

Media Contacts:

Marcie Gordon, Director, Community Engagement and Marketing
919-807-7995, marcie.gordon@ncdcr.gov

Jessica Pratt, Curator of Outreach
919-807-7985, jessica.pratt@ncdcr.gov

**Montagnard Artists Day at the N.C. Museum of History**

Saturday, June 9, 1–4 p.m.

RALEIGH, N.C.— Who *are* the Montagnards? Join us at the North Carolina Museum of History this Saturday and find out!

Montagnard, a French word meaning “mountain people,” refers to the indigenous ethnic minority living in the central highlands of Vietnam. These indigenous peoples became close allies of American soldiers during the Vietnam War, and, currently, North Carolina is home to the largest number of Montagnard people outside Southeast Asia.

Learn more about this unique and fascinating culture at the museum’s [Montagnard Artists Day](#), a drop-in family event featuring Montagnard artists and performers, on Saturday, June 9, from 1–4 p.m.

Visitors can enjoy watching craftspeople make baskets and woven fabrics. From 1:15 to 2:45 p.m., they can also enjoy traditional Jarai music from Dock Rmah and performances by the Montagnard American Organization Dancers.

The afternoon also includes a 3 p.m. showing of *This Is My Home Now* (2015; not rated; run time: 27 min.), a documentary about young Montagnard people making new lives in their adopted home of North Carolina. A panel discussion will accompany the film.

“This event offers visitors a chance to connect the artifacts in our lobby case with Montagnard traditions and culture that are still being celebrated and passed down in our state today,” said event organizer Jessica Pratt. “By interacting with artists, watching the music and dance performances, and participating in the documentary viewing and panel, museum visitors will be able to understand how the Montagnard experience and story are now a North Carolina story.”

The museum’s lobby-case exhibit, [Collecting Carolina: Montagnards, Vietnam’s Central Highlanders](#), features a selection of Montagnard textiles, crafts, tools, hunting weapons, and musical instruments—all collected by a Vietnam veteran while he served in Vietnam.

To schedule interviews or for additional information, contact Jessica Pratt, Curator of Outreach, at 919-807-7985 or jessica.pratt@ncdcr.gov.

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 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.

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