Spend your last days of summer with the North Carolina Museum of History

For images, follow this Dropbox link. Captions and credits are listed after program descriptions.

July 22, 2022 (RALEIGH, N.C.)—It may still be summer vacation, but the learning never stops at the North Carolina Museum of History. This August, the museum will offer a wide variety of kids and families programs, as well as some for adults. Find out about our newest upcoming exhibit during Coffee with a Curator, enjoy a summer Tar Heel tale with your little one, hear about the evolution of East Fork Pottery, and more. Our Summer Passport Program continues this month, as well, so make sure to come to the museum of history, grab a passport, and start your adventure. Don’t forget to experience River Bridge: Sunken Secrets in its last full month open before the exhibition closes in early September.
Top Five Things to Do in August

- Join curators Diana Bell-Kite, Katie Edwards, and RaeLana Poteat for Coffee with a Curator and learn about our upcoming exhibit, North Carolina A to Z.
- Dive into the evolution of East Fork Pottery and hear how it became what it is today during this month's History and Highballs.
- Join us in welcoming award-winning photographer, illustrator, and Meredith College art professor Shannon Johnstone as she gives a behind-the-scenes look at the path that led to her incredible project Landfill Dogs.
- Summer Passport Program – Art + History + Science. Take a trip with your North Carolina museums! Explore on a family-friendly adventure.
- Experience Pauli Murray: Imp, Crusader, Dude, Priest, our newest exhibition. The exhibit chronicles the life and legacy of the Rev. Dr. Pauli Murray as a significant 20th-century human rights activist, educator, lawyer, poet, and Episcopal priest.

Read on for a current listing of August events and follow us on social media for updates and additional programming. 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 ncmuseumofhistory.org/events, 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.

Summer Tar Heel Tales: The Curious Garden
Tuesday, Aug. 2, 10 a.m. at the museum
In-person, drop-in program; ages 3 and up (with an adult).

Stories don’t go away during the summer! Join us in looking around an exhibit with a museum staff member, then listen to a history-related story.

Summer Tar Heel Tales: Pirate Girl
Tuesday, Aug. 9, 10 a.m. at the museum
In-person, drop-in program; ages 3 and up (with an adult).

Stories don’t go away during the summer! Join us in looking around an exhibit with a museum staff member, then listen to a history-related story.

Hands-on History: Get Crafty
Saturday, Aug. 13, 1–3 p.m. at the museum
FREE in-person, drop-in program; all ages are welcome.

In North Carolina, C can stand for Craft! Stretch your “crafty” muscles as you tour through a gallery, test your state trivia knowledge, and make a simple craft to take home.

**Summer Tar Heel Tales:** *A Chair for My Mother*
Tuesday, Aug. 16, 10 a.m. at the museum
In-person, drop-in program; ages 3 and up (with an adult).

Stories don’t go away during the summer! Join us in looking around an exhibit with a museum staff member, then listen to a history-related story.

**Summer Tar Heel Tales:** *Miss Mary Reporting*
Tuesday, Aug. 23, 10 a.m. at the museum
In-person, drop-in program; ages 3 and up (with an adult).

Stories don’t go away during the summer! Join us in looking around an exhibit with a museum staff member, then listen to a history-related story.

**Coffee with a Curator:** *North Carolina A to Z*
Tuesday, Aug. 23, 10–10:30 a.m. via Zoom

**Presenters:** Diana Bell-Kite, Curator of Textiles and Clothing, NC Museum of History; Katie Edwards, Curator of Popular Culture, NC Museum of History; and RaeLana Poteat, Chief Curator, NC Museum of History

North Carolina is a diverse state with a long history of interesting people, places, events, and stuff (you know we love those artifacts!). If you had to choose, what—or who—would be in your North Carolina alphabet? Join the curators who worked on our upcoming exhibit, *North Carolina A to Z*, to discover some of their favorites out of the many objects and stories featured.

**History and Highballs: East Fork Pottery**
Thursday, Aug. 25, 7 p.m. via Zoom
Adults only, please.

**Speaker:** Alexander “Alex” Matisse, Artist, Potter, and Founder of East Fork Pottery

Join us as we kick off celebrating North Carolina artists this month by welcoming Alex Matisse. Matisse will dive into the evolution of East Fork Pottery and how it became what it is today.
He’ll share a bit about his family, his years as an apprentice to legendary potter Mark Hewitt, and how he and his co-founders started East Fork. Matisse will talk about the growth of the business, how the pots are made, and the why behind it all!

Alexander “Alex” Matisse was raised in a small New England town in a family of artists, anthropologists, and inventors. In 2004 he moved to North Carolina, where he attended Guilford College before dropping out to begin three years of apprenticeship with potters Matt Jones and, later, Mark Hewitt. Matisse now leads East Fork Pottery, along with business partners Connie Matisse and John Vigeland.

**Summer Tar Heel Tales: Weaving the Rainbow**
Tuesday, Aug. 30, 10 a.m. at the museum
In-person, drop-in program; ages 3 and up (with an adult).

Stories don’t go away during the summer! Join us in looking around an exhibit with a museum staff member, then listen to a history-related story.

**History at High Noon: From Landfill Dogs to Stardust and Ashes**
Wednesday, Aug. 31, 12–1 p.m., Daniels Auditorium, NC Museum of History

**Speaker:** Shannon Johnstone, Illustrator, Photographer, and Professor of Art at Meredith College

Join us as we wrap up celebrating North Carolina artists this month by welcoming award-winning photographer, illustrator, and Meredith College art professor Shannon Johnstone. Johnstone will offer a behind-the-scenes look at the path that led to her incredible project *Landfill Dogs*. She will explain what the project is, how it came about, and how that work inspired another project, *Stardust and Ashes*.

Shannon Johnstone’s photographic work deals with themes that reclaim what has been discarded and make visible that which is hidden. Her project *Landfill Dogs* has been featured nationally and internationally and was most notably on *ABC World News with Diane Sawyer* (2013) and *CNN.com* (2014). Her recent project, *Stardust and Ashes*, was a Critical Mass Finalist (2017) and exhibited at The Front in New Orleans (2017). Both projects were featured at the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center (*Year of the Dog*, 2018) and the Gaddy-Hamrick Art Gallery (*All Creatures Great and Small*, 2019). Johnstone is a tenured professor at Meredith College in Raleigh.

**IMAGES:** Dropbox link, caption and credits
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.** Before the COVID public closure, more than 465,000 people visited the museum annually 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 and 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 and other 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).

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