



BULLETIN

June 2025

Volume 45, no. 6

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 where we review the last six months of Federation News.

Inside this issue:

<i>Federation News</i>	3
<i>Member News</i>	4
<i>DNCR News</i>	7
<i>Free Webinars</i>	9
<i>Conferences & More</i>	10
<i>Grants</i>	11
<i>History Help</i>	12
<i>Members</i>	14

Federation Teacher of the Year!



From left to right: Bland Simpson, President of the North Caroliniana Society; Emily Lemus; Darin Waters, DNCR Deputy Secretary for Archives & History.

The Federation sponsors the NHD state Teacher of the Year award for a high school teacher. The 2025 award went to Emily Lemus of Edge Academy of Health Sciences in Rocky Mount. Lemus coached three students to the state contest last year, and at this year's state contest, one of her students won the special prize for women's history. Lemus grew up in Nash County, has a BA in history from N.C. State University and an MA in history and political science from East Carolina University. The Federation is honored to recognize her achievements!

Welcome New Members!

We are pleased to have added the following new organizations to the Federation's network so far in 2025.

- [Appalachian Barn Alliance](#)
- [Lee County Libraries](#)
- [Macon County Historical Society](#)
- [Marvin Historical Society](#)
- [Ocean City Beach Citizens Council](#)
- [Sons of the American Revolution, Raleigh Chapter](#)

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**
- ◇ Statewide recognition through the **Newsome Award**
- ◇ Contributions to N.C.'s **National History Day**
- ◇ **Leadership** opportunities to nurture a statewide network of history organizations

FEDERATION NEWS

In January 2025, the *Bulletin* transitioned from a large, quarterly PDF to a monthly e-newsletter, distributed via MailChimp. This change saves staff time on layout 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, summarizing news of the previous six months. This is one of those special editions. To see *Bulletins* from the past 6 months, search "Bulletin" in your inbox to find the MailChimp emails, or access the [January Bulletin in the North Carolina Digital Collections](#). If you have experienced problems receiving newsletters via MailChimp, let us know. Your editors will provide the e-newsletters as PDF files and email you directly upon request.

Mini-Grant Recipients



Congratulations to this year's mini-grant recipients, **Heart of Deep River Historical Society** and **Lower Cape Fear Historical Society's Latimer House**!

Heart of Deep River Historical Society received \$1,500 to support printing and mounting for its upcoming exhibition commemorating North Carolina coal mining and mining accidents. Three programs showcased this history in April and May. **Lower Cape Fear Historical Society** received \$1,472 to develop and implement a resource library database to create a stronger digital presence for accessibility and preservation. This project will transform the Society's website into a user-friendly platform where visitors can explore and engage with primary source materials and other resources.

Traveling Archivist Program works with Federation Members!



The [Traveling Archivist Program](#) (TAP) recently visited Oxford, Granville County, to discuss a work plan to serve library and museum collection needs. North Carolina Room Librarian, Mark Pace (pictured above with Federation Coordinator Adrienne Berney), is also on the board of the **Granville County Museum** and hopes to coordinate local history resources across the two institutions. The TAP team looks forward to working with both collections this summer. Additional Federation members will also receive TAP services in 2025, including **Beaufort Historical Association**, **Moore County Historical Association**, and the **Spring Hope Museum**.

Submit your organization's events and news to Danielle Shirilla at dani.shirilla@dn-cr.nc.gov to be featured in the next *Bulletin*!

MEMBER NEWS



New PBS documentary, [“The Underground Railroad: Paths and Places of Refuge,”](#) is now available and features Leesa Jones, Director of the **Washington Waterfront Underground Railroad Museum** and Federation Advisory Board Chair. See minute 11 for the segment featuring Jones.

Greensboro History Museum

Darley Newman, producer of the PBS series *Travels With Darley*, recently visited the museum to view some of the collection’s Revolutionary treasures, including Dolley Madison’s travel trunk and dress and George Washington’s spurs. Museum director Carol Ghiorso Hart discussed how Madison, a Guilford County native, may have used salvaged red velvet curtains from the White House for the dress. The [“North Carolina Revolutionary Road Trip”](#) episode features Ghiorso Hart at minute 4. Find a fuller story about the dress [here](#).

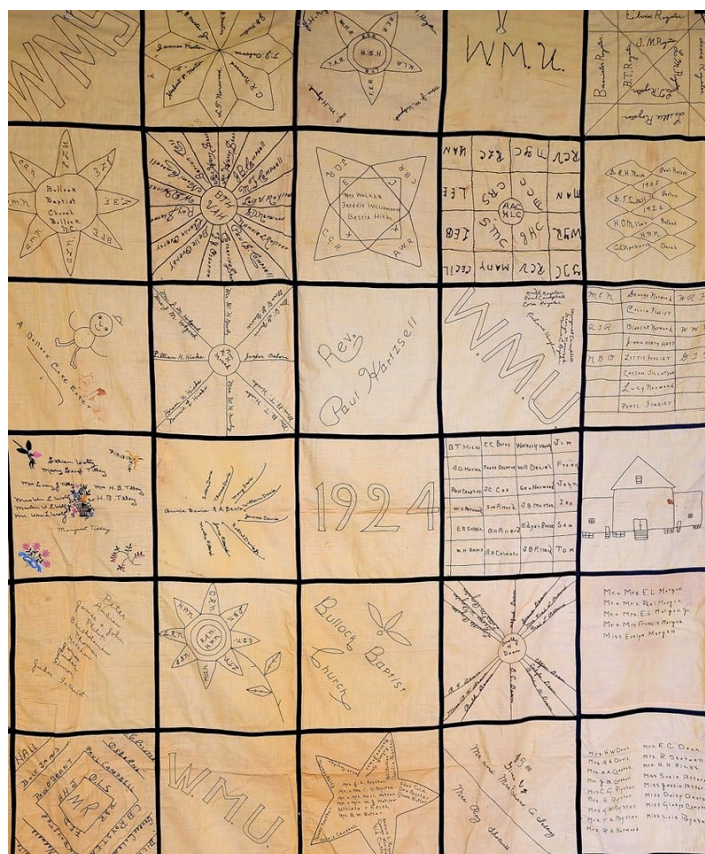
Swannanoa Valley Museum is planning a new exhibit, *Strength & Community: Swannanoa Valley Strong* to share stories of resilience after Hurricane Helene. Staff are actively collecting community stories about locals and volunteers who helped the Black Mountain area in the storm’s aftermath to celebrate and record their heroic efforts for the future. The Museum will contribute collected materials to Buncombe County Libraries’ [Come Hell or Highwater](#) community memory project. This new digital collection currently includes [over 700 crowd-sourced documents and images](#), from official emergency management reports, to cell phone photos, to creative written reflections on the storm, survival, and recovery. The goal of the project is to offer pathways for community reflection, healing, and long-term development of community memory.

Historic Hope Foundation

The flax is now blooming in the Fiber & Dye Garden. Used to produce linen, the seeds also provide linseed oil and food for animals, particularly cattle. One acre of flax could provide enough linen for family of four’s clothing, linens, and towels for one year. Flax thrives in cool, damp weather and Historic Hope’s crop has struggled this spring from earlier hot and dry conditions. With recent low temperatures and rain, it has perked up and is in full bloom. It will be harvested around the Fourth of July and then the steps of processing it into linen will begin.



Granville County Museum recently acquired a new quilt full of detail and local history. Handmade with care by the Women's Missionary Union (W.M.U.) of Bullock Baptist Church in 1924, this quilt is a prime example of community and creativity preserved over the years. It even serves as a record of the handwriting of the individuals whose names are carefully sewn into the fabric! A one-of-a-kind record of the families and individual members of W.M.U. and the congregation.



MEMBER NEWS

Asheville Museum of History

- June 5, 6-7 p.m. [History Hour: Asheville's Tuberculosis Tourism Era with David O. Freedman](#). Asheville's rapid growth and wealth at the turn of the 20th century stemmed from its reputation as a healthy environment. The lucrative Tuberculosis Sanitarium Era was followed by vigorous efforts to promote Asheville as a healthy place for healthy people. Tickets: Free for members/\$10 non-members.
- June 10, 7 p.m. [Conversations Series](#) Part III: When the deadly terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center occurred on September 11, 2001, the Rev. Dr. Dan Matthews was an eyewitness to the horror from his office at Trinity Church on Wall Street. Immediately following the attacks, he transformed St. Paul's Chapel into a place of respite and refuge for rescue and recovery workers, where an army of volunteers provided for their physical and spiritual needs 24 hours a day. Queen Elizabeth II bestowed the Order of the British Empire on Dan for his work. Having grown up in Canton, Dan is now a Director of the Board of Friends of the Smokies. Local author Terry Roberts will lead conversation. Tickets: \$30.
- June 26, 7 p.m. [Conversations Series](#) Part IV: Becky Anderson with special guest Jack Cecil. In 1993, Anderson, a leader in industrial and economic development in Western N.C. developed her idea of a craft-based economy to bring about civic change and create economic opportunity in rural communities. Becky founded HandMade in America, a craft-focused non-profit organization which had a significant impact on many small communities and individuals and gained national and worldwide acclaim. Jack Cecil, former Chair of HandMade in America and a longtime friend, will lead conversation. Tickets: \$30.

June 5, 6 p.m. **Gaston County Museum**, [The Artistic Vision of Dr. John T. Biggers](#). Kenlontae Turner, Curator of Collections at Hampton University Museum, presents "The Artistic Vision of Dr. John T. Biggers." This special lecture explores the life, work, and legacy of Dr. Biggers — from his early education in Gastonia to his rise as a nationally acclaimed artist,

mentor, and storyteller. Turner will guide attendees to decode Dr. Biggers' visual language by examining select works from both the Hampton University Museum and the Gaston County Museum's permanent collections. Free.

City of Raleigh Museum (free events)

- June 8, 2-3 p.m. Professor Craig Friend will discuss [Lunsford Lane's return to Raleigh in 1866](#), based on his new book, *Becoming Lunsford Lane, The Lives of an American Aeneas*.
- June 13, 7-8, [After Emancipation: North Carolina Education, Past, Present, and Future](#). Dr. Lesa Redmond and Representative Nasif Majeed will discuss Historically Black Colleges and Universities.
- June 19, 2-3 p.m. Torrey Dixon will discuss the legal implications of emancipation in [Emancipation to Freedom](#). Dixon is the Vice Chair of the City of Raleigh Human Relations Commission and a Special Deputy Attorney General who is active in furthering Civil Rights legislation.
- June 26, noon-1. [Lunchbox Lecture](#). Erin Morton Pugh and Tania Tully from the City of Raleigh's Historic Preservation Unit. They have recently completed a project to learn about historic places important to the city's LGBTQIA+ communities.

June 14, noon-6 p.m. **Hertford County African American History Coalition**, 5th [Annual Juneteenth Freedom Day](#), Riverside Park, Murfreesboro. Come on down for food, fun, history, music, and fellowship. Free and open to public. Questions/info 252-319-6168.

Lincoln County Historical Association

- June 20, 6 p.m. Jacob Forney Patriots Gala at the Lincoln Cultural Center. Dress in red, white, and blue attire to honor those who fought and served at the Battle of Ramsour's Mill. [Tickets](#): \$40
- June 21-22, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. [Battle of Ramsour's Mill Living History Weekend](#). Revolutionary War encampment, demonstrations, hearth cooking, battle-field tour, vendors. All activities located in and around the Christian Reinhardt cabin near the Lincolnton High School stadium. Free.

MEMBER NEWS

Garner Area Historical Society

- June 22, 2-5 p.m. [Red Hot Caboose Tea](#). Join us to raise funds for the completion of the Museum's Caboose Restoration project. Lots of fun for all ages with games, raffles, prizes, food, and tea. Hosted by the Historic Banks Bed and Breakfast. [Tickets](#): \$55 members/\$65 non-members.
- July 26, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. [Downtown Bird Bash](#). Workshop & competition entry fees: \$10 members/\$15 non-members. Family friendly event including: youth birdhouse competition with cash prizes. See the entry guidelines and applications [here](#); a Nail-less Birdhouse workshop for children ages 6-8. [Pre-registration](#) required; The Children's Entrepreneurial Market will have 40 vendors (including local youth) set up in and around the Garner Recreation Center. Participate in a "Backyard Bird Scavenger Hunt." Pick up your bird clues and search for hidden "nesting" places in downtown businesses.

Kings Mountain Historical Museum

- June 26, 6:30 p.m. [Author Talk](#). Daniel S. Pierce will be showcasing his book *NASCAR: White Lightning, Red Clay, and Big Bill France*, which details the history of the stock car racing circuit. From its postwar beginnings to dirt tracks of the 1970s Carolina Piedmont, Pierce offers a revealing new perspective of the sport and its unique history to the area. Free.
- July 24, 6:30 p.m. [Author Talk](#). Cathy Pickens will present her book *True Crime Stories of Western North Carolina*, which delves into the fascinating criminal history of moonshine set in western North Carolina. Free.

August 2, 10 a.m.—4 p.m. **Historic Flat Rock, Inc.**, [Historic Home Tour](#) includes four historic homes and St. John in the Wilderness Episcopal Church in the charming village of Flat Rock. All homes and the church are on the National Register of Historic Places, and all were built in the 1800s. Each house has its own distinctive character and history. Van rides to Dunroy Estate, Longwood, Rutledge Cottage and Chanteloup included. The church is self-drive at your leisure. Tickets: \$50 in advance/\$60 day of.

August 9, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. **Waldensian Heritage Museum**, Waldensian Festival. Free. Come celebrate the Glorious Return of the Waldenses to their native valleys of Italy. Spend the day in Valdese visiting the Waldensian attractions, watching bocce tournaments, shopping the street vendors, enjoying the many bands and musicians on the Main Street stage, and finishing the day at the outdoor drama "From This Day Forward". Donations Accepted. For more information call (828) 874-1111.

New Member Materials on DigitalNC!

Alliance for Historic Hillsborough added issues of [The News of Orange County](#).



Lee County Libraries contributed over 500 [photographs](#) that represent a rich history resource. [Patsy Womack](#) (at left) was 100 years old in 1940 when the *Sanford Herald* interviewed her. She recalled many local milestones, as

well as her early life enslaved on the Watson plantation.

Person County Museum of History: [various materials](#) including high school commencement programs, reunion booklets and newspapers, meeting minutes from the Person County Board of Education, economic development reports, local business publications, and photographs from the early 20th century.

DNCR NEWS

Federation Members Receive A250 Local Grants!

- **Alliance for Historic Hillsborough** used their funds to support the Revolutionary War Living History Day in April. The event included a display of original state constitutional documents from the State Archives
- **Mount Airy Museum of Regional History** used their funds to support their “Voices for Freedom: Our 250 Year Journey” event
- **Orange County Historical Museum** used the grant to support their “A Celebration of the Third Provincial Congress: Transforming Visions of Freedom into Reality”
- **The Museum & Archives of Rockingham County** developed an exhibit on Revolutionary Rockingham



DNCR Secretary Cashwell and Filmmaker Ken Burns welcomed 160 middle and high school students to Raleigh in May to learn about Burns’s creative process for *The American Revolution*, a documentary premiering this fall.

Leadership Changes

Governor Josh Stein appointed Pamela Cashwell as Secretary of the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources in January. To learn more about Secretary Cashwell’s career in government and goals for DNCR, read [this article](#) in *Walter* magazine.

Sarah E. Koonts retired from her role as **State Archivist**. Read [her final post](#) on *History For All the People*, the State Archives’ blog.



A highlight of Sarah Koonts’ career was helping preserve N.C.’s copy of the Bill of Rights and share it across the state during its homecoming tour in 2007.

C.J. Roberts began as Director of **North Carolina Division of State History Museums** on May 1. With a career spanning more than 30 years, Roberts has led four history museums, including two museums through their planning, construction, and grand openings. He has been president and CEO of the Tampa Bay History Center since September 2005.



“I look forward to working alongside our dedicated staff and stakeholders to advance our shared mission of preserving, promoting, and celebrating the state’s rich heritage. I am excited to build on the thoughtful planning already underway and to contribute to the museum system’s continued growth and impact.”

DNCR NEWS

N.C. African American Heritage

Commission has released the 2025 [Juneteenth Toolkit!](#) Check out the [Juneteenth Community Calendar](#) highlighting events across the state!

- June 14, 11 a.m. & 1 p.m., The Commission and the North Carolina State Capitol invite visitors to downtown Raleigh for guided tours connecting the history of the Capitol to individuals highlighted in Freedom Park.
- June 21, 2-4 p.m. “**Songs of Liberation**,” A performance by dynamic vocalist and historian Mary D. Williams, honors the ideals of NC Freedom Park. The event will also feature additional DNCR resources to explore Freedom Park themes. Free [Registration](#).

June 7, 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m. **Historic Edenton.** “[Devil to Pay and No Pitch Hot](#),” symposium and guided tours. Tickets \$10.

June 7, 10-11:30, **Vance Birthplace.** Join us for coffee and conversation at our annual history lecture. This year's speaker is Katherine Calhoun Cutshall, of Buncombe County Libraries, who will present “[Charlotte Kerr's Grand Adventure: Kinship, Wealth, and Society in Victorian Southern Appalachia](#).”

June 12, The **North Carolina Symphony** will perform at **Tryon Palace!** Enjoy Beethoven's spectacular Fifth Symphony and Tchaikovsky's romantic Romeo & Juliet Fantasy Overture—plus an overture from pioneering 19th-century composer Louise Farrenc. This concert is free—no tickets are required.

June 14, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. **Charlotte Hawkins Brown Museum's** [Black Heritage Day](#).

June 19, 11 a.m.-3 p.m., **Historic Stagville,** [Emancipation Tours](#), free.

June 28, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. **Fort Dobbs,** [Historic Trades Day](#). This living history event will feature demonstrations of skills and trades necessary to keep any 18th-century household functioning, including shoemaking, carpentry, and blacksmithing.

July 4, 10-11 a.m. **Historic Stagville.** Participatory [Community Reading](#). Commemorate Independence Day with a reading of Frederick Douglass' powerful Fourth of July address, “What to the Slave is the Fourth of July.”

July 4, 1-4 p.m. **Historic Halifax** Independence [Day](#). Living history demonstrations and annual fireworks display at dark on the courthouse lawn.

July 12, 10:30-11:30 a.m. **Somerset Place** presents “[Becoming American: The Life, Service and Sacrifice of Colonel Edward Buncombe](#).” Local historian, Chris Barber, will discuss Colonel Buncombe, of the 5th Regiment of the North Carolina Brigade, service in the Continental Line and the circumstances he encountered throughout a ten-year period (1768 - 1778) with his remarkable life's story.

July 19, 10 a.m.-9 p.m. **N.C. Maritime Museum in Southport**, in collaboration with the City of Southport, will commemorate the [250th anniversary of the burning of Ft. Johnston](#) with a free symposium, living history demonstrations, and more.



Save the Date!
2025 Family History Fair
 Saturday, October 4, 2025
 at the NC Department of Natural & Cultural Resources

October 4, the **State Archives & State Library** will host a **Family History Fair** at DNCR's headquarters building in Raleigh featuring

speakers with African American genealogy expertise. The free event will include a networking hour and refreshments! Registration link coming soon.

[Voices of North Carolina](#) is DNCR's new effort to assemble a collection of meaningful, authentic, and interesting stories of North Carolina today.

[Event Calendar](#): Add your site's America 250 event to our America 250 NC Event Calendar!



FREE WEBINARS

June 5, noon-1:30 p.m. Considering the Revolution. This National Council on Public History event will reflect on years of preparation for commemorations of the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution and its lasting legacies, and will look forward to the future and the roles of public history in the present moment. The online event will consider and explore how Americans are engaging the past right now. [Register.](#)

June 5, 3-4 p.m. New England Museum Association, **Environmental Community of Practice: Sustainable Exhibition Design & Construction Toolkit.** Doug Flandro is an Exhibit Designer at CambridgeSeven, an architectural and exhibition design firm and led development of the [Sustainable Exhibition Design & Construction Toolkit](#), a free resource to sustainable design practices aimed at assisting members of the museum community improve their sustainability goals. [Register.](#)

June 6-8, N.C. Genealogical Society presents, Helen F. M. Leary's "**Proving Parentage with Probate Records: North Carolina Inheritance Laws and Customs**". This recorded webinar will be freely available to the public from midnight Thursday through midnight Sunday. [Register.](#)

June 24, noon-1 p.m. New England Museum Association, **Basic Graphic Design with Small Museums PAG.** Do want to learn about basic graphic design or have tips and tricks you want to share? Join NEMA's Small Museums PAG for a virtual discussion with peers on creatively navigating this difficult, but crucial aspect of museum practice. Come with questions and suggestions of your own to share with the group! [Register.](#)

June 25, noon—1 p.m. New England Museum Association, **Ask the Conservators with Frame Specialist Allison Jackson.** Jackson specializes in the conservation treatment of gilded picture frames. [Register.](#)

June 26, 3-4 p.m. American Alliance of Museums, **Covering Your Assets: Museum Insurance in a Warming World.** Across the globe, the insurance market is being reshaped by the escalating claims resulting from the frequency and severity of wildfires, hurricanes, and flooding. The industry is responding by raising premiums, reducing coverage and, in some areas, withdrawing coverage. What can museums do to prepare for or respond to changes in coverage? What emerging options, from catastrophe bonds to self-insurance, may shape museum insurance in coming decades? [Register.](#)

June 30, 1-2 p.m. Productive Fundraising, **Recalibrate Your Events to Fuel Year-Round Fundraising.** Join fundraising master trainer, Chad Barger, ACFRE, ACNP for a workshop focused on getting the most out of your organization's special events. Chad will review the true purpose and ideal revenue model for events and how to make them even more worthwhile by converting event attendees to annual donors. He will also provide some real world examples of unique fundraising events that have broken the mold and became donor favorites (as well as some tips for virtual/hybrid events). [Register.](#)

June 30, 6-7 p.m. Backlog, **MODS: Metadata Object Description Schema.** Feeling limited by the simplicity of Dublin Core but overwhelmed by more complex metadata schemas? Enter MODS (Metadata Object Description Schema). Presented by archivist Genna Duplisea, M.A., M.S., this session will provide insights into the advantages of MODS and its practical applications. [Register.](#)

July 7, 6-7 p.m. Backlog, **Sanborn Maps.** Originally created for fire insurance purposes, Sanborn maps have become an essential tool for historical and archival research. Archivist Brittany Fox will discuss the maps origins, how they can be used beyond their original intent, and where to find them both online and in person. Participants will also learn how to read and interpret Sanborn maps, with real-world examples illustrating their practical applications in research and preservation. [Register.](#)

CONFERENCES & MORE RESOURCES

July 15-17, **Visitor Studies Association 37th Annual Conference: Effective Advocacy Through Visitor Studies**, virtual. Visitor studies and evaluation have the potential to drive change and support informed decision-making.

Sept. 10-13, **AASLH Annual Conference**, Cincinnati, OH, in partnership with [Ohio Local History Alliance](#), [The American Experiment](#). Join others in the history field to make final preparations to kickoff off the 250th commemoration of the founding of the United States. Registration opens this month. **3 scholarships** covering registration and travel are **available now, with submissions due June 27**.

- [Cinnamon Catlin-Legutko Memorial Scholarship](#)
- [Douglas Evelyn Diversity Scholarship](#)
- [Small Museums Scholarship](#)

Sept. 16-18, **National Trust for Historic Preservation: PastForward**, Milwaukee, WI. Celebrate the power of place and join fellow preservationists to focus on saving, sustaining, and interpreting historic places.

Oct. 5-7, **Preservation North Carolina Annual Conference**, Asheville. We're excited to support our friends in western NC who are working so hard to recover after the devastation of Hurricane Helene last fall. Asheville is home to a rich collection of diverse architecture, incredible natural beauty, and a vibrant arts and culinary scene. Please keep a watch on their website as details are being confirmed.

Oct. 24-25, **N.C. Genealogical Society Fall Conference**, McKimmon Center, Raleigh. Registration [coming soon](#).

Nov. 5-8, **Southern Historical Association Annual Meeting**, St. Pete Beach, FL. The draft program and tour information will be available soon, but the room block and preregistration are open now!

Feb. 16-18, **Small Museum Association 42nd Annual Conference: Climate Change**, York, PA. Explore how museums are dealing with the challenges of climate change, from more extreme weather events to changing community needs. Join peers to discuss the key role small museums can play in educating, engaging, and supporting communities in the face of changing physical and social climates. **Submit a proposal by July 1**.

Preservation Glossary from the Conservation Center for Art & Historic Artifacts



acid migration

Definition

The transfer of acid (having a pH less than 7) from an acidic material to a less acidic material as a result of direct contact. Acid migration might cause objects to weaken over time.

This glossary contains over 400 terms and their definitions as they relate to the conservation and preservation of cultural heritage items. There are terms useful in describing the condition, care, and management of collections, and their definitions are as simple and jargon-free as possible. If you encounter unfamiliar words in your work, this is the place for you. Bookmark this page and refer to it often. Scroll through the list view to browse and view terms of interest. ccaha.org/preservationglossary

Summer Is Coming!

Check out the new Heat Action Plan Toolkit. NC Resiliency Program launched the [Heat Action Plan Toolkit](#) in collaboration with NCDHHS, North Carolina State Climate Office, and Duke University Heat Policy Innovation Hub. The toolkit includes a template for creating a plan for sites and events, public outreach resources, checklists, and protocols that can be customized for heat waves.

Joint Statement Condemning Efforts to Censor History

The American Historical Association (AHA) and the Organization of American Historians (OAH):
“Our professional ethics require that ‘all historians believe in honoring the integrity of the historical record,’” the statement reads. “We expect our nation’s leadership to adhere to this same basic standard and we will continue to monitor, protest, and place in the historical record any censorship of American historical facts.”
Read the full statement [here](#).

GRANTS

National Endowment for Humanities
[Preservation and Access Education and Training](#) program supports projects that develop and implement educational programs for professionals who preserve and provide access to humanities collections. Such materials include but are not limited to moving image and sound recordings, archaeological artifacts, born-digital and digitized collections, rare books and manuscripts, archival records, material culture, and art. **Deadline: June 17.**

Marion Stedman Covington Foundation
[Funding](#) for historic preservation projects across North Carolina. Preference is given to critical enabling revenue and proposals in which Covington grants generate other resources and projects to serve as models for other communities. **Deadline Aug. 1.**

Foundation for Advancement in Conservation

- [Community Partnership Grants](#) pair conservators with collections needing basic care and rehousing.
- [Tru Vue Conservation and Exhibition Grants](#) support projects in glazing applications for preservation and exhibition of museum and library collections. **Deadline: Sept. 15.**

Costume Society of America
[Small Museum Collections Care grant](#) provides \$1,500 to support costume and textile collections. **Deadline: October 15**

Daughters of the American Revolution
[Historic Preservation grants](#) funds preservation and conservation for documents, artifacts, and buildings. **Deadline: October 31**

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
[No-interest loans](#) to members of up to \$15,000 for projects including publications and special programs.

Member Grant Awardee Spotlight

Caswell County Historical Association has received recent grants from the Dan River Community Foundation and the Covington Foundation to help restore its historic house, the Richmond-Miles Museum, and the Maude Gatewood Studio in Yanceyville. It will now benefit from a new program administered by the East Carolina University School of Library Science and funded through the Mellon Foundation. The program, [Faculty Organizing for Community Archives Support](#), provides grant funds and a graduate student intern to improve collections organization, preservation, and access for rural collecting organizations. Sarah West, an intern who has worked successfully on projects with the **Swansboro Historical Association** and the **State Archives** will be helping CCHA make progress with these archival goals. Read more about the organization’s progress and plans [here](#).



American Indian Heritage Celebration, Nov. 23, 2024. This year, 2025, will be the festival's 30th anniversary. Hosted by the N.C. Museum of History and created by tribal leaders, presentations from past years are available [here](#).

The Messy and Vulnerable Truth about Trust and Museums

Excerpted from an article by Dawn DiPrince for the American Alliance of Museums' blog

The numbers are compelling—nearly 75 percent of Americans trust museums, which is a jump of almost 10 percent in the last few years. The data demonstrates a few broad reasons why this trust is growing. People think museums are solid sources of information, and they noticed the impact of all our pandemic digital pivoting. The opportunity to prove our resonance beyond our walls reverberated in meaningful ways.

But I'm certain the public's growing trust also comes from deeper reasons than these. In recent years, museums have begun to rethink what makes them trustworthy, moving beyond being reliable repositories of information and into co-creative community relationships. At History Colorado, we have been actively working to build better and deeper relationships with the communities we serve, and discovering what those relationships allow us to achieve together. We have been listening, really listening, to knowledge-keepers around the region. We've been honest and vulnerable about what we do not know,

what we still can learn, the mistakes we have made in the past, and how we plan to do better. We are not striving for perfection; rather we are dynamic, forever learning, and ready for the messy stuff that comes with our work. Here are a few of the lessons we've learned about what it takes to build trust with your communities.

Trust comes from being honest about your mistakes. We recently opened an exhibition on the 1864 [Sand Creek Massacre](#), the deadliest day in Colorado's history, when the US Army attacked a camp of peaceful Cheyenne and Arapaho people. This was our second attempt at producing an exhibit on this history, after we had to shutter our first in 2012 because of vocal and valid critiques that we did not properly consult with the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes in telling the story. Since then, we've spent the last decade (re) building relationships, letting go of what we thought we knew about this history, and establishing a framework of co-authorship.

The process required sharing authority over every aspect of the exhibit and de-centering History Colorado's collections, knowledge, and previous work to make space for additional voices. When we opened the new

(cont'd p. 13)

HISTORY HELP

exhibition this past November, we did so first for members invited by the three descendant tribes. It wasn't until the next day that we hosted a large ceremony with the public to honor the history and invite our wider community to witness and learn.

Trust comes from admitting what you don't already know. At our Fort Garland Museum, an 1858 ancestral adobe military fort in southern Colorado, History Colorado is [beginning to examine the painful history of Indigenous captivity](#), a centuries-long system that has been called "the other slavery." This history has long been kept within closely held genealogies in Southern Colorado and northern New Mexico, but has been obscured in our national story in ways that have been harmful to families and cultural identities. While there is excellent scholarship on the topic, so much of the knowledge lives with people in our communities. Rather than taking a traditional approach to study and synthesize, we recognized that we could serve a different role—not as experts, but as conveners facilitating collective knowledge-building through descendant memory workshops.

We worked with genealogists and the landscape artist jetsonorama/Chip Thomas to fuse archival sources into the spaces and experiences that evoke this history. On the adobe walls of Fort Garland's structures, Thomas [installed large-scale historic photographs and reproductions from a historic census-like document](#)...We didn't wait to be experts on the subject, or even believe we could be experts on such complicated and sometimes-personal history. But we started a needed conversation, which affirmed for families that this history they knew was real.

Trust comes from trusting. In April 2021, [we digitized Denver's Ku Klux Klan membership ledgers](#), which include thirty thousand names and addresses of historical members of the white supremacist terror organization. The ledger books have been in our collection for many years, and have even been on exhibit and available in our research center. But we wanted to make the documents far more accessible to a public that is increasingly interested in unraveling the historic foundations of racism.

We scanned, transcribed, and released the raw ledger data in searchable PDF format on our website. It was full of names and addresses from a century ago that

we mapped onto modern city maps. While we did offer resources for more reading and context, we did not put forth a tidy interpretation to make the difficult information more digestible. We trusted the public to explore the records and make their own connections, conclusions, and inquiries. The results were powerful. The records induced leading civic organizations to acknowledge that their founders were in the ledgers, and facilitated a collective recognition that Colorado has not been immune to racist systems and practices over its history, despite its geographical distance from the slaveholding South. The impact was more significant when we let the public interpret the data themselves than it would have been if we interpreted it on their behalf.

Trust comes from recognizing community knowledge. Our [Museum of Memory](#) program centers on the idea that we—the institution—are not the only knowledgeable bearers of Colorado history. This public history initiative acknowledges that the official historic records have traditionally excluded many histories, and celebrates the many ways Colorado communities have preserved their knowledge and culture despite that. Members of twelve Colorado communities are helping to inform new community-based archives and exhibitions, and using history to advocate for community needs today. Just last week, for example, I led a workshop for a community displaced fifty years ago by the Denver Urban Renewal Authority. One of the participants told me, "Every time we meet there is a little more healing." After decades of exclusion from official history institutions like ours, communities like these are justifiably wary of our intentions. Instead of expecting trust, we must work to earn it, and be grateful when they agree to work with us.

The challenges and upheaval in the last few years required museums to show vulnerability in ways we had not before. We were in crisis and had to move quickly. We rarely had the opportunity to polish our thoughts and programs and make them pretty for a public in survival mode. But because it wasn't possible, we learned that it wasn't as necessary as we'd thought. The public was looking for answers, and we showed up in raw, meaningful, and resonant ways when the communities we love needed us. Let's not snap back to our pre-2020 attempts at perfection, as paternalistic knowledge-holders.

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