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## FREE SUMMER FUN AT THE NC MUSEUM OF HISTORY

RALEIGH, N.C. – School’s out and temperatures are soaring. Are you looking for a fun way to beat the heat and learn something new with the family? If so, we’ve got you covered, with exciting, educational, and FREE offerings to help fill the dog days of summer.

### **Summer Storytime Series**

Ages 10 and under (with adult)

Thursdays through August 30, 10–10:30 a.m.

With books ranging from pirates to popcorn, our Summer Storytime series is a perfect way to kick off a few hours of museum fun.

Meet a staff member at the information desk, then follow your guide to one of the museum galleries—or outside to the garden exhibit. There, you can look around and listen to a history-related story.

*Some stories are featured in the NCAITC Book of the Month program; NC Ag in the Classroom is an educational program offered by the [North Carolina Farm Bureau Federation](#), which is dedicated to fostering an understanding of the importance for agriculture in our state.*

### **History of the Harvest Exhibit**

Visit our [exciting outdoor exhibit](#) for a hands-on opportunity to learn about North Carolina agriculture. Presented in partnership with Farm Bureau, planters include information on medicinal plants and planting methods used by American Indians, some plant-related state symbols, and newly developed hybrids that use local plant-breeding technologies.

*History of the Harvest* is open 24/7/365 with large signs that guide you along Bicentennial Plaza. To learn more, [check out this welcome video](#) from state agriculture commissioner Steve Troxler.

Support for *History of the Harvest* on Bicentennial Plaza is provided by the North Carolina Farm Bureau Federation Inc.

### **Saturday Garden Series**

- [A Garden Ratatouille](#)  
Saturday, July 14, 1–3 p.m.  
Gardener, author, and educator Craig LeHoullier (a.k.a. “The Tomato Man”) will share his love

of heirloom tomatoes, eggplants, and peppers and offer tips on succeeding with your own plants. Be sure to pick up some recipes for eating *your* summer favorites!

- [Land of the Longleaf](#)

Saturday, August 11, 1–3 p.m.

Harvesting plants isn't just about vegetables! Learn about the first-in-forestry state, why we are called Tar Heels, and how local trees have shaped our state identity. Create a dogwood print, have fun with furniture, and make a sassafras tea bag to take home.

While you're here, visit our **Artist at Work: Stuart Kent**. This woodworking teacher and custom furniture maker turns bowls and other items on a lathe.

### **Time for Tots: Preschool Programming**

- [Art in Motion](#)\*

Tuesday, July 17, 10–10:45 a.m.

Athlete and artist Ernie Barnes is known for his colorful, elongated figures and for his special way of making the figures look like they were in motion. Look at some of his paintings, strike a pose of your own, and create a piece of movement-inspired art to take home.

- [Things That Go](#)\*

Saturday, August 11, 10–10:45 a.m.

Cars and trucks and things that go! Join us on this special day, and look at transportation items in the museum's collection. Then create your own traveling machine to take with you.

\*Ages 3–5 (with adult) \$5 per child; free for MOHA/museum members. For information, call 919-807-7979.

### **Museum Gallery Hunts**

What sport did Walter "Buck" Leonard play? Which amendment to the US Constitution granted women the right to vote? How did the banjo get to North Carolina? Our Gallery Hunts and Fred's Finds activities lead kids on an extraordinary adventure through our galleries! Find a few of our founder's favorite things—and see if you can answer his questions. [Click here](#) to view our full collection!

### **COMING SOON! New Explorer Station**

A new starting point for children and families will open soon in the museum lobby! Explorer Station will be a new central hub for learning in exhibits and galleries and include our familiar backpacks, along with a range of fresh worksheets and ideas for exploring that are directed at pre-K visitors through groups of all ages. Stop by on your next visit.

A gift from Mr. and Mrs. Paul F. Hoch Jr. helped make Explorer Station possible.

### **About the NC Museum of History, a Smithsonian Affiliate**

The NC 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 NC Department of Natural and Cultural Resources.

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

**About the NC Department of Natural and Cultural Resources**

The NC 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 NC Zoo, the nation's first state-supported Symphony Orchestra, the State Library, the State Archives, the NC 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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