



BULLETIN

September 2024

Volume 44, no. 3

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).

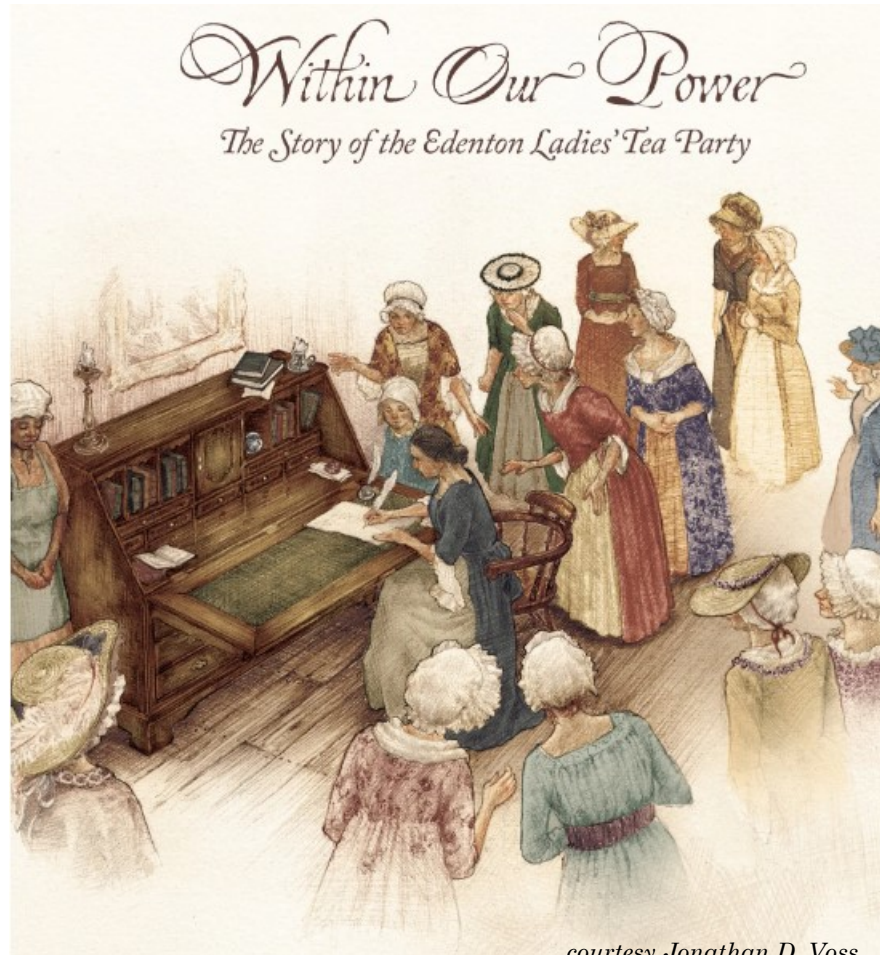
Mission: The Federation of North Carolina Historical Societies inspires local history organizations through collaborative learning projects and promotes history education statewide.

The *Federation Bulletin* is published quarterly. Submissions for the *Bulletin* should be sent to [Adrienne Berney](#) and should be received by **February 1, April 1, August 1, and November 1.**

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Semiquincentennial of the Edenton Petition



courtesy Jonathan D. Voss

Learn about and celebrate the bold group of 51 women from Edenton who signed their names to a petition expressing support for the resolves of North Carolina's Provincial Congress in 1774. The women then mailed their petition to the [Virginia Gazette](#), where it was published, and to the King of England!

The Department of Natural & Cultural Resources has published a new children's book, [Within Our Power](#), to share this historically significant story. Additional commemorative resources and events:

- Explore new research on the signers of the petition, as well as primary sources including the 1774 published version of the petition on [Mosaic](#).
- Join in events at [Historic Edenton](#), October 25-25, and the State Archives & History Building in Raleigh, November 1. [See page 9 for more details.]

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 2024

Shelia Bumgarner
Charlotte-Mecklenburg Public Library

Stephanie Velazquez May
Granville Museum

Laura Ketcham
Historic Yates Mill County Park

Bob Surridge, Ed.D.
Southport Historical Society

Through 2025

David Biddix
Mitchell County Historical Society

Anne Chesky
Presbyterian Heritage Center

Sara Blanchett, **Chair**
High Point Museum

Matthew Titchiner
Gaston County Museum

Through 2026

Annie Anderson
Country Doctor Museum

Cindy Schmidt
Chatham County Historical Association

Ken Badgett
Old Hickory Council, BSA

Leesa Jones
Washington Waterfront
Underground Railroad 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

Heritage Days at Maple Grove



After receiving the Federation's mini-grant earlier this year, the **Hickory Landmarks Society** shares an update: Heritage Days at Maple Grove was held on Friday, April 12, 2024, and was a huge success! Cherokee educators hosted more than 400 fourth grade students for their "Touch the Earth" program. Even though Heritage Days was only one day this year due to excessive rain, Hickory Landmarks Society was still able to have a packed and exciting event and greatly appreciates the support of the Federation.

Invenire Update!

After her webinar in May, Elizabeth LaFave is now working with the **Burwell School** on an interactive exhibit and the **Person County Museum** on digitization! Check out the Invenire webinar recording on the Federation's new [YouTube channel](#). If your organization would like a recorded webinar posted there, contact Danielle Shirilla (dani.shirilla@dncr.nc.gov) to review submission guidelines.

Federation Field Trip

Federation staff have been able to visit two member organizations this summer through the Traveling Archivist program. Continuing consultations about storage and archival arrangement brought us to the Camp Butner Museum for a July 19 workday. On July 29, we visited the Lewisville Public Library to discuss the **Lewisville Historical Society's** archival collection with president Merrikay Brown. Below, Merrikay showed the archives to Danielle Shirilla, who delivered preservation supplies, including acid-free folders.



Newsome Award

It's Time Again for Nominations!



Each year the Federation recognizes one or two member projects that demonstrate excellence in local history. Has your organization accomplished something worthy of recognition in the past year and a half? [Nomination forms](#) must be **emailed or postmarked by November 1.**

Welcome New Members!

[Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society of the Sandhills](#), affiliated with [Harnett County African American Heritage Center](#)

[African American Heritage Commission of Lenoir County](#)

MEMBER NEWS



Gaston County Museum of Art & History Exhibitions

The museum recently opened the exhibit, *The Reach of Reid: A School, A Community, A Family Remembered*. The exhibit showcases the Reid Collection, donated to the museum by Oscar Reid and the C. J. B. Reid Foundation of Belmont, and will remain open through December 2024.

At the beginning of the 20th century, the promise of safety, education and community drew many Black families from rural farms to create self-sufficient neighborhoods where they could not only survive but begin to thrive. Such is the story of the beginning of what would become known in the Gaston County town of Belmont as the Reid Community.

The new exhibit explores the legacy of Charles Jesse Bynum “C.J.B.” Reid, who was born in 1878 in Gaston County, one of nine children of John and Margaret “Mag” Ferris Reid of Lowell. C.J.B. Reid attended Lincoln Academy, the first private school for Black children in Gaston County, and Knoxville College in Tennessee. After graduating from college in 1908, Reid returned to Gaston County and began his career as an educator and community builder. Along with his wife, Maude Herndon Reid, he estab-

lished what would become Reid High, one of three historically Black high schools in Gaston County, and the focal point for what would become the Reid community.

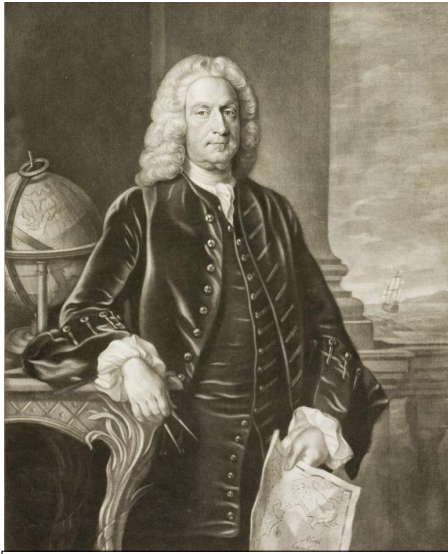
“We are so excited to share this important and fascinating story with the community,” said Alicyn Wiedrich, the Museum’s curator. “Our partnership with the Reid family descendants and members of the C.J.B. Reid Foundation has given us a real insight into the impact of C.J.B. Reid’s life and work, and his belief in the power of education,” she said. The exhibit includes family photographs, objects from Reid High School, store ledgers and documents, and personal family letters.



Museum staff has also created a free traveling exhibit to share with other organizations! “*Aunt Charlotte*”: *Legacy, Freedom, and Healing* presents Gaston County’s earliest documented midwife. The exhibit includes six 2’ x 3’ panels, easels, and a carrying case. Interested? Contact Karlen Lambert, Curatorial Assistant,

Karlen.Lambert@gastongov.com; 704-922-7681 x110
[Image](#) [detail], courtesy Stella Antley

MEMBER NEWS



James MacArdell engraving, 1753-1760, [His Excellency Arthur Dobbs, Esq. Captain General, Governour...of the Province of North Carolina](#), MESA collection 2024.186

Southport Historical Society

Sept. 9, 8 a.m., **Paddle through History** on Rice Creek to learn about Arthur Dobbs, 3rd colonial governor of N.C. Dobbs oversaw the construction of Fort Johnston and studied the “catch-fly,” or Venus flytrap. Fees: \$65 with provided kayak; \$45 with your own kayak. Information and reservations: [the](#)

[Adventure Kayak Company](#); 910-454-0607.

Lewisville Historical Society

Sept. 9, 6 p.m., **A Tale of Two Journeys**, Mary Alice Warren Community Center. Learn the fascinating story of two 500 mile walks, 255 years apart. In 1766, 18 Moravian girls journeyed by foot and wagon from Bethlehem, Pennsylvania to Bethabara, N.C. In 2022, Salem Academy and College alumnae led a 29-day, 500-mile reenactment of the journey to commemorate the founding of Salem Academy and College. Free; for more information call 336-766-5842.

Preservation Zebulon

- Sept. 10. **How to Research Your Historic Home**, co-sponsored with Little River Historical Society, Wakefield Central Baptist Church fellowship hall
- Sept. 21, 10 a.m. **Historic Downtown Walking Tour**
- Oct. 3, 6-8:30 p.m. **Zebulation**, Olde Raleigh Distillery. [Tickets on sale through Sept. 26.](#)

Charlotte Museum of History

Sept. 14, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. **Carolina's Home Cooking** event, marking the official reopening of the restored Log Kitchen. The event features a live cooking demonstration and book talk by renowned culinary

historian Michael Twitty, as well as food samples following historic recipes using modern techniques, prepared by culinary students from Johnson & Wales University. Come and explore the newly renovated kitchen while enjoying a day filled with rich culinary history and delicious flavors. Free, [registration requested.](#)

Waldensian Heritage Museum

Sept. 21, 3 p.m., **50th Birthday Bash**. We invite you to bring your families and celebrate this monumental occasion with us. We will have special displays, music by Lost Wages, drinks & hors d'oeuvres and birthday cake!

Garner Area Historical Society

Sept. 21, 4-6 p.m., **“Voices of the Past”** at New Bethel Baptist Church cemetery, 2110 Benson Road. (Rain date September 28.) Advanced tickets are not required but donations are appreciated. For more information see, [garner-area-historical-society.org](#) and Facebook page (@ Garner History).

Beaufort Historical Association

Sign up for either event by calling 252-728-5225 or visiting the Beaufort Historic Site Welcome Center at 130 Turner Street.

- Sept. 24, 9 a.m., **Nantucket Wine Cooler Workshop**. Create your own Nantucket wine cooler with Kathy Petronzio! This class covers weaving a wine cooler with an insulated metal core, Hamburg cane sides, and a hardwood cherry base and handle. The material fee is \$100, with all supplies provided.
- Sept. 27, 11 a.m., **Bonehenge Excursion**. A special trip to the Bonehenge Whale Center in Historic Beaufort! Meet at the Beaufort Historic Site, and board our English double-decker bus for a narrated tour of Beaufort's whaling history. At Bonehenge, enjoy a guided tour and learn about whales and conservation. Tickets \$20.

Alliance for Historic Hillsborough

Sept. 27, 6-9 p.m., Friday Night Ceilidh at the picturesque Ayr Mount! This free event, generously sponsored by [America 250 NC](#), promises an enchanting night filled with cultural immersion and lively entertainment.

MEMBER NEWS

Martin County Historical Society

- Sept. 26, 7 p.m., **The Tuscarora Tribe in Eastern North Carolina.** Dr. Arwin Smallwood, Dean of N.C. Central University's College of Arts, Social Sciences, and Humanities, will present at Moratoc Park, Williamston.
- Oct. 19, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. **History Tour.** Visit a select group of historic homes, churches—14 sites representing a slice of Martin County's unique culture and history. The tour starts at the Oak City Christian Church (310 W. Commerce Street, Oak City), where tickets may be purchased for \$5 per person and refreshments provided. Most tour sites allow access inside buildings; however, a few will be limited to grounds-only viewing. Sponsored in part by Martin County's 250th Committee and the Martin County Tourism Development Authority, proceeds for this event support the continued work of MCHS.

Mountain Heritage Center

Sept. 28, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., **50th anniversary of Mountain Heritage Day.** The festival celebrates the diverse culture of the Southern Appalachian Mountains with performances and demonstrations throughout the day from blacksmithing and quilting to Cherokee basket weaving, chainsaw carving, and heritage crafts. Enjoy hundreds of juried craft vendors, an interactive kids' area, a vintage car show, farm tractor and mule wagon rides, 4-H exhibitions, Cherokee stickball games and dancing, a 5K walk and run, and highlights from WCU's renowned Mountain Heritage Center collection. Anniversary concert follows at 6 p.m., Liston B. Ramsey Center.

Gaston County Museum of Art & History

Sept. 28, 7-10 p.m., annual **Murder Mystery.** Experience intrigue in a 1940s USO scene. [Tickets \\$75.](#)

Chatham County Historical Association

Oct. 5 & 19, **Spirits of Pittsboro's Past,** walking tours. [Tickets:](#) \$25 members; \$30 nonmembers.

N. C. Military Historical Society

Oct. 19, 10 a.m. **Rapid Fire History,** at North Carolina Veterans Park/ Fayetteville History Museum, will

feature short presentations on a variety of topics from the American Revolution through the Vietnam War.

**North Carolina Genealogical Society**

Oct. 25-26, **North Carolina Homecoming,** NCGS 50th anniversary celebration at the McKimmon Center in Raleigh (or online). 15 lectures and other activities held in-person in Raleigh, and 8 of those will be streamed live for online attendees. All lectures will be recorded and available for both online and in-person registrants to view until December 31, 2024. A great value for only \$89 (\$79 for NCGS members) - around \$6 per lecture, and you'll get to see them all! Hurry to [register!](#) The current rate of \$89 (\$79 for members) will go up on October 1!

Greensboro History Museum

Oct. 25, 100th Anniversary celebration with **Speak-easy Night at the Museum!** Join us for a swell evening of jazz, cocktails, heavy hors d'oeuvres and razzmatazz, with a scavenger hunt, games and contests that evoke the spirit of the 1920s. [Tickets on sale](#) now!

Member Materials Added to DigitalNC!

Chapel Hill Historical Society expanded its contribution to the yearbook collection with [volumes from 1972 and 1973.](#)

High Point Museum added more than 30 [programs, brochures, and playbills for the Shakespeare Festival, along with 6 ledgers and scrapbooks,](#) spanning the decades of the twentieth century.

Person County Museum of History contributed a [1959 Helena High School yearbook and additional city directories.](#)

MEMBER NEWS

America 250 NC Grant Winners

Alamance Community College

The grant project will produce interactive components including multiple escape rooms, a large-scale state map with scavenger hunts, and a unique speaker series that includes daily living craft experiences. Most components will be accessible, loanable, and all are open to the public.

Historical Society of Topsail Island

Exhibit, "Journey to Democracy," will present a historical review using existing exhibits and the development of portable travel exhibit. Events highlighted will reflect post-Revolutionary War movements and developments that show growth and striving for democracy, equality and freedom. The portable exhibit panels can be used by schools and other museums as a stand-alone exhibit about the 250-year "Journey to Democracy."



Street Scene, Smithfield, N. C.
[Massengill postcard collection PhC.184](#),
 State Archives of N.C.

Johnston County Heritage Center

Historical tours will be a resource for many years to come. The project will include both online and

print sources to provide information for guided and self-guided historical tours to include images and brief descriptions of individual buildings, structures, and sites, as well as maps showing the precise location of each property. Each of the county's downtowns—Benson, Clayton, Four Oaks, Kenly, Micro, Pine Level, Princeton, Selma, and Smithfield—will have a walking tour. Thematic tours will include historic churches, schools, farms, African American sites, Native American sites, country stores, industrial sites, and cemeteries in both town and rural areas. As part of the America250 celebration, guided walking tours and bus tours of selected sites will be offered to the public for a nominal fee. Highlighting previously underrepresented historic places across the county is a high priority for this project.

Old Salem Museums & Gardens

Summer Enrichment for Teachers (SET) program for public school social studies teachers in grades 3 – 8 will assist teachers in planning local history lessons and activities. Beginning as a two-day pilot program in summer 2024, SET will be scaled up over the course of three years to become an annual program which will eventually have state-wide competitive registration and produce well-equipped social studies teachers who feel confident in their content and supported by the Old Salem. The goal is to accommodate 15-20 teachers a year and present not only CEU credits but also a certificate of distinction that will identify participants as specialized within their discipline, and experts in working with museum resources.

Presbyterian Heritage Center

Exhibit with a special focus on western North Carolina and the influence of Presbyterians, not only during the Revolution, but in other movements for freedom over the last 250 years. While the exhibit is focused on a religious group, interpretation will be secular in nature. Admission to the exhibit will be free. The exhibit will be open to the public beginning in January 2026. Grant funds will hire a contract exhibit designer to create an engaging, interactive exhibit that will define the trajectory of the PHC's public educational offerings.

Other Grants Awarded

Burwell School Historic Site

[Inspire! grant from IMLS](#) to produce a series of biographical comic books and corresponding lesson plans to engage fourth- and fifth-grade students with United States history. Each book will spotlight a local figure from the 1800s who achieved prominence despite facing adversity. Burwell School staff will collaborate with local children's authors and artists to write and illustrate four books. An educational consultant will be contracted to develop lesson plans that align with fourth and fifth-grade history curriculum. The project will result in free educational resources, available in both print and digital formats, benefiting teachers and students. Additionally, this initiative will broaden community awareness of local history, fostering a deeper connection to the region's past.

AMERICA 250 NEWS

America 250 NC Local Grant Applications Re-Opened!



The first round of local grant applications closed on May 17. The A250 team has [awarded](#) \$900,000 for grant projects in 34 counties. [ameri-](#)

ca250.nc.gov/grants

The review team for the first round identified key tips for organizations considering applications for the next round.

1. Applicants do not need to use the entire word count allotted for the narrative. That word limit is the maximum allowed in the submission portal. Successful applicants have a clear narrative that succinctly outlines the program goals, objectives, and measures of success, as well as an overall project timeline.
2. Please be sure to clearly connect the grant project to an [America 250 NC theme](#).
3. Strong applications also detail what the expected measures of success are for the grant program. If you have statistics on your organization's typical engagement for a similar program, that data is helpful as a benchmark. Next, the grant program is prioritizing free events. Be sure to note if you anticipate any expenses or fees for participation. These grants are designed to encourage broad participation in funded activities and paid admission may exclude interested parties. Lastly, location does matter for things that may impact a property on the National Register of Historic Places or within a historic district. Please clearly identify the proposed location for grant activities such as murals, markers, waysides, statues, etc.

If you have questions about the process or the activities supported by the grants, please reach out to America 250 NC staff at: america250nc@dnr.nc.gov.

Deadline: November 1.

The [America's Field Trip](#) contest, sponsored by the U.S. Semiquincentennial Commission, recognized three first place and three second place North Carolina student winners this year! During summer 2024, awardees began exploring iconic historical & cultural sites across the country, from the steps of the Statue of Liberty National Monument to the decks of the USS Constitution in Boston National Historical Park. We're excited to see students embark on these incredible trips and learn more about our nation's history.

A 5th-grade winner from Greensboro wrote,

The United States of America is a land of possibility. Several thousand people immigrate to the USA daily, risking their lives to come and start better futures. They come to escape persecution (like my great-grandfather), find better jobs, receive better care, or start over. Unfortunately, many immigrants are treated unfairly based on their gender, nationality, race, religion, etc. A way to stop anti-immigrant hate is to educate people about immigrants importance: they are a vital part of this country, bringing cultures, religions, traditions, unique arts, and foods such as tacos, pizza, hamburgers etc. that all enrich the USA.

An 8th-grade student from Winston-Salem won for her artwork, "[America is a place where everyone can be](#)."

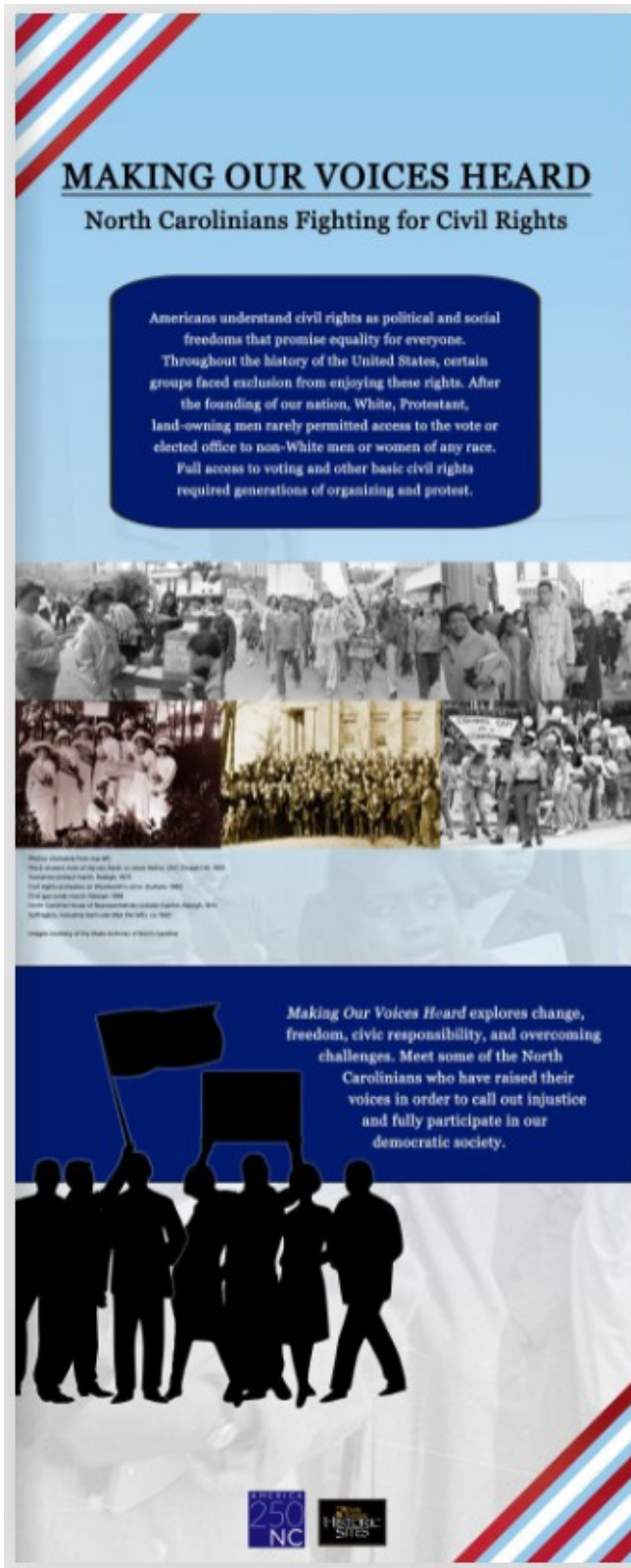
A 11th grader from Raleigh created a winning 59-line [poem](#). [six lines excerpted]

A house built on equality,
Stands taller than a king,
A king in which liberty
he would never bring.
Our country is a spark
One that lights the dark-
And paves a way to democracy.

Second-place winners included essays from high school students in Kernersville and Winston-Salem and an elementary school student in Rougemont.

**Editor's note: Consider trying an art and/ or essay contest in your community and encourage participants to compete in the national contest too.*

AMERICA 250 NEWS



When Are We US? Traveling Exhibits

Two traveling exhibits are now available! Both can be borrowed as a set of free-standing, collapsible panels or downloaded.

To request contact anna.freeman@dncr.nc.gov

- [*Making Our Voices Heard: North Carolinians Fighting for Civil Rights*](#), created by State Historic Sites
- [*When Are We US?*](#), created through a State Historical Records Advisory Board programming grant

Historic Edenton

[Edenton Tea Party 250th Anniversary](#)

October 25-26. This two-day celebration will kick off with an opening ceremony on the courthouse green, include living history demonstrations and family fun, and conclude with a concert and fireworks.

State Archives of North Carolina

[From Edenton to Congress: Highlights of North Carolina Women's Political Participation](#)

November 1, 1 p.m.-5 p.m. Join us at the Archives & History Building in Raleigh or online. The event will begin with a brief Friends of the Archives annual meeting and end with a reception featuring [yaupon tea](#). Topics will include new research on the 1774 Edenton women's petition, Charlotte Hawkins Brown and the Palmer Institute Teahouse, and *Jane Pratt: North Carolina's First Congresswoman*.

American Association for State and Local History

- **250th Anniversary Program Handbook**
Released summer 2024, this handbook features more than 30 low-cost program ideas for K-12 students and youth, tours, exhibitions, social and digital media, civic engagement, and more. [View the handbook.](#)
- **National Initiative Tracker**
[250-listings – AASLH](#). Check out the many national initiatives planned by private nonprofits, federal and state agencies, and other organizations. The site also includes a link to add more.

DNCR NEWS

Duke Homestead State Historic Site

The Duke Endowment [pledged](#) \$2.5 million to renovate and update the site to improve preservation and visitor experiences.



N.C. State Capitol

As of July 8 the building has reopened to the public after a year-long construction project. An earlier renovation had installed copper tiles that spanned longitudinal sections of the dome. The recent renovation restored the tiles to their original shape and size. Note: the Capitol dome inspired the Federation's logo. [Learn more](#) about the renovation.

Historic Edenton [Harriet Jacobs project](#)

For the installation, *Memorable Proof*, now on view in the historic Chowan County Courthouse, the artist combined photography and textiles to create portraits of members of the Fannie A. Parker Woman's Club, an Edenton-based civic organization founded in 1909 by Black women under the [National Association of Colored Women's Clubs](#).

President James K. Polk Birthplace

Sept. 14, 11 a.m.-noon, Catawba Foodways. Take a delicious journey through the culinary traditions of the Catawba people. Learn about the unique ingredients, cooking techniques, and cultural significance of Catawba cuisine. Free admission; [registration](#).

See more State Historic Sites events [here](#).

Tryon Palace: Community Classes

advance registration is required, \$10; seating is limited. To register, call 252-639-3527, or visit www.tryonpalace.org/calendar.

- Sept. 26, 5:30-7:30 p.m. **A Tangled Web of Trade: 16th and 17th Century Atlantic Trade and American Indians in Eastern NC**
- Nov. 19, 5:30-7:30 p.m. **Tuscarora: The Indian War that Reshaped Eastern North Carolina.**

N.C. Museum of History will close on October 7 for a projected three-year period for building and exhibition redesign.

Mountain Gateway Museum

New [exhibit explores voting rights](#). Open now through February 2025.

Museum of the Albemarle

New surfing exhibit, *Where the Waves Break: Surfing in Northeastern North Carolina* open now through June 2025. Inspired by roots in Polynesia, particularly Hawaii and Tahiti, early forms of surfing activity were first documented along North Carolina's southern coastline in 1909.

The **African American Heritage Commission** and the **Queen Anne's Revenge Archaeology Lab** announce a [new discovery](#) from archival research in France and Martinique—an insurance claim filed after Blackbeard took *La Concorde*, provides new information on the fates of the 516 captive Africans onboard *La Concorde* during its final crossing of the Middle Passage

The **State Library of North Carolina** is designing a new strategic plan and we invite you to provide feedback and ideas to help inform our goals and priorities. Please provide your input using [this survey link](#). Completing the survey should take 5 minutes or less. SLNC is working with an external consultant to conduct the survey and all responses are confidential. Please share with your colleagues! The survey will be **open through September 9**.

WORKSHOPS & CONFERENCES

Three Statewide Organizations Offer Three Workshops This Month!

N.C. Preservation Consortium

September 9, 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Photograph **Preservation** at the High Point Museum. Stephen Fletcher, Photographic Archivist for UNC's North Carolina Collection, will provide instruction on how to care for these important visual documents. Registration \$60 members; \$85 nonmembers; \$25 students includes supplies and lunch. [More information and registration.](#)

Federation of N.C. Historical Societies

September 23, 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. **Exhibit Skills** at the High Point Museum. Hone your skills in label writing and simple mount-making and learn about new resources available for America 250 Commemoration exhibits. Museum Curator Marian Inabinett and Federation Coordinator Adrienne Berney will instruct this workshop, with contributions from additional High Point Museum staff. Hands-on practice will include text writing and creating slant-board mounts. Morning refreshments, supplies, and lunch are included in the workshop fee: \$15 for members; \$25 for nonmembers. Participant numbers are limited. [Register today!](#)

North Carolina Museums Council

September 30, 1-4 p.m., **Disaster Recovery for Collections** at DNCR's Western Office. Join Kayla Leonard of the State Archives to discuss the first steps to take after a disaster and ways to try to salvage collections. This interactive workshop will focus on water-based disasters and recovery, but we welcome anyone with an interest in a disaster response to attend. Part of this workshop will take place outdoors and around water, so please dress appropriately. Note: registration is not yet live. contact kayla.leonard@dncr.nc.gov.

Preservation North Carolina

October 16-18. [2024 annual conference](#) in Rocky Mount & Tarboro. Registration is now open! The schedule has been posted and days/ events are à la carte. Two concurrent sessions on October 17, 1:30-2:30 may be of particular interest to Federation members:



- **Small, Medium, Large: Innovations in House Museums.** This panel discussion will showcase business models and community engagement at the Biltmore Estate, Bellamy Mansion (part of **Preservation NC**), and Magnolia House.
- **Cultural Displacement – Restoration Declaration.** Panel discussion will include **Alliance for Historic Hillsborough** staff as well as Black history leaders from Raleigh and Durham, and will focus on initiatives dedicated to gathering, preserving, and revitalizing the narratives and legacies of communities affected by cultural displacement. Learn how to champion the revival of memory and spaces to foster community preservation!

Southern Historical Association

October 24-27, [90th annual conference](#), Kansas City, Missouri. SHA represents all historians of the South and all history educators within the South.

North Carolina Genealogical Society

October 25-26, 2024 NCGS [Fall Conference and Annual Meeting](#) in Raleigh. [See also p. 6].

National Trust for Historic Preservation

[PastForward conference](#), October 28-30, New Orleans

North Carolina Preservation Consortium

November 4, [annual conference](#) in Raleigh. Sessions focus on preservation issues that can explode, be they nitrate film, sensitive public relations issues, or projects that go way wrong. Please **save the date!**

North Carolina Museums Council

Now accepting session proposals for the 2025 conference, **Museums Unwalled**, highlighting the importance of museums as dynamic entities that engage communities, foster education, drive cultural change, and often go beyond the building itself. [Learn more and submit.](#) **Deadline: October 11, 2024.**

FREE WEBINARS

North Carolina Genealogical Society

Sept. 4, 7-8 p.m. Craig Scott, “**The North Carolina Indigenous People.**” Researching the indigenous people of North Carolina is challenging. Most of the records available to researchers are in the materials created by government agencies. Records include allotment records, annuity rolls, census records, correspondence, and school records. Learn more [here](#).

North Carolina Humanities

Sept. 10, 11:30 a.m., Learn about the **Smithsonian traveling exhibition, *Spark: Places of Innovation***, coming to N.C. through our Museum on Main Street program! During this webinar you will learn about the exhibition, the venue requirements, how to apply, and more. Note, applications are due Sept. 26. Please visit nchumanities.org for full details. [Register](#).

Candid

- Sept. 10, 2-3:30 p.m., **Fundraising Planning**
- Sept. 12, 2-3:30 p.m., **Finding Grants**
- Sept. 19, 2-3:30 p.m., **Proposal Writing**

See the full schedule of webinars and [register](#).

FromThePage

Sept. 26, noon-1 p.m. **Your First Crowdsourcing Project.** Join Ben and Sara Brumfield of FromThePage as they cover selecting material, finding volunteers, developing transcription conventions, keeping volunteers engaged, and what to do with your transcriptions once you're done. [Register](#).

FAIC: Connecting to Collections Care

Sept. 27, 1-2 p.m., **Consideration and Care of Islamicate Collections.** What are Islamicate or Islamic Collections and how do we care for them? The answers are neither singular nor simple, including the vocabulary to describe them. They can encompass the sacred and the secular and multi-religious, multicultural and multiethnic landscapes. The webinar aims to provide small to medium-sized institutions a better framework for understanding these materials, advice on identifying sacred objects, and respectful approaches for caring for Islamicate collections. Register [here](#).

American Association for State and Local History

Oct. 16, 3-4:15 p.m., **Demystifying Digital Preservation.** The terms “digital preservation” and “web archiving” are understandably scary! These sound like tasks that require big budgets and technical expertise. This workshop aims to demystify the digital, giving you simple strategies to tackle challenges. You’ll also learn about Community Webs, a free program from the Internet Archive that provides support to cultural heritage organizations focused on documenting, preserving, and sharing local history online. Register [here](#).

Backlog Archivists

Oct. 21, 6-7 p.m. **Archival Arrangement + Description.** Learn how to organize an archival project. Drawing on her experience at the Bernard Becker Medical Library Archives, the instructor will discuss becoming familiar with a collection's creators and context; and creating a detailed processing plan. She will focus especially on how she approached creating an intellectual and physical arrangement for two large collections, and how she undertook the process of describing their contents according to archival standards. Register [here](#).

Northeast Document Conservation Center

Oct. 29, 12:30-1:30 p.m., **Writing Your PAG.** NEH [Preservation Assistance Grants for Smaller Institutions](#) have launched successful preservation projects and programs across the country. Be ready for the round of applications! This webinar is presented by NEDCC staff and covers preparing the grant narrative, making the case for a project, and getting requisite information from consultants. Register [here](#).

The **Institute of Museum and Library Services** (IMLS) is preparing for the National Museum Survey, the first federal data collection on museums. The survey will launch in early 2025, and data from this survey will help inform policymakers, the museum field, and the public about the impact and reach of institutions like yours. Help IMLS make sure all museums of all kinds are counted! Please update your institution’s contact information by visiting www.imls.gov/NMS to access the entry form.

GRANTS

Foundation for Advancement in Conservation

[Lecture Grants](#) fund up to \$500 to raise awareness about conservation; [Community Partnership Grants](#) pair conservators with collections needing basic care and rehousing. **Deadline September 15**

[Tru Vue Conservation and Exhibition Grants](#) support projects in glazing applications for preservation and exhibition of museum and library collections.

Deadline: November 1

National Trust for Historic Preservation

[Grants](#) encourage preservation at the local level by providing seed money for preservation planning and education and outreach. Applicants must be a forum member (\$250 annual dues).

Deadline: early October

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

Institute of Museum and Library Services

[Inspire! Grants for Small Museums](#) support project based efforts to serve the public through exhibitions, educational/interpretive programs, community dialogue, audience-focused studies, collections management, and more. **Deadline: November 15**

Southeastern Archaeology Conference

[Public Outreach Grants](#) provide up to \$2,000 for printed material, exhibits, workshops for adults or children, **Deadline: December 1**

Americana Corner

[Preserving America Grants](#) provide \$5,000-\$10,000 to organizations focused on pre-1876 history.

Deadline: December 15

National Endowment for the Humanities

[Preservation Assistance Grants](#) provide up to \$10,000 for collections care or infrastructure or preservation training. **Deadline: January 9**

Regional Opportunities

The [Harold H. Bate Foundation](#) supports projects that enhance education, youth, and recreation and the quality of life for all in Craven, Pamlico, and Jones Counties. **Deadline: October 1**

[The Glass Foundation](#) supports capital campaigns, construction/renovation, and program supplies and equipment for organizations that focus on environmental preservation and educational opportunities for children in Western North Carolina.

Deadline: December 10

Grants with Rolling Deadlines

The [North Carolina Preservation Consortium](#) and the [North Carolina Museums Council](#) offer [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 Federation of N.C. Historical Societies

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

N.C. Humanities Council

[Community Project Grants](#) including Project Planning Grants provide up to \$2,000 (**rolling through September 30**) and Small Project Grants fund up to \$5,000 (**rolling through September 12**) to support the incubation or development of a public humanities project.

T-Mobile

[Hometown Grants](#) provide up to \$50,000 for rural community projects.

National Archives Foundation

[Cokie Roberts Research Fund](#) for Women's History will award up to \$12,500 to support annual fellowships for applicants who will perform new research at the National Archives to elevate women's history.

N.C. Community Foundation

Grant seekers should contact [this organization and its county affiliates](#) to find potential funding sources for projects or other needs.



What Are Content Warnings?

Excerpted from [the American Alliance of Museums' blog, July 2024](#)

*by Jackie Armstrong,
Associate Educator, Museum of Modern Art*

Content warnings are clear written or verbal statements made prior to someone experiencing potentially disturbing content, whether an exhibition, a film, a stage production, or anything else. Content warnings are a way of welcoming people and ensuring that they feel a sense of safety. When a person feels unsafe—when they are triggered, retraumatized, or shocked in some way beyond their capacity—their prefrontal cortex [goes offline](#). They can't learn, question, think, create, or connect if their nervous system is overwhelmed or if they are experiencing trauma responses like [fight, flight, freeze, fawn, or flop](#). When museums provide content warnings, are thoughtful about where objects are installed, and provide appropriate framing and resources, we enable visitors to engage so that they can experience what the museum has to offer.

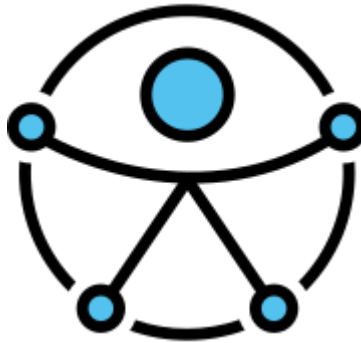
Letting people know what to expect gives them information so they can make a choice. When someone is given advance notice, they can decide if a particular experience is for them or not. In some cases they might even decide not to opt out entirely, but to participate on a different day or with the right support and preparation. Think about your own life experiences and times when maybe you needed to watch or read something lighter, or had to take a break from the news for your mental health, or perhaps experienced the loss of a loved one and didn't have the ca-

capacity to take in emotionally charged content. There are several subject areas that warrant giving people advance notice. See [this list](#) for a robust set of topics and sensory inputs. Content warnings can also help caregivers make decisions around what is age-appropriate for the children they are visiting with.

Content Warning Tips:

- **Be as specific as possible.** Think about advisories that you've seen on film or tv that were too general, saying something like, "This film contains nudity, strong language, and violence." That doesn't really tell a person much, besides perhaps determining age-appropriateness. A more helpful content warning would say something like: "This section of the exhibition contains discussion of sexual assault and suicide, along with drawings that depict self-harm," or, "This gallery space includes a sound installation of sirens that sound for thirty seconds every seven minutes, as well as periods of dimmed lighting during the thirty seconds the sirens are sounding."
- **Give visitors the information; don't tell them what to do or how to feel.**
- **Provide content warnings in the right place and at the right time.** Let people know before they've entered the space. Be clear about whether it's the entire exhibition or gallery, or one section of it. If a section, share if there's any way to bypass or not. Another warning sign should appear in the section with the sensitive content to cue visitors.
- **Ensure the content warning is highly visible.** Don't bury a content warning at the end of an introductory text wall or a webpage. Provide the information in multiple spots and in highly visible locations.
- **Don't add additional information to a content warning sign.** Adding additional text such as "please do not touch the art" diverts focus from key decision-making information.
- **Don't call out specific diagnoses or groups of people.**

Curator and critic Hettie Judah summed up the benefits and potential excesses of content warnings in an opinion piece for [a 2021 Artnet.com article](#). "A content warning is an invitation to make a choice—a precursor to an informed engagement with art. In introducing an exhibition by anticipating art's capacity to hurt, exhibition texts risk deadening our free interpretation and engagement with work rather than enriching it."



New State & Local Government Accessibility Mandate

Excerpts from Dave O'Reilly,

[What the DOJ's accessibility rule means for state and local governments](#)

Americancityandcounty.com, July 8, 2024

On April 24, 2024, the United States Department of Justice (DOJ) issued a final rule mandating that state and local government websites and mobile applications must be accessible to individuals with disabilities. Specifically, state and local governments are required to comply with these new standards based on their population size by specific deadlines, underscoring the urgency and importance of making digital spaces accessible to all individuals, regardless of their abilities.

The DOJ's rule highlights the critical role of digital accessibility in connecting local governments with their residents. Supporting this, research indicates that 21.3% of Americans use assistive technologies and tools to access digital resources. Ensuring that websites and mobile applications are accessible is not just a legal obligation but also imperative to promote inclusivity and to provide equal opportunities for all community members. Additionally, having accessible content supports residents' trust in their local government, as [research found](#) that individuals who engage with their city's website more than once a month exhibit nearly five times higher trust in their city.

The new rule aligns with the [Web Content Accessibility Guidelines \(WCAG\) 2.1](#), which set detailed standards for making digital content accessible. These guidelines include requirements for the following: text descriptions of images, time-based media, adaptable content, distinguishable content, keyboard navigation and screen reader compatibility. These measures are designed to eliminate barriers

to accessing essential online information and services, ensuring that individuals with disabilities have equal access to the digital tools and resources they need.

Additional Design Resources:

- [Designing for Accessibility](#): includes brief graphic lists of do-s and don't-s for various user groups with disabilities including autistic spectrum, low vision, and dyslexia
- [Navigating Accessibility: Alternative Text and Filenames](#)
- [Design for Readability](#): includes guidelines for fonts, spacing, and alignment
- [Accessible Font: A Brief Introduction](#): includes video tutorials with guidance on fonts and spacing
- [Accessibility for the color deficient](#): roughly 5% of people cannot distinguish between red and green. It is a good idea to avoid red and black combinations. People who cannot detect red will confuse red and black, so the item will not be legible.

Image credits:

[autism spectrum icon](#)

[United Nations accessibility logo](#)

[dyslexia icon](#)

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