



**Media Contacts:**

Marcie Gordon, Director, Community Engagement and Marketing  
919-814-7056, [marcie.gordon@ncdcr.gov](mailto:marcie.gordon@ncdcr.gov)

**Family-Friendly December Programs  
at the North Carolina Museum of History**



For images, follow this [Dropbox link](#). Captions and credits are listed at the bottom.

**December 1, 2020 (RALEIGH, N.C.)** — As the holiday season nears, why not celebrate with the North Carolina Museum of History! Stop by in person, or visit online, where the Museum of History continues to offer digital events, complete with kid's and family-friendly programs!

All museum exhibits and the Museum Shop are open to the public—with [special hours and protocols](#). Admission is free!

**Museum Holidays & Closures**

Please note that the museum will be closed to the public Thursday, Dec. 24, and Friday, Dec. 25. Galleries will be open Saturday, Dec. 26, and Sunday, Dec. 27. The Museum Shop will be open, too, with exhibit-related items and last-minute North Carolina-centric gifts to finish your holiday shopping! Call the shop at 919-814-6970 for hours, offerings, and special requirements.

**Top Five Things to Do This Month**

- Enjoy a reading of *Winter Candle*, led by the book's author and illustrator.
- Explore [the Biltmore House](#), from the comforts of your own home, and learn how the staff there brings this North Carolina landmark to life for the festive season.
- Learn the history of holiday decorating and some [celebrations of the Moravians](#).
- Listen in to the tunes of smooth jazz, complete with a history lesson, during our [two-day jazz concert series](#).
- Tune in for a recorded [play about Abraham H. Galloway](#), complete with a *live Q&A session with the actor and playwright, Mike Wiley*.

Read on for details about all our December events. Programs are **FREE** unless otherwise noted.

\*Asterisked events note kid and teen programming.

\*Tar Heel Tales: *Winter Candle*

Wednesday, Dec. 2, 1–2 p.m. via Demio

Ages 5 and up; parents are encouraged to participate with their children during the program

How can one stumpy candle help a building full of people celebrate their different holidays? Author Jeron Ashford and illustrator Stacey Schuett show us how! Learn, too, about a North Carolina man who makes tin candleholders.

The Fire of Freedom: Abraham Galloway

Saturday, Dec. 5, 10:30 a.m. via Zoom

This recorded presentation of playwright and actor Mike Wiley's performance as Abraham H. Galloway (1837–1870) will introduce a fiery young rebel, radical abolitionist, and Union spy who rose out of bondage to become one of the South's most significant Black leaders. Having fought slavery and injustice, Galloway risked his life during America's Civil War to recruit Black soldiers for the North, and then fought racism in the Union army. He also stood at the forefront of an African American political movement, leading a delegation of Black southerners to the White House for a meeting with President Abraham Lincoln and, later, becoming one of the first Black men elected to North Carolina's state legislature. *A live Q&A session with Wiley will follow.*

\*History Corner: Moravian Christmas

Wednesday, Dec. 9, 1–2 p.m. via Demio

Ages 6–9; parents are invited to participate with their children during the program

Who are the Moravians, and how did they affect life in North Carolina's western frontier? Find out about these early immigrants—including how they celebrated Christmas.

Nnenna Freelon: Concert with Conversation

Thursday, Dec. 10, 7 p.m. via Zoom

Join this Grammy-nominated vocalist and North Carolina-based artist and her accompanist for an intimate, informal program that explores some popular music of the 1940s—and some from the current day. The music, and the stories, will take us on a surprising journey.

Presented by the North Carolina Museum of History. Sponsored by Come Hear North Carolina, @ComeHearNC.

T. S. Monk: Monk on Monk

Friday, Dec. 11, 7 p.m. via Zoom

In this concert, North Carolina native Thelonious Monk's son, Thelonious Sphere "T. S." Monk III, carries on his father's legacy. Whether performing newly discovered compositions or legendary family songs, Monk III presents music that is overpowering, swinging, and timeless.

Presented by the North Carolina Museum of History. Sponsored by Come Hear North Carolina, @ComeHearNC.

Music of the Carolinas: Dewey and Leslie Brown

Sunday, Dec. 13, 3 p.m.

Suggested donation: \$10

Enjoy sounds of bluegrass music from the Browns during this month's online concert. Together, the couple now creates music with their own band, the Carolina Gentlemen. Stay tuned afterward for a live discussion and Q&A session with Dewey and Leslie.

Presented with PineCone; supported by the North Carolina Arts Council (NCArts.org), a division of the state Department of Natural and Cultural Resources, and by MOHA/museum members.

Coffee with a Curator: Chatting about the Sports Hall of Fame

Tuesday, Dec. 15, 10–10:30 a.m. via Zoom

Grab your preferred morning beverage and join this exchange with representatives of the North Carolina Sports Hall of Fame. Catch up on their vision of the Hall, as well as their favorite artifacts, memories, and more. The 20-minute program will be followed by time for a Q&A session.

\*History Hunters: New Year Traditions

Wednesday, Dec. 16, 1–2 p.m. via Demio

Ages 10–13

Get a jump on the new year by learning about traditions and foods—from around the world and right here in North Carolina.

History and Mocktails: Decorating Biltmore

Thursday, Dec. 17, 7 p.m. via Zoom

Lizzie Borchers, floral displays manager at Biltmore House & Gardens, will talk about the history of Christmas at Biltmore—and celebrating the 125th anniversary of Biltmore Christmases—as well as what decorating the home for the holidays entails these days.

IMAGES: [Dropbox link](#), caption and credits

IMAGE – H+M: Biltmore

Courtesy of North Carolina Museum of History and the Biltmore House & Gardens

IMAGE – Hard History

Courtesy of North Carolina Museum of History, Carolina K-12, and Braitmayer Foundation

---

**For information about the NC Museum of History**, a Smithsonian Affiliate museum, call 919-814-7000 or access [ncmuseumofhistory.org](http://ncmuseumofhistory.org) or follow the museum on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), or [YouTube](#).

### **About the NC Museum of History**

The North Carolina Museum of History, a Smithsonian Affiliate, fosters a passion for North Carolina history. This museum collects and preserves artifacts of state history and educates the public on the history of the state and the nation through exhibits and educational programs. **Admission is free.** Last year, more than 465,000 people visited 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.

### **About the Smithsonian Affiliations Network**

Since 2006, the North Carolina Museum of History has been a Smithsonian Affiliate, part of a select group of museums, cultural, educational, and arts organizations that share Smithsonian resources with the nation. The Smithsonian Affiliations network is a national outreach program that develops long-term collaborative partnerships with museums, educational, and cultural organizations to enrich communities with Smithsonian resources. More information is available at [affiliations.si.edu](http://affiliations.si.edu).

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

The North Carolina 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 natural assets 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, as well as 39 state parks and recreation areas, the North Carolina Zoo, the nation's first state-supported symphonic orchestra, the State Library of North Carolina, the State Archives of North Carolina, the North Carolina Arts Council, the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office, and the North Carolina Office of State Archaeology, along with the state Division of Land and Water Stewardship. For more information, call 919-814-6800 or visit [DNCR.nc.gov](http://DNCR.nc.gov).

###