

## Media Contacts

Susan Friday Lamb, 919-807-7943

Nancy Pennington, 919-807-7988



## DECEMBER PROGRAMS AT THE N.C. MUSEUM OF HISTORY

**RALEIGH, N.C.** — December will bring a variety of programs at the **N.C. Museum of History** in Raleigh. In honor of the Bill of Rights' 225th anniversary this month, **Linda R. Monk**, a nationally award-winning author, journalist and constitutional scholar, will present *The Bill of Rights: How North Carolina Saved the Constitution*. Did you know that our state was the only one to refuse to ratify the U.S. Constitution until a bill of rights was added?

You will have a **rare opportunity** to see North Carolina's **original copy of the Bill of Rights** from Wednesday through Sunday, Dec. 14 to Dec. 18, at the Museum of History.

On another note, join gospel singer and educator **Mary D. Williams** for an afternoon of gospel singing, and prepare to participate. Traditional spirituals have always been a part of her life, and Williams travels the country performing and educating others about the narrative of music and black Southern culture.

The year winds up with First Night Raleigh, and its afternoon DIY Festival takes place at the Museum of History. An array of craft workshops will feature a multitude of mediums, materials and new skills to learn. There will be hands-on activities for all ages.

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

**NOTE:** The museum will be closed for the following holidays: Christmas, Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 24 and 25; and New Year's Day, Jan. 1, 2017.

### Programs

***[Editors: Please include registration information when applicable.]***

#### **First Fridays at the Museum**

Friday, Dec. 2, 5-9 p.m.

Do you shop locally for gifts? This special night will spotlight the work of some North Carolina artisans featured in the Museum Shop with demonstrations and hands-on activities. Get a 20 percent discount on all items! See the lobby-level exhibits, and taste samples of craft beer from Little City Brewing and Provisions Company, while supplies last.

#### **\*Girl Scout Juniors and Cadettes: Fantastic Fibers**

Saturday, Dec. 3, 1-4:30 p.m.

\$11 per Scout

Register by Monday, Nov. 21, at [nccoastalpines.org](http://nccoastalpines.org). For information, call 919-807-7988.

Earn a Fantastic Fibers patch as you learn the basics of weaving and felting through hands-on crafts. You'll see how a loom and spinning wheel work, and you'll hunt through exhibits to find evidence of North Carolina's textile past.

**\*Time for Tots: Moravian Traditions**

Tuesday, Dec. 6, 10-10:45 a.m.

Ages 3-5 (with adult)

\$3 plus tax per child; \$1 plus tax for Associates/museum members

To register, visit [NCMOH-programs.com](http://NCMOH-programs.com). For information, call 919-807-7979.

Moravians have lived in North Carolina for centuries and have their own special holiday traditions. Learn about them, and make a candleholder to take home.

**\*History Corner: Sugar and Spice**

Wednesday, Dec. 7, 10-11 a.m.

Ages 6-9 (with adult)

\$3 plus tax per child; \$1 plus tax for Associates/museum members

To register, visit [NCMOH-programs.com](http://NCMOH-programs.com). For information, call 919-807-7988.

Discover how gingerbread came to North Carolina, and learn what makes it such a special treat. Then listen to a story, and make a ginger-y craft!

**\*History Hunters: Moravian Stars**

Wednesday, Dec. 7, 12:30-2:30 p.m.

Ages 10-13

\$3 plus tax per child; \$1 plus tax for Associates/museum members

To register, visit [NCMOH-programs.com](http://NCMOH-programs.com). For information, call 919-807-7988.

Who are Moravians? Find out about these early North Carolinians, including how they celebrated Christmas. Fold a Moravian Star ornament to take home.

**Music of the Carolinas: Mary D. Williams**

Sunday, Dec. 11, 3 p.m.

Free tickets for this concert are distributed while they last beginning at 2 p.m.

Many spirituals — even Christmas songs — were adapted for the Civil Rights movement. Come prepared to enjoy and participate. Presented with PineCone and support from the Museum of History Associates and Williams Mullen.

**History à la Carte: The Bill of Rights: How North Carolina Saved the Constitution**

Wednesday, Dec. 14, noon-1 p.m.

Register at [NCMOH-programs.com](http://NCMOH-programs.com) and purchase a boxed lunch — or just bring your own.

Beverages provided. For information, call 919-807-7982.

*Linda R. Monk, J.D., Constitutional Scholar and Author*

North Carolina's role in ratifying the U.S. Constitution helped result in James Madison sponsoring the first 10 amendments in Congress. Ratified 225 years ago on Dec. 15, that Bill of Rights upholds the key freedoms Americans cherish to this day.

Linda R. Monk is a nationally award-winning author, journalist and constitutional scholar. A graduate of Harvard Law School, she has twice won the American Bar Association's Silver Gavel Award, its highest honor for public education about the law. Monk served as series advisor for the PBS documentary "Constitution USA with Peter Sagal."

**North Carolina's Original Copy of the Bill of Rights**

Wednesday, Dec. 14, 1 p.m.

*Sarah Koonts, Director, Division of Archives and Records*

As part of the Bill of Rights' 225th anniversary, North Carolina's state archivist will briefly trace the intriguing history of North Carolina's official copy of the document. The journey started when a Union soldier stole it in 1865 and ended in 2008 after an FBI sting operation. The Bill of Rights will be on view from Wednesday through Sunday, Dec. 14 to 18, in the exhibit *The Story of North Carolina*.

### **\*First Night Raleigh**

Saturday, Dec. 31

2-6 p.m. DIY Festival

6 p.m. People's Procession

7-11 p.m. Nighttime events in Daniels Auditorium

First Night button required for entry — buy yours at the Museum Shop! For more information, call Artsposure at 919-832-8699 or visit [artsposure.org](http://artsposure.org).

The Museum of History joins more than 30 other downtown Raleigh locations to celebrate the end of 2016 with programs, activities and performances. Presented by Artsposure, First Night is a joyful, family-oriented, alcohol-free New Year's Eve celebration of the arts.

At the DIY Festival, craft workshops will feature a multitude of mediums, materials and new skills to learn. Watch demonstrations from local artists, talk with them about how they honed their skills, and try out everything from harmony singing and ukulele playing to photography and dance! The festival will have hands-on activities and workshops for all ages.

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

**\* Marks programs of interest to children or families**

### **IMAGES and DROPBOX link**

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/r1xr2fp6vonlard/AACRWYr3pU5kJNQw3CZ0a7rDa?dl=0>

**File Moravian star:** During History Hunters: Moravian Stars, for ages 10-13, learn about the Moravians, and make a star ornament to take home. **Image credit:** Mark Verma

**File Gingerbread cookies:** During History Corner: Sugar and Spice, for ages 6-9, discover how gingerbread came to North Carolina. **Image credit:** Petr Kratochvil

**File Gingerbread man:** During History Corner: Sugar and Spice, for ages 6-9, discover how gingerbread came to North Carolina. **Image credit:** U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Elisa Labbe.

**File MaryDWilliams:** Come prepared to enjoy and participate in singing during Music of the Carolinas: Mary D. Williams.

**File Bill of Rights:** On Wed., Dec. 14, two programs will focus on North Carolina and the Bill of Rights. From Wednesday through Sunday, Dec. 14 to 18, see North Carolina's official copy of the Bill of Rights at the N.C. Museum of History. **Image credit:** State Archives of North Carolina

### **About the N.C. Museum of History**

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 300,000 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 North Carolina 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. Led by Secretary Susan Kluttz, 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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