Credit: Steven Caras.

#### **Image – Headshot of Debra Austin**

Debra Austin. Credit: Carolina Ballet.

#### **About the N.C. Museum of History, a Smithsonian Affiliate**

The N.C. Museum of History is located at 5 E. Edenton Street in downtown Raleigh. Hours are Monday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday, noon to 5 p.m. The museum collects and preserves artifacts of North Carolina history and educates the public on the history of the state and the nation through exhibits and educational programs. Each year more than 400,000 people visit the museum to see some of the 150,000 artifacts in the museum collection. The Museum of History, within the Division of State History Museums, is part of the N.C. Department of Natural and Cultural Resources.

#### **About the N.C. Department of Natural and Cultural Resources**

The N.C. Department of Natural and Cultural Resources (NCDNCR) is the state agency with a vision to be the leader in using the state's natural and cultural resources to build the social, cultural, educational and economic future of North Carolina. NCDNCR's mission is to improve the quality of life in our state by creating opportunities to experience excellence in the arts, history, libraries and nature in North Carolina by stimulating learning, inspiring creativity, preserving the state's history, conserving the state's natural heritage, encouraging recreation and cultural tourism, and promoting economic development.

NCDNCR includes 27 historic sites, seven history museums, two art museums, two science museums, three aquariums and Jennette's Pier, 39 state parks and recreation areas, the N.C. Zoo, the nation's first state-supported Symphony Orchestra, the State Library, the State Archives, the N.C. Arts Council, State Preservation Office and the Office of State Archaeology, along with the Division of Land and Water Stewardship. For more information, please call 919-807-7300 or visit [www.ncdcr.gov](http://www.ncdcr.gov).

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