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Women's History Month is in Full Swing with These March Programs at the North Carolina Museum of History



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

March 1, 2021 (RALEIGH, N.C.) — Celebrate Women's History Month with the North Carolina Museum of History's family-centric and adults-only online programming! The museum's exhibits—including the women's suffrage 100th anniversary exhibit *"You Have to Start a Thing"*—and the [Museum Shop](#) are all open to the public with [special hours and protocols](#)! Admission is free, so come in and browse awhile!

Top Five Things to Do This Month

- Honor Women's History Month, virtually, by exploring [educational resources, programs, and exhibits honoring women's stories](#). If you're at the museum in-person, peruse the exhibit *"You Have to Start a Thing"*, and learn how Tar Heel women and men fought for woman suffrage.
- Learn about discoveries, challenges, and victories in an intense medical story turned autobiography first hand—[virtually](#)!
- Join the Smithsonian Affiliate online program about [African American women's activism](#) and explore women's history through stories, artifacts, and archives.
- Drop by the Museum Shop, or shop [online](#) (with options for postal delivery or curbside pickup), for an assortment of Women's History Month-related socks, mugs, books, and more!

- Kick up your heels as you learn the history of [St. Patrick's Day](#), and enjoy an evening beverage while finding out how the [Bombshell Beer Company](#) in Holly Springs came to be.

Read on for a current listing of March 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](#). For your fridge or family calendar, feel free to download and print this month's [Program Calendar](#) of upcoming virtual events! 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.

Did you miss a previous program? Many of the museum's programs are being archived to enjoy any time on the museum [YouTube](#) channel.

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

[*“You Have to Start a Thing” exhibit](#)

Last year, 2020, marked the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution. The exhibit *"You Have to Start a Thing"* explores how Tar Heel women and men fought for—and against—woman suffrage in the decades leading up to 1920. It also chronicles the ongoing struggle to ensure voting rights for North Carolinians of color and the (slow) entry of women into positions of political power in our state.

Visitors to this in-person exhibition, located on the lobby floor of the museum, can enjoy the chance to experience the suffrage debate by watching life-size videos of actors portraying suffragists and antisuffragists. They can listen to the words and opinions of real people, taken from actual speeches, letters, newspaper articles, and propaganda circulating in North Carolina between the 1890s and 1920.

[*Tar Heel Tales: Around America to Win the Vote](#)

Wednesday, Mar. 3, 1–2 p.m. via Demio

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

Listen to this story, by author Mara Rockliff and illustrator Hadley Hooper, and learn about Nell and Alice, who took a journey around the United States. Braving blizzards, mud, and naysayers, their 1916 message for Americans all across the country: Votes for Women! You'll also hear about some North Carolina women who joined the fight.

Smithsonian American Women's History Initiative Series: African American Women's Activism in Historical Perspective

Wednesday, Mar. 3, 7 p.m. via Zoom

Learn women's history through objects that recognize their achievements in a variety of fields and endeavors! To celebrate Women's History Month 2021, the Museum of History is pleased to be part of the Smithsonian American Women's History Initiative, *Because of Her Story*. The initiative highlights the range of stories related to women's history in the Smithsonian's collections and aims to give voice to those under-represented and lesser-known stories. This evening's four speakers will each explore an interesting aspect of African American women's activism through an extended discussion of one or two historical objects.

As a Smithsonian Affiliate, the North Carolina Museum of History has the exclusive opportunity to offer this program live to our community. The North Carolina Museum of History has been a Smithsonian Affiliate since 2006. Become a MOHA/museum member and qualify to receive Smithsonian benefits.

History at High Noon: North Carolina Women

Wednesday, Mar. 10, noon–1 p.m.

Together, dean Michele Gillespie, Wake Forest University, and professor Sally G. McMillen, Davidson College, collaborated on two volumes of *North Carolina Women: Their Lives and Times*, part of a larger series (University of Georgia) of essays that focus on the lives of individual women or small groups of women from the various southern states. Tonight, this duo will describe the book project itself, how it developed and how they undertook the task; consider North Carolina's uniqueness and the opportunities it provided women; and discuss one essay from each volume (four in total) that they liked, wrote, or feel is especially interesting or significant.

*History Corner: To Fly! Planes, Chutes, Pilots, and More

Wednesday, Mar. 10, 1–2 p.m. via Demio

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

Inventors, pilots, parachutists, airline owners—the sky's the limit in this flight through North Carolina history!

*History and Mocktails: St. Patrick's Life and Legacy

Thursday, Mar. 11, 7 p.m. via Zoom

Get ready for St. Patrick's Day with this look at the real Patrick, a fifth-century Romano-Briton citizen who was kidnapped by Irish raiders and taken to Ireland. Much of his legacy in Ireland is disputed, but, as Dr. Charles Ludington, North Carolina State University, will tell us, Patrick is generally credited with introducing Christianity to Ireland and was canonized as a result.

*History Hunters: Colonial Wartime

Wednesday, Mar. 17, 1–2 p.m. via Demio

Ages 10–13

What side would *you* choose if your home became a battleground? Learn what choices folks made in North Carolina before and during the Revolutionary War.

Coffee with a Curator: Previewing *Answering the Call*

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

Join the museum's curator of military history, Charles R. Knight, as he previews an upcoming exhibit, *Answering the Call: Experiences of North Carolina Military Veterans, 1898–1945*. The exhibit, currently scheduled to open in the museum on April 6, looks at the lives of North Carolinians from all walks of life who stood against the backdrop of some of the largest military conflicts in the 20th century. The 20-minute program will be followed by time for a Q&A session.

Chasing My Cure

Wednesday, Mar. 24, 7 p.m.

Dr. David C. Fajgenbaum, known for finding a treatment for his own rare inflammatory condition, Castleman Disease, is now helping doctors and researchers around the world with patients battling COVID-19. Hear his story, and learn about his role in connecting discoveries about Castleman Disease with the new coronavirus; his work with the Penn Center for Research on Coronavirus and Other Emerging Pathogens; and his coordination of the CORONA project database, the world's only database tracking all drugs being used against COVID-19. Dr. Fajgenbaum has recently been featured in the Washington Post and CNN!

Note that the author has offered to autograph bookplates for newly purchased copies of his autobiography, *Chasing My Cure*. Order yours on our Museum Shop website: the package will be sent to you or prepared for curbside or in-store pickup—while supplies last!

History and Highballs: Women Who Brew

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

Adults only, please.

Michelle Miniutti and Ellen Joyner were business colleagues who also liked to visit breweries and craft-centric beer bars. So it seemed natural when, in January of 2011, after a day visiting local breweries, Michelle suggested to Ellen, who had actually been a home brewer for more than 10 years, that they start their own microbrewery. Both had strong business management backgrounds and entrepreneurial spirits, so they formed a plan, asked Jackie Hudspeth to join their venture, and got to work. At that time, the United States had only three 100-percent women-owned microbreweries. But within five years, Bombshell Beer Company had changed that, and its beers had won more than 25 medals in international, national, and regional competitions. In March 2020, the company was named one of the 10 “most amazing” women-led breweries and distilleries in the world by 10Best, a division of *USA Today*!

*Daughters of the Sky: The Legacy of Women Pilots in North Carolina

Wednesday, Mar. 31, 7 p.m. via Zoom

Women’s History Month closes out with our first installment of the museum’s *Answering the Call: World War II Lecture Series*. In World War II, some of the American women who answered the call to service did so from thousands of feet above the Cape Fear region—as Women Airforce Service Pilots, or WASPs: the first women trained to fly the military’s frontline arsenal. Though many of them would make the ultimate sacrifice for their country, they did not receive recognition for their military service until nearly three decades after World War II ended. Join John Moseley, assistant site manager at Fort Fisher State Historic Site, to learn about these amazing women and their special tie to North Carolina.

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

Image – March programs logo

Courtesy of North Carolina Museum of History

Image – *Around America to Win the Vote*

Courtesy of North Carolina Museum of History, author Mara Rockliff, and illustrator Hadley Hooper

Image – Chasing My Cure

Courtesy of North Carolina Museum of History and Dr. David C. Fajgenbaum

Image – Colonial Wartime

Courtesy of North Carolina Museum of History

Image – North Carolina Women

Courtesy of North Carolina Museum of History

Image – Smithsonian American Women’s History Initiative

Courtesy of the Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC

Image – St. Patrick’s Life and Legacy

Courtesy of North Carolina Museum of History

Image – To Fly! Planes, Chutes, Pilots, and More

Courtesy of North Carolina Museum of History

Image – Women Who Brew

Courtesy of North Carolina Museum of History and Bombshell Beer Company

Image – *“You Have to Start a Thing”*

Courtesy of North Carolina Museum of History

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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