

Media Contact:

Marcie Gordon, Director, Community Engagement and Marketing
919-814-7056, marcie.gordon@ncdcr.gov
B.J. Davis, Education Section Chief
919-814-7057, bj.davis@ncdcr.gov



February Programs at the North Carolina Museum of History



January 30, 2020 (RALEIGH, N.C.) — It may be the shortest month of the year, but February is packed with fun, educational programs and free exhibits at the North Carolina Museum of History!

February is Black History Month, so we invite you to join us for our African American History Highlights Tours, as our curators share some of the immeasurable contributions of African Americans to North Carolina history. Savor the opportunity to learn more about our state vegetable, the sweet potato, and participate in “Tater Time” activities. Get ready for Valentine’s Day a week early at “Museum After Dark,” and make your own Victorian valentine, sample local beers and enjoy a screening of *My Fair Lady*.

Read on for all our February events. Programs are **FREE** unless otherwise noted. Weekend parking is free.

[Tater Time](#)*

Saturday, Feb. 1, 1–3 p.m.

Test your knowledge about our state vegetable—the sweet potato! Make a real “potato head” and sample sweet-potato dip, then pick up recipes from the SweetPotato Commission.

Support for the exhibit [History of the Harvest](#) on Bicentennial Plaza has been provided by the North Carolina SweetPotato Commission.

[LIVE! Uniquely Somerset](#)

Wednesday, Feb. 5 (snow date: Wednesday, Feb. 12), 10:15–11:15 a.m.

Watch and ask questions *LIVE!* as we explore the rich and complex stories of the people—enslaved and free—and spaces that made Somerset Place unique in this virtual tour that features one of the largest plantations in antebellum North Carolina.

LIVE! programs are sponsored by Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina.

Grades K–12. For information, call 919-814-7028.

[History Corner: Lighting the Way \(Ages 6-9\)*](#)

Wednesday, Feb. 5, 10–11 a.m.

What have people used to light up their lives over the years? Find out, from oil lamps to candles to electricity.

Ages 6–9 (may be accompanied by an adult). \$5 per child; \$3 for MOHA/museum members. To register, visit NCMOH-programs.com. For information, call 919-814-7046.

[History Hunters: Immigration and Emigration \(Ages 10-13\)*](#)

Wednesday, Feb. 5, 11:15 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

What pulled people to North Carolina? or pushed them away? Discover some reasons why folks have moved into—and out of—our state.

Ages 10–13. \$5 per child; \$3 for MOHA/museum members. To register, visit NCMOH-programs.com. For information, call 919-814-7046.

[MOHA Member Night](#)

Friday, Feb. 7, 6–7:30 p.m.

Join us in the Demonstration Gallery off the lobby for a special treat: local chocolates and a glass of bubbly during our short program for members and their guests! After this special program, join the crowd of [Museum After Dark](#) visitors in Daniels Auditorium for a screening of *My Fair Lady*—with stars Audrey Hepburn and Rex Harrison, legendary director George Cukor, and famed set and costume designer Cecil Beaton.

Free for MOHA/museum members. Not a member? Show your love for North Carolina and join at the door. For information, visit ncmoha.com, or call 919-814-7051.

[Museum After Dark](#)

Friday, Feb. 7, 5–10 p.m.

Make your own Victorian valentine, sample some local beers (and maybe some popcorn and other sweet treats), and explore our lobby-level exhibits all evening long. Then relax with *My Fair Lady* (1964; MPAA rating: G; run time: 170 min.), a story of unlikely bonds and hidden infatuations. The film stars Audrey Hepburn and Rex Harrison, with legendary director George Cukor, and famed set and costume designer Cecil Beaton.

Please note: Our auditorium can only seat 300 people, so the film portion will be on a first-come, first-served basis.

- 5–8 p.m.: Music and activities in the lobby
- 6–7:30 p.m.: Member program in the Demonstration Gallery
- 7:30 p.m.: Movie in Daniels Auditorium

[Hands-on History: Take Flight!](#)

Saturday, Feb. 8, 1–3 p.m.

Drop in with your family and learn about Warren Hervey Wheeler—an African American pilot and pioneering airline owner—while working together to make a simple plane of your own to take home.

[African American History Highlights Tour*](#)

Saturday, Feb. 8, 1:30 p.m.

This docent-led tour visits exhibits throughout the museum to highlight the contributions of African Americans to North Carolina history.

[Valentine’s Jewelry Sale](#)

Saturday, Feb. 8–Friday, Feb. 14

Visit the Museum Shop any time the museum is open and find some North Carolina gifts for your special valentine.

From cards and candies to books and pots—and earrings to bracelets to necklaces (plus all jewelry is 20 percent off; 25 percent for members)—you’ll find handcrafted gifts for valentines young and old. Proceeds from the shop help support museum exhibits and programs.

[Music of the Carolinas: Jalessa Cade*](#)

Sunday, Feb. 9, 3 p.m.

A gospel singer from Dunn (Harnett County), Cade is an independent recording artist and has been a contestant in multiple artist showcases. She will soon release her debut single “You Are” (distributed through CD Baby).

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.

Free tickets for this concert are distributed while they last beginning at 2 p.m. Join MOHA before or after the concert—for half-price museum membership! In addition, enter our raffle for a prize from the Museum Shop (winner will be drawn after the April concert and need not be present).

[History à la Carte: History Meets Virtual Reality](#)

Wednesday, Feb. 12, noon–1 p.m.

Presenter: Derek Ham, North Carolina State University

Ham will discuss his interests in game-based learning—in particular, his creation and design of Learning Lab 360’s “I Am A Man” interactive VR experience.

Register at NCMOH-programs.com to reserve a seat. Bring your own lunch; some beverages provided. For information, call 919-814-7032.

[Artist at Work: Joyce Watkins King*](#)

Saturday, Feb. 15, 1–3 p.m.

King is a lifelong artist and designer who frequently works with textiles. She’ll be demonstrating her craft in the lobby this afternoon.

[Presidents’ Day Sale](#)

Monday, Feb. 17, 9 a.m.–5 p.m.

Honor North Carolina’s presidents by visiting the Museum Shop—you’ll get a 20 percent discount off everything red, white, and blue! Proceeds from the shop help support museum exhibits and programs.

[American Revolution Lecture Series](#)

Thursday, Feb. 20, 7 p.m.

Speaker: Patrick K. O’Donnell, Award-Winning Military Historian and Author

In August 1776, the month after America’s Continental Congress had formally declared independence from Britain, George Washington’s troops had been outmanned and outmaneuvered. Fortunately for the young nation, a series of desperate charges by 400 men in the 1st Maryland Regiment, famously known as the “Immortal 400,” enabled the Continental army to fight on. In *Washington’s Immortals: The Untold Story of an Elite Regiment Who Changed the Course of the Revolution*, O’Donnell revives the forgotten story of these remarkable merchants, tradesmen, indentured servants, and free blacks. A book signing will follow the presentation.

Presented by the North Carolina Society of the Cincinnati.

\$10 for MOHA/museum members and \$15 for nonmembers (plus taxes). Visit NCMOH-tickets.com, or call 919-814-6970 for information. The North Carolina Society of the Cincinnati will handle registration for its members.

[African American History Highlights Tour*](#)

Saturday, Feb. 22, 1:30 p.m.

This docent-led tour visits exhibits throughout the museum to highlight the contributions of African Americans to North Carolina history.

[Young Associates Masquerade Gala](#)

Saturday, Feb. 22, 8 p.m.–12 a.m.

Celebrate Mardi Gras with the Young Associates! You’ll enjoy food, a full open bar, a silent auction table, music by Diverse Groove and so much more.

Adults only, please. \$60 for MOHA/museum members; \$70 nonmembers. Purchase tickets at ncmoha.com, or call 919-814-7052 for information.

** marks programs of interest to children or families*

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

File: February Programs

Image – American Revolution Lecture Series
Courtesy of North Carolina Museum of History

Image – LIVE! Uniquely Somerset
Courtesy of North Carolina Museum of History

Image – Museum after Dark – “My Fair Lady” graphic
Courtesy of OriginalFilmArt.com

Image – President’s Day Sale
Courtesy of North Carolina Museum of History

Image – Tater Time
Courtesy of North Carolina Museum of History

Image – Valentine’s Day Jewelry Sale
Courtesy of North Carolina Museum of History Associates

Image – Woolworth’s Lunch Counter
Courtesy of North Carolina Museum of History

Image – Young Associates Masquerade Gala
Courtesy of North Carolina Museum of History Associates

For information about the NC Museum of History, a Smithsonian Affiliate museum, call 919-814-7000 or access 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.

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.

###