MAY 2014 - PROGRAMMING AT THE ART MUSEUMS OF COLONIAL WILLIAMSBURG

For more information or to subscribe to this e-mail list, contact Mary Cottrill mcottrill@cwf.org or 757-220-7984

For free reservations or to purchase tickets in advance, please call 1-800-HISTORY (1-800-447-8679)

Museums and Museum Store open 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily and Museum Café open 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily.

Exhibitions
OPENING Saturday, May 3

A Handsome Cupboard of Plate: Early American Silver in the Cahn Collection
The Cahn collection of early American silver celebrates both American history and craftsmanship. The loan exhibition of 40 pieces includes significant works by such masters as Jeremiah Drummer and Paul Revere Jr. of Boston and Joseph Richardson Sr. of Philadelphia. Also featured are products of the New York workshops of Jewish silversmith Myer Myers and his contemporaries. Organized by the Minneapolis Institute of Art.

Threads of Feeling – open through Monday, May 26
This is your last chance to see this moving exhibition. When mothers left babies at London’s Foundling Hospital in the mid-18th century, the Hospital often retained a small token as a means of identification, usually a piece of fabric. Each scrap of material reflects the life of a single infant and that of its absent parent. Organized by the Foundling Museum and curated by John Styles, this will be the only American venue for this exhibition.

Music

Music for 18th-Century Mothers – Sunday, May 11 at 4:30 p.m.
Music historians and musicians David and Ginger Hildebrand celebrate Mother’s Day with a concert of colonial music about home, family, children, love and loss. Presented in conjunction with the exhibition Threads of Feeling, the Hildebrands will bring to life the sounds of colonial Virginia with ballads, lullabies, songs and dance tunes from the theatre and private homes. (1 hour) Additional ticket required $4 adults, $2 youth and under 6 free.

America’s Music Series – Tuesdays at 11:30 a.m. (1 hour) Included in admission.
   May 6 – Carson Hudson explores patriotism, bravery, loss and hope during The Civil War in 7 Songs.
   May 20 – Timothy Seaman explores how Dulcimers and Folk Flutes are made and played.
   May 27 – Join Stephen Christoff and Wayne Hill as they explore Thomas Jefferson: Song and Dance.

Music Then and Now – Thursdays at 2:30 and 3:15 p.m.
Members of The Governor's Musick share how they bring 18th-century music to life using period and reproduction instruments, facsimile scores, journals, inventories, letters, and colonial newspapers. (30 minutes) Included in admission.

Music in the Museum – Fridays from 10:30 a.m. to noon
Enjoy live period music played on antique or reproduction instruments as you enjoy the exhibits. Included in admission.

Hennage Auditorium Programs
Yankees in the Streets: Williamsburg During the Civil War – Sun. May 4 & Mon. May 5 at 4 p.m.
Join historian and author, Carson Hudson for an illustrated lecture to learn about the Battle of Williamsburg that took place May 5, 1862. Book signing to follow. (1 hour) Included in admission.

Why Aren’t They Smiling – Monday, May 5 and Wednesday, May 21 at 11:30 a.m.
Join historian Carson Hudson to examine interesting and unusual wartime photographs, sharing the stories behind the emerging photographic moment and the myths surrounding Civil War images. (1 hour) Included in museum admission.
Crafting Gentility in Colonial Charleston – Monday, May 12 at 5:30 p.m.
By focusing on the material culture of colonial America's fourth largest city, scholar Emma Hart explores how this "polite" culture affected other town dwellers, such as poor whites and enslaved African Americans. (1 hour) Funded by the Horatio Hall Whitridge and Gracia Grieb Whitridge Lecture Series Endowment. Additional $5 ticket required.

Williamsburg Old Time Radio Hour Memorial Day Special – Saturday, May 24 at 11:30 a.m.
Return to 1930s Williamsburg and attend a “live” Radio Broadcast including a “Fireside Chat” with President Roosevelt and a special tribute to veterans. (1 hour) Additional ticket required $4 adults, $2 youth and under 6 free.

The Unwanted – Saturday, May 10 and 24 at 5:30 p.m.
In this dramatic portrayal three 18th-century women reveal the heartbreak and hope of mothers whose circumstances lead them to relinquish their infants. A worker at London’s Foundling Hospital; a Virginia midwife; and a mother with no options, all share a common concern for the fate of “the unwanted.” (1 hour) Additional $4 ticket required.

Meet a Nation Builder – Daily at 1:45 p.m. (Not offered on May 2, 3, 16 and 17)
Spend time with Washington, Henry, Jefferson, Lafayette, Wythe, Edith Cumbo, Martha Washington, or Gowan Pamphlet, as they share their view of the American Dream and answer your questions. (1 hour) Included in admission.

Princes Without a Palace – Thursdays at 11:30 a.m.
Discover Williamsburg’s connections to the trans-Atlantic slave trade and the plight of African princes attempting to return home. (1 hour) Included in admission.

Secret Keepers: Literacy, Slavery and the Law – Wednesdays at 3:45 p.m.
Learn about 18th-century slaves who used literacy to practice their religion, communicate with family, plan escapes, or petition the government. (1 hour) Included in admission.

Special Focus Tours
Meet the Curator or Conservator – 2:30 p.m. Included in admission.
Join our specialists to learn more. (30 minutes) Schedule subject to change
- Fri. May 2 – Erik Goldstein, curator mechanical arts – Lock, Stock & Barrel
- Mon. May 5 – Ron Hurst, vice-president of museums – Painters & Paintings in the Early American South
- Wed. May 7 – Suzan Hoon, associate curator of ceramics – Chinese Export Porcelain in Colonial America
- Fri. May 9 – Leroy Graves, conservator of upholstery, discusses replacement upholstery for antique furniture.
- Mon. May 12 – Angelika Kuettner, assistant curator of ceramics – Chinese Export Porcelain in Colonial America
- Wed. May 14 – Kim Ivey, curator of textiles – Threads of Feeling
- Mon. May 19 – Amanda Keller, assistant curator of historic interiors, reveals how we furnish historic houses.
- Wed. May 21 – Janine Skerry, curator of metals – A Handsome Cupboard of Plate: Early American Silver
- Fri. May 23 – Kate Teiken, assistant curator of paintings – American Folk Portraits
- Wed. May 28 – Margaret Pritchard, curator of prints, maps and wallpaper – A Rich and Varied Culture

That’s How Old? – Thursdays, May 1 and 15 at 3 p.m.
Learn how environmental elements cause decay and how we keep objects safe. (30 minutes) Included in admission.

Behind Closed Drawers – Mondays from 2 to 3 p.m. and Fridays from 4 to 5 p.m. through May 23
Peer into the textile study drawers and examine clothing and needlework from our collections. Included in admission.

Programs and exhibitions at the DeWitt Wallace Decorative Arts Museum are supported by the DeWitt Wallace Endowment Fund.