

Media Contacts:

Marcie Gordon, Director, Community Engagement and Marketing
919-280-1888, marcie.gordon@ncdcr.gov



Celebrate Black History Month with these February Programs at the North Carolina Museum of History



For images, follow this [Dropbox link](#). Captions and credits are listed after program descriptions.

February 3, 2021 (RALEIGH, N.C.) — This Black History Month, the North Carolina Museum of History will provide family-centric online programs with a focus on the Green Book, a travel guide created for African American travelers during the Jim Crow era, and a look into social issues. An associated traveling panel display and other museum exhibits, as well as the Museum Shop, are all open to the public with [special hours and protocols](#)! Admission is free.

Top Five Things to Do This Month

- Celebrate Black History Month, virtually, by exploring [educational resources, programs, and exhibits honoring African American stories](#).
- Relax as a family during a reading of *Ruth and the Green Book* and discussions of the Green Book and Charlotte Hawkins Brown.
- Visit a pop-up display about the Green Book—in the museum—and see an actual copy in our exhibit on beach music!
- Drop by the Museum Shop, or shop [online](#) (with options for postal delivery or curbside pickup), for an assortment of Black History Month selections for readers of all ages, and a variety of options—local foods and handcrafted jewelry, for example—for Valentine’s Day!
- Indulge in a virtual chocolate fix with one of Raleigh’s own chocolatiers, Videri Chocolate Factory.

Read on for a current listing of February events, but follow us on social media for updates and additional programs. You can also stay up to date on all events and exhibits at the museum website: ncmuseumofhistory.org. Programs are **FREE** unless otherwise noted; advance registration, at NCMOH-programs.com, is generally required to receive a confirmation email with information about joining online presentations.

*Events with asterisks note family and kid-friendly programming.

* [Tar Heel Tales: *Ruth and the Green Book*](#)

Wednesday, Feb. 3, 1–2 p.m.

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

Travel along as we read about Ruth and her parents, who drive south to visit family in the 1950s. Find out how they steer around people who are unfriendly to Black travelers and where they find friends along the way.

See a copy of a real Green Book at the museum in our current exhibit *Beach Music: Making Waves in the Carolinas*. And, get ready for this program with your own copy of [Ruth and the Green Book](#), by author Calvin A. Ramsey and illustrator Floyd Cooper—purchase one through the Museum Shop, in person or [online](#).

[History and Highballs: Videri, of Raleigh](#)

Thursday, Feb. 4, 7 p.m. via Zoom

Adults only, please.

Get ready for Valentine’s Day by learning how Videri Chocolate Factory started its journey in the bean-to-bar world of chocolatiers, how the company gives back to the community, what’s next for them—and more.

* [History Corner: Charlotte Hawkins Brown—Dreamer-Doer-Teacher-Leader!](#)

Wednesday, Feb. 10, 1–2 p.m.

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

Math and manners as weapons? Take a lesson from Dr. Brown, who started a school and taught her students ways to change a segregated society.

* [History Hunters: North Carolina and the Green Book](#)

Wednesday, Feb. 17, 1–2 p.m.

Ages 10–13

Come along on our virtual trip through a history of the Green Book, a guide that helped African Americans forge ways around segregation. If you can make it, view a copy of the Green Book—at the museum all this month!

[Teaching Hard History: Rifles, Radio, and Resistance: Robert F. Williams and the Black Freedom Movement](#)

Thursday, Feb. 18, 5–6:30 p.m. via Zoom

This online workshop is free for educators, but registration is required. For information, email CarolinaK12@unc.edu or visit the [Carolina Public Humanities](#) website. K–12 teachers can receive CEUs for participating. Other individuals are welcome as space allows.

While our history books usually include a watered-down version of the American Civil Rights movement and its use of nonviolent direct action, they seldom pay attention to the courageous resistance of individuals to White supremacy. However, the acts of defiance enacted by men such as Robert F. Williams, his wife Mabel, and thousands of other activists illustrates how Black Southerners were prepared to defend themselves, their families, their homes, and their rights—in any ways necessary, including armed self-defense if and when it was called for.

Participants will receive a list of supplemental resources after the event. All educators (K–12, community college and community educators, college and university) are welcome to attend, as well as individuals with interest in the topic; however, material shared will be most relevant for educators of grades 8 and higher. [Radio Free Dixie: Robert F. Williams and the Roots of Black Power](#), by Tyson is available in the Museum Shop.

This year's virtual series is provided by Carolina K–12 and the North Carolina Museum of History; funding is provided by the Braitmayer Foundation.

* Girl Scout Juniors and Cadettes: Fantastic Fibers

This program is open only to registered Girl Scouts. Deadline for registration is Friday, Feb. 19

See how a loom and a spinning wheel work during a virtual visit to the Museum of History as you earn the Fantastic Fibers patch. After registering at nccoastalpines.org, you'll receive a kit that includes your fun patch, a link to your virtual session instruction, an instructional sheet, and most supplies for making a felted wool ball necklace.

[Coffee with a Curator: Paint, Plywood, and Passion: Greensboro Artists Reflect on Their #BlackLivesMatter Murals](#)

Tuesday, Feb. 23, 10–10:30 a.m. via Zoom

In the summer of 2020, as a melting pot of people overflowed onto the streets of Greensboro—marching in solidarity against police brutality and systemic racism—local artists hastily gathered paint supplies. Michael Ausbon, the museum's curator of decorative arts, will lead a short discussion with some of these artists as they share their experiences. This 20-minute program will be followed by time for a Q&A session.

[History and Highballs: Oysterman's Calling](#)

Thursday, Feb. 25, 7 p.m. via Zoom

Adults only, please.

Ryan Bethea, a native North Carolinian, will talk with us about sustainable oyster farming, the impact and

importance of eating locally, and the journey that led him to start his own award-winning business, Oysters Carolina, on Harker's Island.

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

Image – February programs logo
Courtesy of North Carolina Museum of History

Image – History and Highballs: Videri, of Raleigh
Courtesy of North Carolina Museum of History and Videri Chocolate Factory

Image – *Ruth and the Green Book*
Courtesy of North Carolina Museum of History, author Calvin A. Ramsey, and illustrator Floyd Cooper

Image – History Corner: Charlotte Hawkins Brown
Courtesy of North Carolina Museum of History and Charlotte Hawkins Brown Museum, Sedalia

Image – History Hunters: North Carolina and the Green Book
Courtesy of North Carolina Museum of History

Image – Coffee with a Curator: #BlackLivesMatter Murals
Courtesy of North Carolina Museum of History

Image – History and Highballs: Oysterman's Calling
Courtesy of North Carolina Museum of History and Ryan Bethea, Oysters Carolina

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.

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