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NCMC's 2006 Annual Meeting

Survival of the Fittest

By Tamara Moore
NCMC President

On the brink of my second term as president of the North Carolina Museums Council I am looking forward to participating in such an exciting organization for another year. We are definitely having a palpable effect on the museum community, and those feelings were only confirmed by attending the annual meeting. NCMC is constantly working to offer new programs and improve the services we are able to make available to you. I am excited to create vital opportunities to improve professional practices across our state, and am eager to hear any suggestions you may have for how we can make NCMC more relevant to you.

On February 28–March 3, 2006, we congregated at the Hawthorne Inn and Conference Center in Winston-Salem for professional development, camaraderie and fun. We had a chance to renew acquaintances and make new friends. The theme of “Survival of the Fittest” was a very fitting choice as we are all undergoing change and striving to not just survive, but excel. We connected and exchanged information through sessions, local tours and meals.

Thanks to everyone who moderated or spoke at a session and to the volunteers who kept the activities running smoothly. The annual meeting was impeccably organized, and I would like to specially thank all of those who put time into planning and contributing to the event. If you were not able to attend this year, you really missed an energizing conference. Make plans now for 2007, when we will be visiting Hickory for what promises to be a great conference.

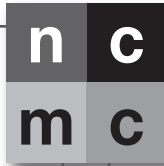
Special Thanks to Our Hosts and Sponsors

Associated Artists Galleries
Children's Museum of Winston-Salem
Delta Arts Center
Diggs Gallery
Historic Bethabara Park
Korner's Folly
Museum of Anthropology at Wake Forest University
Old Salem
Piedmont Craftsman Gallery
Reynolda House Museum of American Art
Sawtooth Center for Visual Art
SciWorks Science Center and Environmental Park
Southeastern Center for Contemporary Art (SECCA)
Winston Cup Museum
Winston-Salem Convention and Visitors Bureau

Special Thanks to Our Vendors

Charlotte Van and Storage Company, Inc.
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Hollinger Corporation
MBA Design & Display Products Corp.
Q Media productions, Inc.
Studio Displays
Wingin' It Works





*“Natural beauty.
Shopping. History.
Arts. Science.*

*All are here in the shadow of
the Blue Ridge Mountains.”*

**Save the Date
NCMC 2007 Annual Meeting
Hickory, NC
Feb. 28 – March 2, 2007**

It's not too early to make plans to attend the next NCMC meeting.

Hosts for the conference include:

**Catawba County Museum of History
Hickory Museum of Art
Catawba Science Center
Hickory Landmarks Society
Hickory Convention and Visitor's Bureau**

Want to know more?

Want more news, faster?

**Need to post exhibit or
job announcements?**

If so, then join the NCMC Announcement List and Discussion List.

In addition to sending the quarterly newsletter, the Electronic Announcement List may also be used to send out important news as directed by the Board of the North Carolina Museums Council.

NCMC Discussion list subscribers can send e-mail directly to the rest of the list's subscribers—messages about job openings, grant opportunities, exhibit openings and workshops. Through the discussion list, members can ask questions, respond with advice, share opportunities and relay breaking news. Members can receive information from Art, Children's, History, and Science sections. Join the lists by visiting www.ncmuseums.org.

These lists will not be distributed to any other party.

2006-2007 NCMC Board Members

President	Tamara Moore, N.C. Museum of Natural Sciences	president@ncmuseums.org	(919) 733-7450
Vice President	Troy Burton, Mordecai Historic Park	vicepresident@ncmuseums.org	(919) 857-4364
Secretary	Chris Graham, N.C. Museum of History	secretary@ncmuseums.org	
Treasurer	Richard Sceiford, Wilmington	treasurer@ncmuseums.org	(910) 763-3078
Past President	Neil Fulghum, N.C. Collection Gallery, UNC-Chapel Hill	pastpresident@ncmuseums.org	(919) 962-1172
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Archives	Joanie Philipp, Discovery Place	archives@ncmuseums.org	(704) 372-6261
Awards	Harry Warren, N.C. Museum of Forestry	awards@ncmuseums.org	(910) 914-4185
Directory	Courtney Hybarger, James K. Polk Memorial State Historic Site	directory@ncmuseums.org	(704) 889-7145
Gov. Affairs	Catherine Coulter, Rocky Mount Arts Center	govaffairs@ncmuseums.org	(252) 972-1163
Membership	Kim Tweedy, Reed Gold Mine State Historic Site	membership@ncmuseums.org	(704) 721-4653
Newsletter	Lisa Colwell, freelance graphic designer	newsletter@ncmuseums.org	(910) 632-6722
Nominating	JoAnne Powell (interim) N.C. Maritime Museum	nominating@ncmuseums.org	(252) 728-7317
Prof. Development	Kathryn Beach, Museum of the Cape Fear	profdevelop@ncmuseums.org	(910) 486-1330
Public Relations	Ashley Poteat, Blandwood	publicrelations@ncmuseums.org	(336) 272-5003
Student Affairs	Peter Koch, Mountain Heritage Center	students@ncmuseums.org	(828) 227-7129
Art Chair	Daphne Holmes, Louise Wells Cameron Art Museum	art@ncmuseums.org	(910) 395-5999
Children's Chair	Tim Goetz, Greensboro Children's Museum	children's@ncmuseums.org	(336) 574-2898
History Chair	John Campbell, N.C. Museum of History	history@ncmuseums.org	(919) 807-7864
Science Chair	Debbie Curry, Discovery Place	science@ncmuseums.org	(704) 372-6261
Webmaster	Bill Cissna, freelance writer	webmaster@ncmuseums.org	(336) 996-0194

North Carolina Museums Council Selects New Board Members

NCMC elected five chairpersons for its volunteer board and announced several other board adjustments. The NCMC, which is made up of members in the museum and related trades across the state, elects a portion of its board each year.

Elected to continue in the chairmanship of the archives committee was Joanie Phillip (Discovery Place, Charlotte) and, as chair of the annual meetings committee, Kaye Brown Hirst (Rowan Museum, Salisbury).

New board members include Catherine Coulter, governmental affairs (Rocky Mount Arts Center); Lisa Colwell, newsletter (Wilmington); and Kathryn Beach, professional development (Museum of the Cape Fear, Fayetteville).

Kim Tweedy (Reed Gold Mine State Historic Site, Midland) was elected by the board to fill out an uncompleted term as membership development chair.

The board also announced adjustments due to two resignations. Troy Burton (Mordecai Historic Park, Raleigh) will move from treasurer to vice president; Richard Sceford (Wilmington), who just completed two terms as governmental affairs chair, will assume the duties of treasurer; and the former vice president, JoAnne Powell (N.C. Maritime Museum, Beaufort), will take on the nominating duties, each for one year. Powell replaces Bill Cissna (Kernersville), who became the Council's webmaster on January 1.

IMLS Gets New Senior Grant Program Specialist

Christopher J. Reich joins IMLS as the senior grant program specialist. He will run the 21st Century Museum Professionals grant program, which supports professional training, leadership development and strategic planning in all areas of museum operations. This is currently the area under which many of us apply for projects in our states.

AmeriCorps Lends Helping Hand at Aquarium

AmeriCorps members devoted time last week to removing invasive aquatic plants from the grounds of the North Carolina Aquarium at Fort Fisher.

AmeriCorps is a program of the Corporation for National and Community Service, a major grant maker that supports service and volunteering. Members between the ages of 18-25 volunteer to spend a year improving education, public safety, public health, and the health of the environment.

"The removal of the invasive species will give the surrounding area some relief, and time for the aquatic ecosystems to regain some balance," said Melanie Doyle, horticulturist at the aquarium. The plants had taken root in a Memorial Garden pond, and in a portion of marshland on the outskirts of the aquarium grounds, she said. They had grown rapidly, eventually becoming the predominant vegetation in those areas. If their uninhibited growth had continued, Doyle said, they could have smothered the lifewebs in the aquatic habitats.

AmeriCorps offers service programs at local and national levels. More information about AmeriCorps is available at their website, www.americorps.org.

Staff Updates

After 33 years of exemplary service to the North Carolina Museum of Art, Associate Curator of Modern Art **Huston Paschal** has retired.

Barbara Rowe, curator of Cape Fear Museum of History and Science for 19 years, has been elected to serve on the advisory board of the Federation of North Carolina Historical Societies.

Keith Hardison is the new director of the Division of State Historic Sites and Properties.

Terry Bryant is the new special events coordinator for the N.C. Aquarium at Fort Fisher.

The Mint Museum of Art is pleased to announce the appointment of **Dr. Dorie Reents-Budet** as Consulting Curator of Pre-Columbian Art.

Terrell Finley has been promoted to the position of administrator of the Mountain Gateway Museum in Old Fort.

Congratulations 2006 NCMC Award Winners!

NCMC announced its 35th set of awards for the North Carolina museum industry on Thursday, March 2 at the Gray Auditorium, Old Salem Visitor Center in Winston-Salem.

Professional Awards

William T. Alderson Lifetime Achievement Award (retired professional):

Jerry Heiser, N.C. Maritime Museum, Beaufort

Memorial Award (posthumous):

C. Reynolds "Ren" Brown, Cameron Museum of Art, Wilmington

Professional Service Award (active professional):

Lisa Whitman-Grice, Onslow County Museum, Richlands

Mid-Career Professional Award:

Rebecca Lewis, Reed Gold Mine, Midland

Early Career Professional Award:

Heidi Bleazey, 1897 Poe House, Fayetteville

Service Award for an Individual Volunteer:

Mike Geraffy, N.C. Transportation Museum, Spencer

Service Award for an Organization:

Friends of Mountain History (25 counties in western N.C.), accepted by Kaye Meyers

Service Award for Staff Contributions:

No award presented in 2006.

Service Award for Stewardship:

No award presented in 2006.

Student Memorial Scholarship Award:

Erin Kelly (N.C. intern, student at Buffalo College, NY)

Student Scholarships:

Heidi Wing (UNCG), Brittany Lewis (UNC Chapel Hill) and Ashley Black (Meredith College).

NCMC Internship Award:

Awarded to the History Museum of Burke County, Inc. for a summertime intern.

Print Awards

N.C. Museum of Natural Sciences, Raleigh – Promotional Series (Boom!); Poster (Venomous Snakes of North Carolina); and Exhibition Promotion, full color (Brain: The World Inside Your Head)

Mint Museum of Art, Charlotte – Invitation, full color (Cross Currents); and Marketing Brochure, full color – Adopt a Work of Art

Old Salem Museums & Gardens, Winston-Salem – Annual Report (Windows in Time ...); General Brochure, full color (Visitor's Guide); and Print Ad (Halloween in Old Salem)

Old Salem Children's Museum, Winston-Salem – Catalog, Unbound, full color (The Children of Terezin)

N.C. Museum of History, Raleigh – Newsletter, limited color (Cornerstone); Logo (Outreach: Bringing History to You)

Cape Fear Museum of History & Science, Wilmington – Invitation, limited color (Rendezvous); Event Promotion (Flavor of the Past)

The Light Factory, Charlotte – Member Brochure, limited color (Promote the Power of Image); Catalog, digital (2005 Annual Art Auction catalog); Newsletter, full color (Calendar)

Center for Craft, Creativity & Design, Hendersonville – Single Film or Video (Discovering Heartwood: The David Nash Residency); Catalog, Bound, full color (On the Road Again ...)

Levine Museum of the New South, Charlotte – Advertising Campaign, full color (Purses, Platforms & Power)

Asheville Art Museum, Asheville – Exhibition, Bound, limited color (Hand Wrought: The Artistry of William Waldo Dodge)

North Carolina Collection Gallery, Chapel Hill – Exhibit Promotion, limited color (Tar Heel Ink)

Orange County Historical Museum, Hillsborough – General Brochure, limited color (Bringing the Present to the Past)

Western Carolina University, Cullowhee – Education Guide (Education Programs by the Mountain Heritage Center, tie)

Green Hill Center for North Carolina Art, Greensboro – Education Guide (Art Quest School Visits, tie).

See the Print Awards winning entries on our Web site :

<http://www.ncmuseums.org/ncmc/conference/2006/awards/printwinners2006.html>



First row, left to right: Tamara Moore (N.C. Museum of Natural Sciences, print awards), Joyce Knabb (Old Salem Museums & Gardens, print awards), Emily Walker (Mint Museum of Art, print awards), Erin Kelly (Student Memorial Award), Heidi Bleazey (Early Career Professional, 1897 Poe House), Jennifer Koach (Orange County Historical Museum, print award), and Rebecca Lewis (Mid-Career Professional, Reed Gold Mine); second row, left to right: Kaye Meyers (Volunteer Organization Award, Friends of Mountain History), Jerry Heiser (Alderson Award, retired, N.C. Maritime Museum), Peter Koch, Lisa Whitman-Grice (Professional Service Award, Onslow County Museum), Mike Geraffy (Volunteer Award, N.C. Transportation Museum), and Neil Fulghum (N.C. Collection Gallery, print awards).

Aquarium offers Conservation Newsletter Online

The North Carolina Aquarium at Fort Fisher has released the winter edition of *Conserving the Cape Fear*, a Web-based conservation newsletter containing articles on environmental issues important to the Cape Fear region. Current and archived editions can be accessed by visiting www.ncaquariums.com/newsite/ff/conservingcapefear.

Contributors come from scientific organizations, government agencies, industry, and conservation groups. Some even spring from non-traditional outfits like the Parrotheads, a local club actively supporting conservation efforts. Harris welcomes suggestions for future issues of *Conserving the Cape Fear*. Anyone interested in a topic not yet highlighted, or who would like to submit an article or photograph, should contact her at Jackie.e.harris@ncmail.net.

Albemarle Middle Wins Third Straight History Bowl

The North Carolina Transportation Museum in Spencer hosted a regional competition of the History Bowl, a statewide event for middle schools. These competitions are designed for middle schools to help teach students North Carolina history, which is normally taught in the eighth grade. Participating schools are given a study guide to help prepare the students, and each team is limited to five players.

On March 20, six teams competed for the championship – Albemarle Middle, Badin Elementary, Harris Middle School, North Iredell Middle, Paisley Magnet School and Wiley Elementary. The competition consisted of three rounds of questions, with the winners advancing to the next level.

The Robert F. Hoke Chapter of United Daughters of the Confederacy from Salisbury provided first and second place trophies for the final round. All participants received a certificate signed by Libba Evans, Secretary of the Department of Cultural Resources and Governor Michael Easley.

Albemarle Middle played Harris Middle in the final round, with Albemarle winning for the third year in a row. Along with the trophies for the team members, the school receives a revolving trophy with their name and year, which can be displayed until the next competition.

The History Bowl competition is open to any 8th grade school in North Carolina. Generally, regional competitions can have a maximum of eight teams. Winners of the regional competition advance to the state level competition in May each year in Raleigh.

Grant & Award Recipients

Art Museum Announces Unprecedented Pledge of Support

The Louise Wells Cameron Art Museum is announcing a challenge pledge of support to the Museum, the realization of which may be the largest to a non-profit organization in New Hanover County history.

Board President Steve Coggins announced that the Bruce Barclay Cameron Foundation will match dollar for dollar all cash gifts to the Museum's Endowment Fund up to \$10 million. The Endowment Fund's campaign goal is \$20 million.

The campaign to meet the Foundation's challenge began in December 2005 and was officially announced to the public in April. Current pledges to the campaign total over \$1.27 million, including 100% participation from the museum's Board of Directors, who have pledged \$730,000 towards this historic challenge. More than \$480,000 of the total pledged has already been donated and matched by the Foundation.

A longtime and generous supporter of the arts community in Wilmington, the Cameron Foundation continues to support the Louise Wells Cameron Art Museum. This unique pledge will double the value of any financial gift made to the Museum's endowment in the next 16 months. It also impels the community for immediate support so that the Museum's financial and philosophical independence can be secured. This extraordinary offer by the Foundation provides a unique opportunity to secure the Museum's future and ensure its presence for generations to come.

American Zoo and Aquarium Association Award Recipient

Dee Thonnard, education outreach coordinator at the North Carolina Aquarium at Fort Fisher, earned an award from the American Zoo and Aquarium Association (AZA) that allowed her to attend a week-long workshop in April at Omaha's Henry Doorly Zoo, in Nebraska. Thonnard joined a group of approximately 25 other AZA members at the conservation education workshop. The sessions included presentations by seven prominent leaders in the field.

The award, presented in partnership with Disney's Animal Kingdom, covers travel expenses and tuition, and also provides a stipend. Awards offered through the AZA are very competitive. The AZA has more than 5,000 members, any of whom may apply to AZA workshops.

Grant to Fund 'Learning to Fly' Program

A \$4,195 Smithsonian Community Grant will allow the N.C. Transportation Museum in Spencer to offer a public educational event, "*Learning to Fly*," featuring real cockpit displays and a hot-air balloon demonstration. The "*Learning to Fly*" program, set for Saturday, June 24, is being planned in conjunction with a Smithsonian traveling exhibition, "*At the Controls: The Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum Looks at Cockpits*."

Funded by MetLife Foundation and administered by the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service (SITES), the grant is used to strengthen the connections between museums nationwide and their communities. The grants allow exhibitors to enhance current program offerings or to create a new program suited to the topic of the SITES exhibition that they will be hosting. Grants up to \$5,000 are awarded based on criteria that each exhibitor must meet. For more information on Smithsonian Community Grants, visit www.sites.si.edu or email sitesgrants@si.edu.

"This is an excellent opportunity to encourage our exhibitors to engage their audiences in new and exciting ways," said Anna R. Cohn, SITES director. "We are pleased with this tremendous show of support from MetLife Foundation and we recognize the impact that their support will have for museums and their visitors."

Museum of History Receives NEH Grant

The N.C. Museum of History in Raleigh has been awarded a \$155,000 teacher training grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) for a series of residential workshops in African American history and culture titled "*Crafting Freedom: Thomas Day and Elizabeth Keckly, Black Artisans and Entrepreneurs in the Making of America*." The two workshops will be held June 22–27 and July 6–11 at the museum and other Triangle area sites.

North Carolina In Tune

Music touches us from early childhood through our adult years, and 2006 is an especially good year for all ages to tune in to the music of North Carolina. In fact, the Department of Cultural Resources has organized a yearlong celebration called “N.C. In Tune” to honor the tradition of music in the state.

North Carolina boasts more than twelve hundred music organizations and nearly three thousand music teachers in grades K-12. The state’s jazz, gospel and southern Appalachian music traditions are known around the world, as are such acclaimed Tar Heel musicians as James Taylor, Shirley Caesar, Earl Scruggs, Thelonious Monk, Etta Baker, John Coltrane, Doc Watson, Roberta Flack and Charlie Daniels.

As a participant in the statewide observance, the Museum of History is offering a variety of music performances this year, including the popular PineCone series Music of the Carolinas. For information about more than one hundred music events taking place across North Carolina in 2006, access www.ncculture.com (click on “N.C. In Tune”) or call (919) 807-7385.

New Museum Opening in Charlotte

On May 20, 2006 Charlotte at Play, a museum for children up to 6 years of age, will open. Exhibits will include a fairy tale castle with costumes, thrones and a Biltmore theme; a construction zone; a tricycle speedway with a gas station; and a mock grocery store.

Go to www.charlotteatplay.com to learn more about the museum.



AASLH Collections Management and Practices Workshop

Presented by the American Association for State and Local History, this 2-day workshop offers the opportunity to learn about your institution’s responsibility to its collection, improve policies and procedures, and hear about the best practices of collections care.

Instructors: Vicki Berger, Arizona Historical Society Museum; Rick Kerschner, Shelburne Museum

May 5–6, 2006 in Birmingham, AL; host: Birmingham Civil Rights Institute

For registration information, visit www.aaslh.org/workshop.htm or call Bethany Hawkins at (615) 320-3203.

Also coming up from AASLH

Presidential Sites and Libraries Conference IV: The American Presidential Community.

Presented by AASLH and co-hosted by National Park Service and the National Archives Office of Presidential Libraries. This conference will inspire attendees to fully engage the “Power of Presidential Connections” inherent in the resources they administer. Through panel discussions, town hall meetings and forums, conferees will identify and learn new ways to meet the 21st century challenges facing the institutions that foster and protect presidential heritage. www.aaslh.org/presssites.htm

June 19–22: Hyde Park, NY; host: Franklin D. Roosevelt NHP and FDR Presidential Library.

New Civil War Title from N.C. Office of Archives and History

During 2006 the Department of Cultural Resources is focusing on music and its impact on the state's culture and economy. In fitting with this theme, a new Civil War title from the Office of Archives and History examines the important role of musicians who, through their special talents, raised the spirits of fellow soldiers and brought hope to the Confederate cause. *A Johnny Reb Band from Salem: The Pride of Tarheelia*, by Harry H. Hall, explores the history of the Twenty-sixth Regimental Band, North Carolina Troops, C.S.A., which was composed of Moravian musicians from Salem. The 288-page paperback is a revised edition of a book originally published in 1963.

The first section of *A Johnny Reb Band from Salem* discusses Moravian musical traditions during the eighteenth and the first half of the nineteenth centuries. The second part traces the band's Confederate service for a little more than three years, including their participation in the Battles of New Bern, Malvern Hill, and Gettysburg.

Profusely illustrated with pictures of Salem, band members, instruments, sheet music, and maps, this new title also contains twenty-seven sketches of camp life, not previously published. The sketches were drawn by Alexander C. Meinung, a member of the Twenty-sixth Regimental Band, and record various field scenes during the band's military service. The striking cover of the book features a photograph of the eight original band members taken in Salem on their first furlough during July and August 1862.

Harry H. Hall, a native of Dothan, Alabama, received his undergraduate degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from George Peabody College in Nashville, Tennessee. A five-year veteran of World War II, he was a trombonist/arranger in various service bands. From the late 1950s through the early 1990s, Hall served as musical consultant for the Moravian Music Foundation in Winston-Salem.

A Johnny Reb Band from Salem: The Pride of Tarheelia (288 pages, paperbound, illustrated, index) costs \$15.00 plus tax and shipping. Order from the Historical Publications Section (N), Office of Archives and History, 4622 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-4622. For credit card orders, call (919) 733-7442 or use the section's secure online store at <http://store.yahoo.com/nc-historical-publications/>.

Left Coast Press Publishes Two New Museum Journals

Left Coast Press, Inc., a specialty publisher of professional materials for the museum community, announces the addition of two new journals. **Journal of Museum Education**, published in partnership with the Museum Education Roundtable, promotes and reports on theory, training and practice in the museum education field. Each issue focuses on a specific theme of interest to both professional and informal museum educators, administrators and practitioners. **Museums & Social Issues** provides an important forum for the consideration of social issues and their engagement with museums. Each issue includes theoretical, philosophical and practical perspectives from inside and outside the museum field, exploring and reflecting upon the intersections between society and museums.

Accessibility and relevance to the growing needs of the museum community are among the key considerations in both publications. For more information go to http://www.lcoastpress.com/journals_title.php.

ATTENTION STUDENTS

NCMC wants to help you become a museum professional.

Check out the NCMC Web site at
<http://www.ncmuseums.org/ncmc/students/students.html>.

Internship Opportunities • Mentorship Opportunities
NC College Courses • Resources • Special Sessions at the Annual Meeting
N.C. College Courses • Resources for Students

Pritchard's Island Sea Turtle Conservation Project Summer 2006

Become part of a conservation project on Pritchard's Island, SC and help in the Loggerhead Sea Turtle Nest Protection Project. The program involves walking the beach at night looking for the nesting turtles and moving their eggs to protected hatcheries. Days are free to explore the uninhabited island. Classes on local wildlife and ecology will be presented each evening. Fee includes three nights lodging in a research station. Call Discovery Place at (704) 372-6261, ext. 415 for more details.

Call for Volunteers!

Cameron Art Museum, located at 3201 S. 17th Street at the corner of Independence and 17th, is looking for energetic volunteers, especially for weekend shifts. Opportunities are available at the Information Desk and in the Museum Shop on Friday evenings from 5–9 p.m., Saturdays and Sundays from 10:45 a.m.–2 p.m. and 2–5 p.m. Training is provided. For more information, please call 395-5999 ext. 1000 or ext. 1005.

2006 Summer Student Internship Available

The History Museum of Burke County in Morganton, NC, is accepting applications for the 2006 Summer Student Internship. Contact Larry Clark, 828.437.1777, for more information. **Deadline: April 28**

New Museum Training Courses Added to Online Offerings

Northern States Conservation Center has added five new museum training courses to its fast-growing and popular museumclasses.org online training program, as well as tripling the number of classes to 26 for 2006.

Participants in Northern States Conservation's exciting training program receive professional training and continuing education without the expense of travel. The conservators, curators, computer experts and exhibit designers on our faculty bring the teaching directly to the home or work computers of our students.

Courses last four to six weeks and require a commitment of 10 to 20 hours per week from participants. Most of the work is conducted at the participant's own pace, with deadlines for assignments and tests. Scheduled online chats one or two times a week help students get to know each other and their instructors. Communication with instructors includes group forums, student journals and instant messaging. Students receive certificates upon successful completion of a course.

Northern States Conservation launched museumclasses.org in late 2004. During the first full year of classes, the technology not only transmitted information beautifully, but also created new professional networks as museum staff from around the world communicated instantaneously about topics of mutual concern. The courses also have proved popular with participants. Without fail, museumclasses.org has received high evaluations for every course. Students have rated the courses no lower than 8 on a scale of 1 to 10. "I was amazed that connecting with people electronically could work so well. The main reason is because of our regular class chats. Students feel they are in a 'real' classroom," said Northern States Conservation president and founder Helen Alten.

"Students thoroughly enjoy getting to know each other and their instructors. Our instructors are conscientious about e-mailing and checking in with all students regularly. Everyone feels included."

Northern States Conservation strives to find instructors who bring not only expertise in their fields, but also significant practical experience. Instructors are handpicked for their knowledge and their experience in large and small institutions. They also are known for their love of teaching.

To learn more about online museum courses and continuing education, go to **www.museumclasses.org**.

Cameron Art Museum (Wilmington)**The Elements: Of Nature and Art***Through July 9, 2006*

This thematic reinstallation of the museum's permanent collection offers diverse paths in the viewer's aesthetic journey of discovery. Galleries devoted to the elements of nature: water, earth, air and fire are mirrored in subsequent galleries dedicated to elements of art: line, form, color, texture.

Five American Artists*May 19–October 29, 2006*

This major exhibition of artworks by five artists demonstrates the diverse aesthetic contributions to American art made by African American artists since the mid-twentieth century. Exhibition features works on paper, paintings, sculpture and in mixed-media by artists Romare Bearden, Big Al Carter, Minnie Evans, Ivey Hayes and Faith Ringgold.

Galleria Cases: From Mechanical to Microchip*May 26–August 30, 2006*

An exhibition tracing the influence of changing technology on object design, including typewriters, telephones, televisions, fans, computers and calculators loaned by institutions and private collectors.

The Craven Arts Council & Gallery

(New Bern)

En Plein Aire Invitational*May 5–27, 2006*

The Craven Arts Council & Gallery is taking art outside and featuring four artists who work "en plein aire," or out-of-doors. An artists' reception will be held Friday, May 5 at 5:30 p.m. and will be followed by a morning of painting in the park with the artists. Artists who wish to take up the challenge of plein air painting are welcome to join Brenda Behr, Mike Rooney, Charles Hine and Jack Anglin for a casual day of painting in Union Point Park from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Please call the Arts Council at (252) 638-2577 to sign up.

Discovery Place (Charlotte)**Family Camp at Wildacres***May 6–7, 2006*

Join in the 24th annual weekend-long exploration of birds, wildflowers, wildlife, streams, geology, folklore and plants of the Blue Ridge Parkway. Sessions include field trips, hikes, evening presentations, and late night stargazing sessions. Early registration is advised. Call (704) 372-6261, ext. 415 for more details.

Discovering the Dead Sea Scrolls*Through May 29, 2006*

The fragile Dead Sea Scrolls pose as a historical mystery to some and a religious question to others. In 1947, a shepherd accidentally discovered the scrolls in a cave near the shores of the Dead Sea. Considered the largest and oldest body of biblical manuscripts and one of the most significant archeological discoveries of the past century, archeologists believe the scrolls were written around the time of Christ.

Green Hill Center of North**Carolina Art** (Greensboro)**The Elements: Ancient Cosmology,****Contemporary Experience***Through June 25, 2006*

Guest Curator Jack Stratton explores the theme of the elements in contemporary art in this multi-faceted exhibition. From ancient times to the present, this exhibit transforms the four elements, earth, air, fire and water, into works of art. These four elements transcend time and symbolize our quest to understand the world around us. "This ancient cosmology is at the root of our artistic traditions, and it is in art that we celebrate our modern mythology", Stratton states. The artists are part of the exhibit as the obscure fifth element known as quintessence. By incorporating quintessence, the different artists' perspectives and their interpretations have a profound effect on how the audience views each element.

Greensboro Children's Museum

(Greensboro)

Arthur's™ World*Opens May 21, 2006*

Get ready to explore a world where reading is cool and your favorite characters are there to help you play and learn! Arthur's™, the star of the popular children's books and PBS television series, will take over GCM beginning Sunday May 21, 2006! Come help us welcome Arthur to Greensboro and the Piedmont!

High Point Museum (High Point)**What's Cookin'? Two Centuries of American Foodways***May 13–August 26, 2006*

This traveling exhibit explores American culture through the changes in the foods we eat. It also looks at changes in how we prepare and serve foods, especially as it relates to the food industry. Visitors will experience the *What's Cookin'?* exhibit in a self-guided tour at their own pace.

Cooking Breakfast for the One I Love: When (& Why) Love Songs Sing about Cooking*June 14, 10 a.m.–12 noon*

Nationally syndicated public radio host Michael Lasser will play and discuss music where love and cooking are a theme. Since almost all popular songs are about love, it makes sense to ask how they sing about it. One way is by using food. They're more likely to be about a sandwich and a cup of coffee than more elegant fare, but these allusions in song give us an insight into character, an irreverent dash of satire, and an attitude suggestive of their time. (336) 883-3022, www.highpointmuseum.org

Historic Oak View County Park

(Raleigh)

Rhythm of the Factory: Life and Labor in North Carolina's Textile Mill Communities*Through June 24, 2006*

For a hundred years after the Civil War, textile mills made up the backbone of labor in North Carolina's Piedmont region. People living in mill communities built a special bond with their neighbors and co-workers that lasted for generations as workers' children and grandchildren began jobs in the mills and lives of their own in textile mill towns. Today, these mill communities are quickly becoming a closed chapter in North Carolina's rich history, and a fading memory passed on in the stories of former mill workers and their families. *Rhythm of the Factory* captures this vivid history, once a way of life for North Carolina's people. Admission is free and open to the public. Any group interested in a guided tour should call (919) 212-7695.

Levine Museum of the New South

(Charlotte)

From Apartheid to Democracy: The Struggle for Liberation in South Africa*Through May 15, 2006*

April 1994 remains the historical watershed for two momentous events in the history of South Africa: the end of the apartheid era and the dawn of a new democratic order. This new exhibit illustrates the profound transformation by telling the story of the first ten years of South Africa as a democracy. Throughout the exhibit, Levine Museum explores similarities between the American South and the South African experience. Presented in conjunction with South by South Africa: Crafting Cultural Understanding, a multi-faceted collaborative arts, crafts, history and tourism development initiative launching in Charlotte in January 2006. www.southbysouthafrica.org

Oh Freedom Over Me

Through May 28, 2006

This multi-media exhibition explores the Freedom Summer and celebrates American voting rights and responsibilities. Inspired by the work of the Farm Security Administration photographers, Matt Herron sought to create a similar record of the Civil Rights Movement. In the summer of 1964 he organized a team of photographers, called the Southern Documentary Project, to capture the rapid social change taking place across the South as civil rights organizations brought non-southern college students to work in voter registration and education. The exhibit includes photographs by Herron and other members of the Southern Documentary Project, along with a video. (704) 333-1887 or www.museumofthenewsouth.org

McCull Center for Visual Art

(Charlotte)

Revisit: Alumni Exhibition with Shaun Cassidy, Maja Godlewska, and Peggy Rivers

June 2–July 29, 2006

Opens June 2 with a free public reception from 6–9 p.m. There will be an artists' talk at 6:30 p.m. Each of these talented area artists is contributing recent works some of which were created exclusively for the exhibition. Sculptor and educator Shaun Cassidy created site-specific sculptures for *Revisit*. The artist intends for the sculptures to "invite viewer interaction, challenging them to contemplate emotionally charged interior spaces." Cassidy designed sculptures for the interior and exterior spaces of the McCull Center. According to the artist, the works attempt to exploit the majestic, vertical nature of the gallery.

Stereotypes: Confronting Clichés

Opens March 24, 2006

Features more than twenty-five contemporary works by nine internationally and nationally known artists. The art in this exhibition addresses issues of race, political and religious affiliation, ethnicity, gender, beauty, and societal roles. *Stereotypes* will open to the public with a free reception on March 24 from 6–9 p.m. Exhibiting artist Roger Shimomura will give an artist talk at 6:30 p.m.

Mint Museum of Craft + Design

(Charlotte)

Crosscurrents: Art, Craft, and Design in North Carolina

Through August 6, 2006

The 67 works in the exhibition vary in medium and size and exemplify the broad range of works currently being created across North Carolina. Many artists use their work for political and social commentary; others critique modern culture. Of the 550 artists who applied to be in the exhibition, these 24 artists were chosen

for the variety and breadth of their work, which includes works on paper, paintings, photography, ceramics, video installations and books. (704) 337-2101 or www.mintmuseum.org

Museum of Anthropology (Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem)
Treasures from a Moravian Attic: Native American Objects from the Wachovia Historical Society Collection

Through May 13, 2006

Features Native American archaeological and ethnographic objects from North Carolina and across North America recently donated to the Museum of Anthropology by the Wachovia Historical Society and the Mission Society of the Moravian Church South, Inc., and focuses on stories of how the objects were collected and ended up in Winston-Salem. The title *Treasures from a Moravian Attic* refers to the upper floor of a building in Old Salem where the collection was stored before it was loaned to the Museum initially in 1983, but also suggests the discovery of forgotten heirlooms. (336) 758-5282 or www.wfu.edu/moa

North Carolina Museum of Forestry (Whiteville)**Whispering Giants**

Hungarian artist Peter WolfToth recently returned to North Carolina to carve two 20 foot cypress *Whispering Giants* statues at the North Carolina Museum of Forestry. Meant as a tribute to Native Americans, he has created statues in all 50 states and Canada during his continuing 30-year odyssey across America. (910) 914-4185

N.C. Museum of History (Raleigh)
Art Pottery Traditions of North Carolina

Through January 1, 2007

Highlights the diverse shapes, sizes and decorative glazes of North Carolina art pottery. See a variety of pieces dating from the 1920s to 2003.

Weapons of World War II

May 2, 2006–June 30, 2007

Features armaments used by American, German and Japanese forces during World War II. See an American M1A1 carbine, a German P38 pistol, a Japanese Type 99 light machine gun and other weapons.

North Carolina Transportation Museum (Spencer)

At the Controls: The Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum Looks at Cockpits
May 20–July 16, 2006

This exhibit examines historical cockpits through 20 large-format color photographs. Among the aircraft featured are the Wright 1903 Flyer, Ryan NYP Spirit of St. Louis, Grumman F4F-4 Wildcat, Supermarine Spitfire Mark VII, and the Space Shuttle Columbia. The exhibit will be on display in Wagons, Wheels and Wings. www.nctrans.org

Rosedale Plantation (Charlotte)
The Art of Crafts: 1830

May 13, 2006, 10 a.m.–4 p.m.

Historic Rosedale announces an arts festival and crafts fair for the entire family. Activities include a craft and pottery sale featuring well-known North Carolina artists, refreshments, period costumes and games for children of all ages. For more information contact Daisy Bridges at (704) 335-0325.

Weatherspoon Art Museum (Greensboro)**American Art II (1960–Present)**

Through June 25

This show is the second part of a yearlong survey of American art from 1900 to the present (last fall, the Museum presented works of art made between 1900–1960). The current show features approximately forty paintings, drawings, and sculpture that address topics including pop culture, identity, politics, and new ways of making art.

In Edition: Books, Prints & Multiples from the 1960s & 1970s

Through July 9, 2006

In Edition seeks to show how artists of the 1960s and 1970s developed the concept of the "multiple" and, in so doing, revitalized and legitimized the practice of using economical reproduction methods, often creating works that operate between art-work and commodity. Although printmaking has long been a standard art form, the 1960s brought an exciting and discernible increase in the purposeful exploration of the use of various reproduction techniques such as silkscreen, lithography, printed books and machine casting. This exhibition includes books, prints and multiples by Josef Albers, Eleanor Antin, Red Grooms, Claes Oldenburg, Roy Lichtenstein, Robert Rauschenberg, Dieter Roth, Ed Ruscha and Andy Warhol, as well as two important series of multiples published by Tanglewood Press, New York in 1966 and 1967 that include works by Jim Dine, Eva Hesse and Richard Serra, among others.

Need to Join or Renew?

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The NCMC Newsletter is published quarterly by and for members of the North Carolina Museums Council. News of general interest to the museum community is actively solicited.

Send materials to the 2006-2007 editor:

Lisa Colwell
P.O. Box 15418
Wilmington, NC 28408
e-mail: newsletter@ncmuseums.org

All materials must have a contact name, address and telephone number. Include e-mail or web page addresses if you have them. Digital (300 DPI) or camera-ready graphics and black-and-white photographs are preferred.

Deadlines:

for the Summer '06 issue is June 5
for the Autumn '06 issue is September 5
for the Winter '07 issue is December 5
for the Spring '07 issue is March 5

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