



BULLETIN

December 2025

Volume 45, no. 12

The Federation of North Carolina Historical Societies is a nonprofit organization operating under the auspices of the Office of Archives & History, N.C. Department of Natural & Cultural Resources (DNCR).

Mission: The Federation of North Carolina Historical Societies inspires local history organizations through collaborative learning projects and promotes history education statewide.

The *Federation Bulletin* is published monthly via Mail-Chimp. This issue is a special edition with highlights from the last six months of Federation news. Subsequent editions of the *Bulletin* will be in the new e-newsletter format.

Inside this issue:

<i>Federation News</i>	3
<i>Member News</i>	4
<i>DNCR News</i>	7
<i>Free Webinars & Conferences</i>	9
<i>Grants</i>	10
<i>History Help</i>	11
<i>Members</i>	13

Mini Grant Spotlight Heart of Deep River Historical Society's 100-Year Commemoration of the Coal Glen Mine Disaster

by Cole Wicker, Director of the Heart of Deep River Historical Society



"Who are they?" was whispered through the crowd... "It is my boy!" came the pitiful query from a wasted mother clinging to a rope a few feet away. Her voice was hard and metallic... But, he was not there. None could say definitively who the men were. Their comrades and relatives piled past the huddled, broken heaps of human debris." MacNeil, "Bodies of 16 Men Brought Out...", *News and Observer*, May 29, 1912, p.2

The Coal Glen Coal Mine disaster on May 27, 1925 remains the deadliest industrial disaster in the state's history. Fifty-three men from the central N.C. mining communities of Cumnock and Coal Glen perished in the explosion. With the generous support of the Federation's mini grant, the Heart of Deep River Historical Society was able to offer a public program commemorating this disaster. Heart of Deep River printed large-scale reproductions of [original photos from the rescue efforts](#), taken by Ben Dixon MacNeil, a field correspondent for the *News and Observer*. This program allowed descendants, community members, and anybody interested to take a step back in time and bear witness to the disaster. In April and May 2025, the Heart of Deep River offered a photo exhibition of rescue efforts, a naming ceremony recognizing all those who perished in the Deep River Coal Field, and a memorial ceremony commemorating the first and second explosions on the morning of May 27, 1925. Since the programs, local schools have used the photographs and they are now a part of the Heart of Deep River's teaching and interpretive materials.

The 1925 disaster drew a crowd numbering in the thousands. The Sanford Women's Auxiliary fed and supported the devastated families, and students from nearby universities traveled to offer a helping hand. With MacNeil's photographs and his incredibly detailed reporting published in the *News and Observer*, we reconstructed and shared what

the first hours and days looked like during the rescue.

Federation Bulletin

Members of the Federation Advisory Board

About the Federation

The Federation of North Carolina Historical Societies is a statewide coalition of organizations, dedicated to working together to preserve and promote local history in North Carolina. An advisory board made up of twelve representatives from member organizations oversees the work of the Federation.

The Federation sponsors workshops and meetings; offers interest-free loans to members for the creation of historical publications (print or A/V) and special events; provides technical assistance; and nurtures a statewide history network. For more information, visit the [Federation's webpages](#).

Through 2025

David Biddix
Mitchell County Historical Society

Sara Blanchett
High Point Museum

Cindy Schmidt
Chatham County Historical Association

Matthew Titchiner
Gaston County Museum

Through 2026

Annie Anderson
Country Doctor Museum

Ken Badgett
Old Hickory Council, BSA

Anne Chesky
Presbyterian Heritage Center

Leesa Jones, **Chair**
Washington Waterfront
Underground Railroad Museum

Through 2027

Carrie Currie
Person County Museum of History

Gretchen Beilfuss Witt
Rowan Public Library

Jason Luker
Charlotte Museum of History

Heather Yenco
Cape Fear Museum

Remember these FEDERATION MEMBER benefits:

- ◇ Subscription to the *Bulletin*
- ◇ **Mini grants** to help accomplish interpretive or collections preservation projects
- ◇ Interest-free **loans** to publish local history books, create educational media, or develop special events
- ◇ Discounted fees for Federation **workshops**
- ◇ Contributions to N.C.'s **National History Day**
- ◇ **Leadership** opportunities to nurture a statewide network of history organizations

FEDERATION NEWS

Share the Festive Beauty You've Created this Season!

Contribute to the Federation's season's greetings to members and partner organizations statewide. Send photos of holiday decorations and festivities to be included in this year's holiday slide show.

New and Renewed Opportunities in 2026!

- **Mini Grant applications** will re-open in January. Do you have a special project idea but need funding help? Apply by January 31. The Federation plans to award two mini grants for up to \$1,500 each. [View more details and access the mini grant application.](#)
- **Renew your membership** for 2026! Dues are still just \$25 annually. Mail a \$25 check to MSC 4610, Raleigh NC 27699-4610, or [pay \\$26 online.](#)
- **New *Bulletin* format:** In January 2025, the *Bulletin* began transitioning from a large, quarterly PDF to a monthly e-newsletter, distributed via MailChimp. This change simplifies layout work and allows for more frequent and briefer news exchanges. During this transitional year, the Federation's advisory board recommended distributing PDF versions of the *Bulletin* twice a year, in June and December, to include summaries of news from the previous six months. **Note that this is the final PDF edition distributed through direct email.** If you'd like additional leaders of your organization to receive the monthly MailChimp newsletters directly, email Danielle Shirilla (dani.shirilla@dnrc.nc.gov) to be added to the listserv.



Berney and Shirilla at c. 1862 Dunroy in Flat Rock

Member Visits & Training

In August, Federation staff Adrienne Berney and Danielle Shirilla enjoyed visiting **Historic Flat Rock** and attending the organization's popular Historic Home Tour. With 800 tickets sold, the event sold out, and participants boarded buses to tour four houses dating c. 1840-1898 and the 1836 [St. John in the Wilderness Church](#).

Berney and Shirilla were also able to visit the **Moore County Historical Association** to offer guidance on preservation and access for the organization's large photograph collection as part of the [Traveling Archivist Program](#).

The Federation's fall webinar, **History Help: Web Accessibility**, is now available as an on-demand recording. For tips on visual accessibility for websites, visit the [Federation's YouTube page](#).

Welcome New Members!

We are pleased to have added the following new organizations to the Federation's network during the past six months.

- [Pine Knoll Shores History Committee](#)
- [Springfield Memorial Association](#)
- [Blowing Rock Historical Society](#)

MEMBER NEWS



Women Who Made Southport

by Liz Fuller,
SHS president

In 2025, the **Southport Historical Society** and the City of Southport created a public exhibit of 14 banners along main street celebrating midwives and educators, business owners, civic leaders, and advocates for equality, each honoree playing a meaningful role in shaping our community. The City's

Community Relations Department designed the banners and an [accompanying website](#) using materials gathered by the Society. The response was incredibly uplifting. One alderman shared, "As a father of two beautiful daughters, this project holds special significance for me... representation matters, and I'm grateful our city is taking steps to honor and preserve these legacies."

The Society and City plan to expand the program in 2026 by inviting community nominations. We're looking forward to hearing more stories, discovering more remarkable women, and continuing to celebrate the people who make Southport's history so special. [photo credit: Lawrence N. Ashley and Ellie DeYoung]

Historic Port of Washington Project

Washington's City Council voted unanimously to approve renovations to the historic Train Depot which will become a new history center.

Ocean City Beach Citizens Council

announced a [new Civil Rights Trail historical marker honoring the Topsail community](#). View a [video about the African American community](#) that was established and thrived during segregation, produced by the N.C. African American Heritage Commission.

Gaston Museum of Art & History

opened *Nellie Ashford: Remembrance and Renewal, Wisdom from an Elder Folk Artist*. Ashford's mixed media work draws from her experiences growing up

in segregated Charlotte. Her art weaves together memory, culture, and community, offering a deeply human narrative that reflects the resilience of the Black Southern experience. Visit to experience the exhibit through January!

Hyde County Historical and Genealogical Society

collaborated with local organizations on America 250 NC [history booklet of Hyde County](#). Designed to be used by visitors and history aficionados, it features 11 county sites on the National Register of Historic Places.



Wake County Historical Society partnered with three local organizations—Wake County Genealogical Society, Afro-American and Historical Society, and Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church—in October for a program on the formation of the Shiloh community and its link to Patriot soldier Jesse Harris (1762-1844). WCHS board member and Harris descendant, Saundra Russ Cropps (far right), led discussions during the Mills Cemetery portion of the program. Also pictured, left to right: Clayton Edward Russ, Taniyah Justice, Tara Russ, Gloria Russ, Rosalyn Myers.

Currituck Historical Society is creating a statue to memorialize John Jasper White, who fought British privateers during the Revolution. The state legislature eventually honored his heroism by [emancipating White in 1792](#). Thanks to a grant from America 250 NC, the society has made strides toward completion, and DNCR produced a short video about the project and new sculpture, "[Sculpting History: The Untold Story of Currituck Jack](#)."

MEMBER NEWS



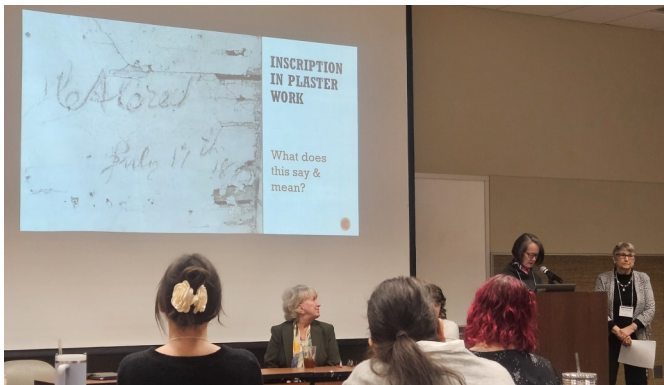
Congratulations!

Charlotte Museum of History won the Gertrude S. Carraway award of merit from **Preservation NC** for its Siloam School project.

Orange County Historical Museum won the

N.C. Genealogical Society's Award for Excellence in an Online Resource for its website.

The town of Cary received a Capital Area Preservation Anthemion Award for the relocation and rehabilitation of the historic Ivey-Ellington House at 310 South Academy Street. The **Friends of Page-Walker** advocated for the restoration of the house, and members have researched [its construction and inhabitants over time](#). Their most recent discovery is an inscription in the plaster of an interior wall, "C.A. Creel/July 17th 1882." This evidence has led the group to revise the date of the house's construction from the 1870s to 1882 and match the name with a local family of masons.



Above, Friends of Page-Walker board member and lead researcher, Carla Michaels, and Supervisor of Historical Resources for the Town of Cary, Kris Carmichael, presented the discovery at the N.C. Preservation Consortium's conference in November. Catch up on the [new information about the Ivey-Ellington House on the Friends' blog](#).

New Member Materials on DigitalNC

Semi-Annual Roundup

- **Durham County Library** added [dozens of maps and hundreds of funeral programs from the R. Kelly Bryant Papers and Obituary Collection](#). Most of the maps relate to Durham's urban renewal project.
- **Lee County Libraries** added a [new batch of photographs from the Sanford Herald collection](#).
- **Graham County Historical Museum** added [land grants, land surveys, property deeds and correspondences](#) and more, ranging from the late 18th to the mid-19th century.
- **Wendell Historical Society** contributed another [batch of yearbooks](#)—Wendell High School's 1931 edition and Vaiden Whitley High School's 1974 and 1975 editions.
- **Chatham County Historical Association's** [new batch of ledgers and minutes](#) chronicles the history of Siler City's Farmers' Alliance Store, in operation 1888-2018.
- **Chapel Hill Historical Society** added [records featuring the National Munitions Corporation plant](#) built in Carrboro during World War II.



THANKSGIVING FESTIVAL
THE NEW LEWISVILLE SCHOOL GYMNASIUM
SATURDAY NIGHT, DECEMBER 4TH
Wholesome Fun for the Whole Family
Sponsored by the P.-T. A. and Civic Club
Proceeds for the School Athletic Program
MAYOR OF LEWISVILLE TO BE ELECTED

Lewisville Historical Society contributed [several newspaper volumes and a book about a Lewisville family](#).

The new volumes of *The Lewisville Citi-*

zen range from 1948 to 1955. Above: [Dec. 1, 1948, p.1](#)

MEMBER NEWS

Holiday Events

Dec. 5-6, 5-8:30 p.m. **Murfreesboro Historical Association**, [Christmas Market and Candlelight Tour](#). Tickets: \$30.

Dec. 5, 6-9 p.m. **Gaston County Museum**, [Holiday Open House](#).

Dec. 7, 1-4 p.m. **High Point Museum**, [53rd Annual Holiday Open House and Reopening Celebration](#).

Dec. 7, 1-5 p.m. **Moore County Historical Association**, [Travel Back in Time in Carthage: Bryant House & McLendon Cabin](#).

Dec. 7, 1-5 p.m. **Historic Hope Foundation**, [Christmas Open House](#). There is no charge but donations are appreciated.

Dec. 9, 6-8 p.m. **Gaston County Museum**, [Fireside History Series](#): McAdenville Lights with guest speaker Kent Hester. Free; reservations required.

Dec. 11, 5-8 p.m. **Historic Hope Foundation**, [Candlelight Tour](#). Tickets \$25 + tax in advance and \$30 + tax at the door.

Dec. 13, 11 a.m.-5 p.m., **Southport Historical Society**, [Holiday Home Tour](#). Tickets \$30.

Dec. 13, 1-4 p.m. **Moore County Historical Association**, [Travel Back in Time This Holiday Season: Shaw House Historic Homes](#).

Dec. 13, 3 p.m. **Lincoln County Historical Association**, [Holiday Open House at the Doctor's House](#).

Dec. 13, 4:30 p.m. **Orange County Historical Museum**, *The Holiday Reunion*, a play by Courtney Smith. Suggested donation: \$5. Contact programs@orangehistorync.org to reserve space.

More Upcoming Events

Dec. 6, 10 a.m. **Lincoln County Historical Association**, [Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day and Flag Retirement Ceremony](#).

Jan. 13, 6-8 p.m. **Gaston County Museum**, [Fireside History Series](#): Long Rifles with Dawn King. Free; reservations required.

Jan. 26, 7-8 p.m. **Wake County Historical Society**, [Wake County at War: Wake County Veterans in Twentieth-Century Conflicts](#). Tickets: \$5 members/\$10 non-members.

Feb. 7, 1-2 p.m. **Murfreesboro Historical Association & Hertford County African American History Coalition**, [Hannah Crafts & George Reynolds Historical Markers Reception](#).

Feb. 10, 6-8 p.m. **Gaston County Museum**: [Fireside History Series](#): The Life of James Rhyne with Jason Luker. Free; reservations required.

Feb. 16, 7-8 p.m. **Wake County Historical Society**, Author Rob Christensen will discuss his book, *Southern News, Southern Politics: How a Newspaper Defined a State for a Century*. Tickets: \$5 members/\$10 non-members.

Feb. 21, save the date! **Historical Society of Topsail Island** will create "Colonial Topsail" with Brunswick Stew, a tea party, Virginia Reel, Revolutionary-era clothing, and so much more!

March 10, 6-8 p.m. **Gaston County Museum**, [Fireside History Series](#): Women's Suffrage with Jane Kaylor. Free; reservations required.

March 16, 7-8 p.m. **Wake County Historical Society**, [Wake 250: Artifacts from Archaeological Digs in Rolesville](#), presented by Michael Bailey. Tickets: \$5 members/\$10 non-members.

DNCR NEWS

[Chimney Rock State Park reopened](#) to visitors in June for the first time since Hurricane Helene.

N.C. State Historic Preservation Office finalized a new [statewide historic preservation plan for 2025-2034](#). The plan offers a comprehensive approach for citizens, government agencies, and organizations to inform and guide efforts to protect and revitalize North Carolina's historic places.

Charlotte Hawkins Brown Museum in Sedalia received a new historical highway [marker commemorating the North Carolina Federation of Colored Women's Clubs](#) with an August 2nd ceremony at the Palmer Memorial Institute. In 1909, Dr. Brown, Minnie S. Pearson, Cottie Dancy Moore, Maggie Jones, and Julia M. Warren founded the N.C. Federation of Negro Women Clubs as a branch of the National Association of Colored Women's Clubs. The group's motto, "Lifting as we climb," conveys the philosophy that inspired generations of women to improve their communities.

[Tryon Palace began work on a sculpture park](#) dedicated to New Bern's Black artisans, thanks to a private donation of land and grant funding from the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation.



[Outer Banks History Center reopened](#) September 30 after renovations which began in November 2024. Above: Dr. Darin Waters, DNCR Deputy Secretary of Archives & History, stands with State Archives staff under a portrait of [David Stick, founder of the Outer Banks History Center](#).

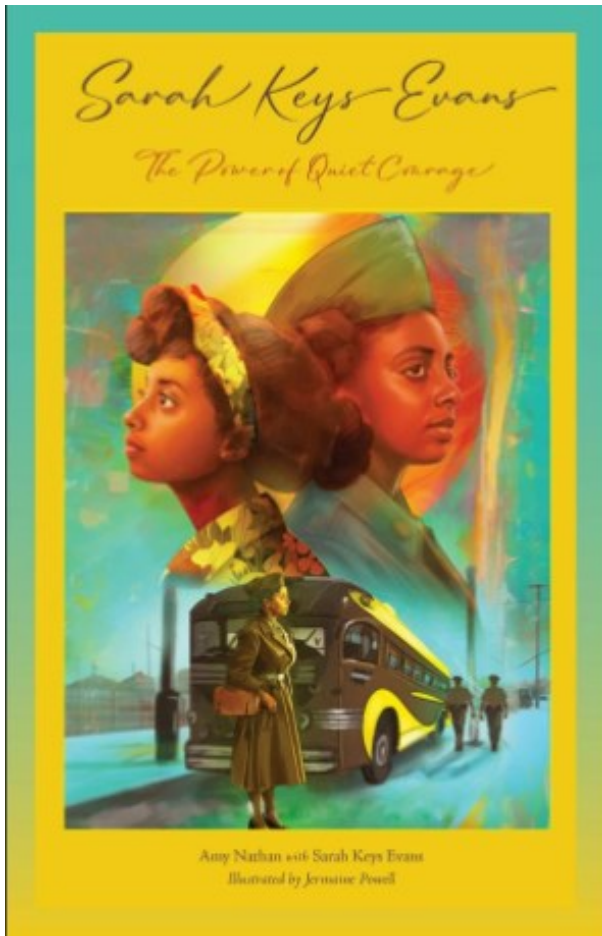
America 250 Opportunities



A new traveling exhibit is available. Preview [People of Colonial North Carolina](#) to learn more.

- Want to showcase your history work? "**Profiles in Public History**" highlights those who preserve, interpret, and share North Carolina's history and culture. Fill out the [Profiles in Public History form](#) for a chance to contribute!
- The Buncombe County Committee's initiative, **Beyond the Liberty Tree**, provides all counties the opportunity to apply for a Liberty Tree planting and designation with an artist-produced commemorative plaque. [Nominate a public space in your county for a landmark tree planting](#). **Deadline: Jan. 15.**
- A new movie, "[The American Constitution](#)" is on a nationwide screening tour and your organization can host an event! The film tells the origin story of the Constitution and focuses on the three-and-a-half-month convention in 1787. Actors dramatize scripts created from primary sources, and 13 leading Constitution scholars help interpret events. Creators will help support your live event in advance of the film's appearance on PBS stations in fall 2026.
- [Virtual Book Club](#) meets every other month to chat about a work of North Carolina-based historical fiction. Join in with other history and book lovers across the state to discuss the stories. Meetings are 6 p.m. on Microsoft Teams.
- Contribute a **blog post**. Do you have some knowledge on North Carolina traditions, people, or places? Want to share Revolutionary N.C. history? [Review blog submission guidelines](#) and submit text and images to Chelsea Kiefer, chelsea.kiefer@dncr.nc.gov.
- [Voices of North Carolina](#): share stories of family or community legacies. If you wish to respond to more than one prompt, please submit a unique video for each one, if possible. If you are unable to share a video, you can [submit a written story here](#).

DNCR NEWS



The children's book, "[Sarah Keys Evans: The Power of Quiet Courage](#)," tells the story of a young woman whose brave stand against racial injustice helped make history. Published by the **N.C. Office of Archives and History**, the book introduces young readers to an important aspect of the 1950s Civil Rights Movement.

[Cape Fear Scottish Immigration Memorial](#) was unveiled in November at the **Brunswick Town/Fort Anderson Historic Site** in Winnabow.

PBS produced a [video about the forensic investigation of 250-year-old bullet holes](#) at the **House in the Horseshoe Historic Site**. Beginning December 6, the site will close for approximately a year during the construction of a new visitors center, which will include staff offices and exhibit space.

Upcoming Events

- 12/5, 5:30-8 p.m., **Historic Halifax, Yuletide by Candlelight**. The festivities begin with a ribbon cutting for the [William R. Davie House restoration](#), followed by a reception (free). A ticketed [candle and lantern-lit tour](#) of historic homes and public buildings, decorated for the season, will follow. Tickets: \$20.
- 12/5, 5:30-9 p.m. **Duke Homestead, Christmas by Candlelight**. Enjoy live music, dancing, singing, holiday cookies, and history with a candlelit tour. Costumed interpreters will bring the Duke family home to life as it might have been for Christmas in 1870. Tickets: \$8.
- 12/6, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. **Museum of the Albemarle, Holiday Open House: A Colonial Christmas**.
- 12/6, 4:30 p.m. **Historic Stagville, Jonkonnu**. Durham youth, dancers, and musicians will perform to honor Jonkonnu, an African diaspora masquerade with cultural connections to West Africa and the Caribbean.
- 12/6, 6-9 p.m., **Alamance Battleground, Christmas in Carolina**, a festive celebration highlighting local traditions and culture. Adults \$5; children, seniors, military \$2.
- 12/7 1-4 p.m. **Somerset Place, 35th Christmas Open House**. Explore the plantation on a self-guided tour with staff members and volunteers available for questions. A costumed doctor from the mid-19th century will be on hand to discuss antebellum medicine in the plantation hospital.
- 12/11, 5:30 p.m. **State Capitol, State Tree Lighting & Holiday Open House**. Join Governor Josh Stein for the annual tree-lighting tradition! The festivities begin on Capitol Square with luminaries and holiday music, with the lighting at 6:15. The lit tree will be visible the length of Fayetteville Street and Santa plans to make an appearance!
- 1/22, noon-1 p.m. **State Archives of North Carolina, 2026: New Year, New Collections**. Learn highlights of newly available collections from staff based Raleigh and the Outer Banks and Asheville branches. Topics will include new records about Black Mountain College, additions to the oral history and photograph collections, new military correspondence, and ways to access these records online.

FREE WEBINARS & CONFERENCES

Dec. 3, 1 p.m. [When Experts Edit: Improving Wikipedia's Coverage of U.S. History](#) presented by Wiki Edu. When history practitioners are empowered to bring their collections and expertise to the world's go-to encyclopedia, users benefit.

Dec. 3, 2 p.m. [Beyond Survival: Building a Sustainable Nonprofit Model](#) presented by GrantStation. Move your organization from reactive to strategic. The session will share a roadmap for creating stability, strengthening leadership, and aligning mission with long-term goals.

Dec. 4, noon-1 p.m. [How a Conservator Looks at Works on Paper](#) presented by the Conservation Center for Art & Historic Artifacts. Nancy Ash, former Senior Conservator of Works of Art on Paper at the Philadelphia Museum of Art and current CCAHA board member, will share close looking skills for works on paper. Learn to describe details and to consider the context for the artist's choice of materials and techniques.

Dec. 4, 3-4 p.m. [Don't Touch the Thermostat!: Temperature and Climate Control for Historic Buildings and Collections](#) presented by the New England Museum Association. Learn how opportunities for reduced energy consumption must be balanced with building preservation and protection of historic collections materials.

Dec. 8, 6-7 p.m. [Record Lifecycle](#) presented by Backlog. Learn about decisions to determine whether records end up in archives or not. The session will focus on the four-phase approach of record creation, active use, semi-active use, and final disposition.

Dec. 11, 10-11 a.m. [Working With State's Call and Welcome Centers](#) presented by Visit NC. Members from the Department of Commerce's Visitor Services will discuss ways partners can work with the state's Call Center and Welcome Centers. Both services are on the front lines with travelers and can be key promoters for local assets.

Dec. 10-11, 1-3 p.m. [Web Archiving Practices for Libraries and Archives](#) presented by DPOE-N. This session will cover collection development, scop-

ing, ethics, quality assurance, accessioning, arrangement and description, and preservation. It will also discuss different tools used for web archiving including: Internet Archive, Archive-It, and WebRecorder; and how these tools can work in conjunction. **RSVP by Dec. 5.**

Dec. 11 noon-1 p.m. [Introducing Gemini 3.0 Support in FromThePage](#). Google just released a Gemini 3.0, A.I. that is very good at handwritten text recognition and likely a game changer for historical document transcription. Learn more about FromThePage's newly built integration and what the results are showing so far .

Dec. 11, 3-4 p.m. [Stronger Together](#) presented by the Texas Historical Commission. Collaboration with communities is key, but museums, historical sites, and other cultural heritage stewards face real challenges in finding the time and resources to develop those relationships. Learn to develop communities of practice to help break down silos, pool resources, and build resilience.

Conferences

Dec. 4-6, **N.C. Maritime History Council's 35th Annual Conference** at [Fort Fisher State Historic Site](#), "Commerce, Labor, and War in the Carolinas." Soldiers, enslaved laborers, and conscripted Lumbee Indians built the fortification to guard New Inlet and protect blockade runners bringing supplies to the Confederacy. The conference venue also serves as the home of the NC Underwater Archaeology Branch,

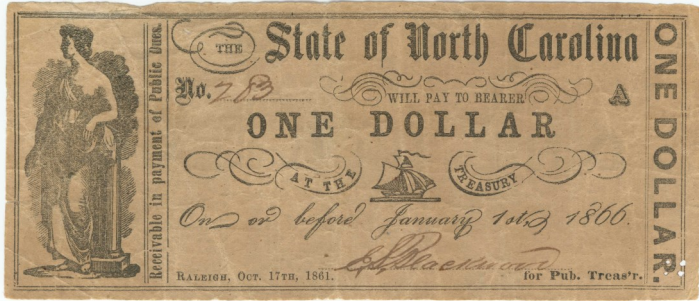
Feb. 16-18, **Small Museum Association, 42nd Annual Conference**, York P.A.

March 27-28, **N.C. Association of Historians Conference**, Elizabeth City State University. [Call for papers deadline: Jan. 31.](#)

March 27-28, **N.C. Genealogical Society virtual conference.**

April 11-13, **N.C. Museums Council, Hidden Treasures: The Unseen Work & Opportunities Within Museums.** Greenville.

GRANTS



Tryon Palace collection, [TP.1986.039.001](#)

National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) [Rediscovering Our Revolutionary Tradition](#) supports projects to preserve and improve access to primary sources documenting the American Revolution, the expansion of the nation, and the history of government at the federal, state, or local level. Eligible materials may include archival records and artistic works. Institutions may apply for up to \$350,000 over two years; consortiums may apply for up to \$750,000 over three years. **Deadline: Jan. 15.**

NEH [National Digital Newspaper Program](#) provides funds to digitize prominent newspapers across the US to create a searchable database. **Deadline: Jan. 15.**

Society of American Archivists Foundation [Catalyst Grant Program](#) provides funding to support complex archival projects. Awards range from \$500 to \$5,000. Eligible expenses include internships, supplies, and capital projects. **Deadline: Jan. 31.**

Country School Association [Preservation Grant](#) funds up to \$1,000 for the preservation of one or two-room buildings once used as country schools. [Innovative Instruction grant](#) offers start-up support, up to \$1,500, for the delivery of inventive PreK-12 and/or adult learning programs. **Deadlines: Jan. 31.**

Federation of N.C. Historical Societies. [Mini Grants](#) fund up to \$1,500 for member projects. **Deadline: Jan. 31.**

National Railway Historical Society [Heritage Grants](#) provide up to \$5,000 to preserve equipment, buildings, or related archives. **Deadline: Jan. 31.**

Foundation for Advancement in Conservation [Outreach Grants](#) fund projects and activities that improve public understanding of conservation and sup-

port under-resourced institutions in meeting their collection care needs. **Deadline: Feb. 15.**

North Caroliniana Society [Archie K. Davis Fellowships](#) fund travel/subsistence expenses for North Carolina research \$4,000-\$5,000. **Deadline: March 1.**

N.C. Arts Council [Project Support Grants](#) help organizations that produce or present specific arts programs with a strong emphasis on engaging audiences and participants of all ages. \$5,00-\$15,000. **Deadline: March 2.**

Rolling

Cannon Foundation [quarterly grants](#) fund capital improvements or equipment projects for organizations providing historic or environmental preservation services in North Carolina.

T-Mobile [Hometown Grants](#) fund up to \$50,000 for community projects in towns with populations under 50,000.

North Carolina Preservation Consortium and the North Carolina Museums Council: [Disaster relief grants](#) to assist collecting institutions affected by disasters. Applicants must be institutional members of NCPC or NCMC and must be within the declared North Carolina disaster areas as defined by FEMA or the Governor of N.C.

The Dudley Flood Center is offering [Youth-Led Mini Grants](#) (up to \$500) on a rolling basis to support youth-driven projects that promote history, civic engagement, and social justice within their communities. These grants encourage young leaders to develop and implement projects that address local issues through a historical lens, grounded in the principles of equity and community empowerment. The program is a nod to the "History Counts" award, aiming to foster youth leadership, democratic participation, and social justice efforts across North Carolina.

The Federation of N.C. Historical Societies offers no-interest loans to members of up to \$15,000 for projects including publications and special programs.

HISTORY HELP

Board Huddle

What is a Give/Get Policy?

Excerpts from [Joan Garry Consulting's blog](#)

A give/get policy requires each board member to make a contribution (hence, “give”) and to seek donors and sponsors (or “get”). The board votes to determine the total amount of money, which influences the amount given and the amount raised.

It is vital that board members understand that one of their core responsibilities is to grow the financial resources for the work you all care so much about. They must understand that they are ambassadors who are in the business of inviting people to learn and do more for the mission. A policy, made clear to all board prospects, sends a critical message that development work is a core responsibility. Far too often, we soft pedal this responsibility out of fear that the prospect will say no. Note: Let them say no because they are not right for you.

[Museum Board Yearly Self-Evaluation Checklist](#)

Boards are the governing body of their institutions. This checklist will help you evaluate your board so you can keep it functioning at a level that supports your mission.

More Resources to Explore

Ideas to Resist Attempts to Censor History and Museums

- Issue [statements opposing history censorship](#).
- Sign a petition. A group of Black lawyers who oppose the executive order targeting the Smithsonian created a [petition](#) demanding that the institution remain independent and free of political interference. It also calls for resistance to history censorship.
- Keep sharing evidence of [the truths of slavery](#).
- Be confident that the public rejects censorship efforts imposed upon the National Park Service. *The Guardian* has reviewed nearly 500 comments submitted by the public at NPS sites and found that [the public is not calling for changes](#) to interpretation. Rather, many comments ask for more history and praise park staff.

National Constitution Center

[America at 250 Civic Toolkit](#)



Monticello

In conjunction with More Perfect, the [Declaration Book Club](#)—a free civic engagement resource—has launched. Post the guide as a resource or use it to host your own discussions. Contact Steve Light to discuss partnership opportunities: slight@monticello.org.

National Trust for Historic Preservation

Tips to advocate for federal history funding:

- [Grassroots Advocacy](#)
- [Why Site Visits for Elected Officials Matter—5 Tips on How to Make Them Count](#)
- [5 for 5: Tips for Building and Joining an Advocacy Coalition](#)
- [5 Strategies for Writing an Op-ed or Letter to the Editor for Preservation](#)
- [5 Tips for Nonprofit Lobbying and Avoiding Political Campaign Intervention](#)
- [5 Tips on Communicating With Elected Officials](#)

Gaylord Archival

- **Need supplies?** Take advantage of a [special promotion](#) by using code TOGETHER25 to save 20% on your next order through December!
- [Guide to Preserving Handwritten Letters](#)
- Recorded webinar, [Is that a Typo?! Tips & Tricks for Proofreading Your Exhibit Copy](#)

SmallCorp

1.5-minute video on [tips for displaying textiles with magnetic and Velcro slats](#) (Scroll down to find.)

Engaging Places

- [Navigating Community Engagement in Museums in a Charged Political Climate](#)
- [Peel-and-Replace Signage: A Durable and Flexible Alternative for Outdoor Interpretation](#)

American Alliance of Museums

[Achieving Active Collections: The Vermont Historical Society helping volunteer organizations](#)

HISTORY HELP

Logic Models to Advance Projects

by R&L Consulting

In today's hyper-competitive funding landscape, it's crucial that nonprofits provide significant value and demonstrate impact. Developing a logic model is a practical way to show how an upcoming exhibition, program, or other initiative advances the organization's mission in a measurable way. "A logic model is a one-page blueprint that visually maps out how resources, activities, and outputs all lead to intended outcomes—i.e. impact," says [R&L Evaluation & Research Consultant Amy Encinger, Ph.D.](#)

To build a logic model, begin with the assumptions and external factors that shape your work—the community needs, trends, or conditions that make the project necessary. Next, identify your inputs: staff, volunteers, facilities, funding. Then come the activities, such as mounting an exhibition or launching a program. These produce the outputs—the direct results of the activities, like the number of workshops offered or participants served. Finally, define the outcomes: the changes in knowledge, attitudes, skills, or behaviors that occur for participants over time. These may be short- or long-term. By plotting each element in sequence, a logic model distills how a project advances your mission—and packages the story into one clear, compelling page. Find free templates at wordlayouts.com/gl-type/charts/logic-models/ and templatelab.com/logic-model/#google_vignette, or for an in-depth review of the process, consult this [helpful resource from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation](#).

Four benefits a well-crafted logic model can deliver:

1. Benefit: **Balance Capacity with Activities.**

"The process of building the model helps organizations accurately assess capacity—whether it's funding, space, or personnel," Encinger says. You can quickly see how inputs and outputs compare—and if they're balanced. "For example, is it really realistic for two staffers to carry out a full academic year of daily after-school programming for 100 children? One side of that equation needs adjustment—and that might mean adding part-time staff or volunteers to the inputs column to ensure the program: 1) maintains high quality, and 2) maximizes capacity. The logic model helps you correctly allocate the resources you have or more effectively scope the activities."

2. Benefit: **Dig Deeper into Impact.**

A logic model's outcomes point the way to evaluation opportunities. For example, if one of your program's activities was to digitize an archive, you can evaluate in what way having access to the archive has changed public understanding of the collection's value. Or if your program provides discounted admissions to first responder families, you might track attendance trends over time and implement pre- and post-visit surveys to assess changes in visitor attitudes. That kind of data is invaluable—not only is your organization telling a compelling story, but you also have evidence to back it up.

3. Benefit: **Demonstrate Accountability.**

"Having a logic model shows that your organization is not only passionate, but also strategic," Encinger says. "This can inspire confidence among donors, grant-makers, stakeholders, and even skeptics. As grants get more competitive, funders want to see clear evidence that your organization did what it said it was going to do. Having a logic model is a good way to ensure you are collecting that evidence and measuring impact."

4. Benefit: **Respond to Changes.**

Economic, social, and environmental factors can shift quickly. "Even when you have a roadmap, you're still going to experience detours," Encinger says. "Say there's a sudden cut in funding, and you're no longer able to run certain exhibitions or programs. Then you can pivot your logic model. The activities or outputs may change, but at the end of the day, the outcomes are going to stay the same because your mission has not changed."

Learn more about how R&L Consulting, an Asheville-based company, [used a logic model to help the High Point Museum plan a new exhibition](#).

MEMBERS

[*AFRICAN AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION OF LENOIR COUNTY](#)

[*AFRO-AMERICAN HISTORICAL & GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF THE SANDHILLS](#)

[*AFRICAN AMERICAN HERITAGE FOUNDATION OF SOUTHEASTERN N.C.](#)

[*AFRO-AMERICAN HISTORICAL & GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF THE TRIANGLE](#)

[*ALAMANCE COMMUNITY COLLEGE](#)

[*ALLEGHANY HISTORICAL - GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY](#)

[*ALLIANCE FOR HISTORIC HILLSBOROUGH](#)

[*ALSTON HOUSE ASSOCIATION](#)

[*APPALACHIAN BARN ALLIANCE](#)

[*ANSON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, WADESBORO](#)

[*ASB HISTORY](#)

[*ASHEVILLE MUSEUM OF HISTORY](#)

[*BEAUFORT HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION](#)

[*BEECH MOUNTAIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY](#)

[*BLADENBORO HISTORICAL SOCIETY](#)

[*BLOWING ROCK HISTORICAL SOCIETY](#)

[*BRUNSWICK COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY](#)

[BURWELL SCHOOL HISTORIC SITE, HILLSBOROUGH](#)

[*CALDWELL HERITAGE MUSEUM](#)

[*CAMP BUTNER SOCIETY](#)

[*CAPE FEAR MUSEUM OF HISTORY AND SCIENCE, WILMINGTON](#)

[*CARTERET COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY](#)

[*CASWELL COUNTY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION](#)

[*CATAWBA COUNTY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION, NEWTON](#)

[*CHAPEL HILL HISTORICAL SOCIETY](#)

[*CHARLOTTE MECKLENBURG LIBRARY CAROLINA ROOM](#)

[*CHARLOTTE MUSEUM OF HISTORY](#)

[*CHATHAM COUNTY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION](#)

[*CHICAMACOMICO HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION](#)

[*CHRISTIAN POUND BURIAL SOCIETY, NEW BERN](#)

[*CITY OF RALEIGH MUSEUM](#)

[*COUNTRY DOCTOR MUSEUM](#)

[*COWAN MUSEUM OF HISTORY AND SCIENCE](#)

[*CULTIVATOR, INC.](#)

[*CURRITUCK COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY](#)

[*DAVIE COUNTY HISTORICAL & GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY](#)

[*DURHAM COUNTY LIBRARY](#)

[DURHAM PARKS FOUNDATION](#)

[*EASTERN CABARRUS HISTORICAL SOCIETY](#)

[*ERWIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY](#)

[*FEDERAL POINT HISTORIC PRESERVATION SOCIETY](#)

[*FRIENDS OF THE ARCHIVES](#)

[*FRIENDS OF THE OUTER BANKS HISTORY CENTER](#)

[*FRIENDS OF THE PAGE-WALKER HOTEL, CARY](#)

[*FUQUAY-VARINA MUSEUMS](#)

[*GARNER AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY](#)

[*GASTON COUNTY MUSEUM](#)

[*GATES COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY](#)

[*GRAHAM COUNTY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION](#)

[*GRANVILLE COUNTY MUSEUM](#)

[*GREENSBORO HISTORY MUSEUM](#)

[*HEART OF DEEP RIVER HISTORICAL SOCIETY](#)

[*HICKORY LANDMARKS SOCIETY](#)

[*HIGH POINT HISTORICAL SOCIETY](#)

[*HISTORIC BETHANIA](#)

[*HISTORIC BURKE FOUNDATION, INC.](#)

[*HISTORIC CABARRUS ASSOCIATION](#)

[*HISTORIC FLAT ROCK, INC.](#)

[*HISTORIC HOPE FOUNDATION WINDSOR](#)

[*HISTORIC PORT OF WASHINGTON PROJECT, INC.](#)

[*HISTORIC RICHMOND HILL LAW SCHOOL, BOONVILLE](#)

[HISTORIC SALUDA COMMITTEE](#)

[*HISTORIC TURNER HOUSE, RALEIGH](#)

[*HISTORIC YATES MILL COUNTY PARK, RALEIGH](#)

[*HISTORICAL RECOVERY ASSOCIATION OF N.C.](#)

[*HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF N.C.](#)

[*HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF TOPSAIL ISLAND](#)

[*HYDE COUNTY HISTORICAL & GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY](#)

[*IREDELL COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY](#)

[IREDELL MUSEUMS](#)

[*JOHNSTON COUNTY HERITAGE CENTER](#)

[*JONES COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY](#)

[*KINGS MOUNTAIN HISTORICAL MUSEUM FOUNDATION](#)

[*LAWNDALE HISTORICAL SOCIETY](#)

[*LEE COUNTY LIBRARIES](#)

[*LEWISVILLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY](#)

[*LINCOLN COUNTY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION](#)

[*LOWER CAPE FEAR HISTORICAL SOCIETY, WILMINGTON](#)

Federation Bulletin

MEMBER LINKS

[*MACON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY](#)

[*MARS HILL UNIVERSITY, LISTON B. RAMSEY CENTER](#)

[MARTIN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY](#)

[*MARVIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY](#)

[McDOWELL COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY](#)

[MEBANE HISTORICAL SOCIETY & MUSEUM](#)

[MECKLENBURG HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION](#)

[*MILTON RENAISSANCE FOUNDATION MUSEUM & VISITORS CENTER](#)

[*MITCHELL COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY](#)

[*MOORE COUNTY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION](#)

[*MOORESVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY LOCAL HISTORY & ARCHIVES](#)

[*MOUNT AIRY MUSEUM OF REGIONAL HISTORY](#)

[*MOUNTAIN HERITAGE CENTER](#)

[*MURFREESBORO HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION](#)

[*MUSEUM AND ARCHIVES OF ROCKINGHAM COUNTY](#)

[*MUSEUM OF DURHAM HISTORY](#)

[*N.C. ASSOCIATION OF HISTORIANS](#)

[*N.C. GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY](#)

[*N.C. HISTORICAL RECORDS ONLINE](#)

[*NORTH CAROLINA LITERARY & HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION](#)

[*N.C. MILITARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY](#)

[*N.C. MUSEUMS COUNCIL](#)

[*N.C. MUSEUM OF HISTORY](#)

[*N.C. NATIONAL GUARD MUSEUM](#)

[NEW BERN HISTORICAL SOCIETY](#)

[*NORTH CAROLINIANA SOCIETY](#)

[*OCEAN CITY BEACH CITIZENS COUNCIL](#)

[*OLD BRIDGE HISTORICAL SOCIETY, SUNSET BEACH](#)

[*OLD HICKORY COUNCIL, BOYSCOUTS OF AMERICA](#)

[*OLD SALEM MUSEUMS & GARDENS](#)

[*ONslow COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY](#)

[ORANGE COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM](#)

[*ORDER OF THE LONG LEAF PINE SOCIETY](#)

[*OUTER BANKS CONSERVATIONISTS/ ISLAND FARM](#)

[*P.S. JONES AFRICAN-AMERICAN EDUCATION MUSEUM, WASHINGTON](#)

[*PERSON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY](#)

[*PERSON COUNTY MUSEUM OF HISTORY](#)

[*PINE KNOLL SHORES HISTORY COMMITTEE](#)

[*PITT COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY](#)

[*POLK COUNTY HISTORY MUSEUM](#)

[*PREBYTERIAN HERITAGE CENTER, MONTREAT](#)

[PRESERVATION GREENSBORO](#)

[*PRESERVATION NC](#)

[*PRESERVATION ZEBULON](#)

[*RALEIGH HISTORIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION](#)

[ROWAN PUBLIC LIBRARY EDITH CLARK HISTORY ROOM](#)

[*SAMPSON COUNTY HISTORY MUSEUM](#)

[*SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION, RALEIGH CHAPTER](#)

[*SOUTHPORT HISTORICAL SOCIETY](#)

[*SPRING HOPE MUSEUM](#)

[*SPRINGFIELD MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION, HIGH POINT](#)

[*STANLY COUNTY MUSEUM](#)

[*SURRY COMMUNITY COLLEGE](#)

[*SWANNANOA VALLEY MUSEUM & HISTORY CENTER](#)

[*SWANSBORO HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION](#)

[*TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY](#)

[*UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA PEMBROKE](#)

[*WACHOVIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY](#)

[*WAKE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY](#)

[*WALDENSIAN HERITAGE MUSEUM, VALDESE](#)

[*WALKERTOWN AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY](#)

[*WARREN COUNTY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION](#)

[*WASHINGTON WATERFRONT UNDERGROUND RAILROAD MUSEUM](#)

[*WAYNE COUNTY MUSEUM](#)

[*WENDELL HISTORICAL SOCIETY](#)

[*WRIGHTSVILLE BEACH MUSEUM](#)

* denotes member whose dues payments have helped sustain this organization in 2025