May Programs

All programs are included in museum admission, unless indicated otherwise. Programs are subject to change. You can find the latest information at colonialwilliamsburg.org.

All Hennage Auditorium programs have a limited capacity due to Governor’s Orders.

AROUND THE GALLERIES Included in museum admission.

NEW TOUR – At a Glance – Daily 3:30 p.m. Meet in South Campbell Gallery
Join us on a 20-minute guided tour and enjoy some Museum favorites.

Tradespeople in the Galleries – Daily 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Leckie Gallery
Visit with harpsichord-makers, silversmiths, cabinetmakers, tailors, engravers, wigmakers, or printers.

Music in the Galleries – Wednesdays 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 2 to 4 p.m. in the Levanti Gallery
Enjoy 18th-century music on a variety of period instruments (harpsichord, Baroque violin or viola da gamba).

Talk with a Military Historian – Wednesdays and Thursdays 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Discuss 18th-century tactics, weaponry, flags, music, engineering, and basic soldiering.

CIVIL WAR PROGRAMS 1 hour - Included in museum admission.

Yankees in the Streets: Civil War Williamsburg Wednesday, May 5 at 10:30 a.m.
On the anniversary of the battle of Williamsburg, historian Carson Hudson explores the battle and aftermath.

Hoop Skirts and Gunpowder Wednesdays, May 5 and 19 at 4:30 p.m.
On March 13, 1863 an explosion killed 40 girls at the arsenal in Richmond. Hear what it was like to work there.

Outside the Box: 150 Years of Cigar Box Instruments and Music Fri, May 7 and 21 at 4:30 p.m.
Join musical historian Carson Hudson as he explains and performs “cigar box music”!

Love, Murder & Treason in Williamsburg: A Civil War Story Wed, May 12, 19 & 26 at 10:30 a.m.
Historian Carson Hudson ties together several local events that reveal an unknown and remarkable story.

Watching Over My Boys Wed, May 12 at 4:30 p.m.
Discover how Eliza Clinedinst Crim earned the nickname of “Mother of the VMI cadets” during the Civil War.

DISTINGUISHED SCHOLAR LECTURES 1 hour – Additional $5 program ticket required – free reservations for CW employees/volunteers and W&M Faculty/Staff/Students

Benedict Arnold’s Conspiracy and Its Aftermath Thursday, May 13 at 5 p.m. $5 ticket
Professor Peter Henriques explores Benedict Arnold’s plot to surrender West Point to the British.

The Death of George Washington Friday, May 14 at 5 p.m. $5 ticket
Professor Peter Henriques discusses how George Washington prepared for and faced his death.

1:30 p.m. NATION BUILDERS 45 minutes (30 minutes program and 15 minutes Q&A) Included in museum admission.

A Mother Enslaved Saturday, May 1, 8, 22 and 29 at 1:30 p.m.
Ryland Randolph left instructions in his will that Aggy and her two children were to be freed. However, after his death, his wishes are ignored and Aggy must fight for their freedom before another master re-enslaves them.

Nation Builders discuss the Institution of Slavery Sun, May 2, Thurs, May 13, 20 & 27 at 1:30 p.m.
Speak with the Nation Builders, and the historians who portray them, to give context in and out of their 18th-century world.

The Sword and the Press Monday, May 3 at 1:30 p.m.
Colonel George Washington, a burgess from Fairfax, and Clementina Rind, public printer, reflect on the last war with the French and how it affected each of their lives and the business of government.

A Patriotic American Tuesday, May 4 at 1:30 p.m.
Elizabeth Braxton, wife of one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, reflects on the changes, challenges, and consequences faced by her family during the Revolution.

Good Progress Wednesday, May 5 and Tuesdays, May 11, 18 and 25 at 1:30 p.m.
Mrs. Wager, Williamsburg Bray School, debates the nature of her school with Elizabeth DeRosario, a free woman of color.
Pursuing Happiness Thursday, May 6 and Sundays, May 9, 16, 23 and 30 at 1:30 p.m.  

Forgotten Hero: General Rochambeau Fridays, May 7, 14, 21 and 28 at 1:30 p.m.  
General Rochambeau explains the French contributions to the war and how this alliance brought success at Yorktown.

The Only Unavoidable Subject of Regret Mondays, May 10, 17, 24 and 31 at 1:30 p.m.  
Join Mrs. Washington in 1799 as she deals with the General’s Last Will and hear from George on his evolution on slavery.

A Soldier’s Journey Wednesdays, May 12, 19 and 26 at 1:30 p.m.  
Meet John Jarret Carter, a soldier in Washington’s army and local barkeep. The year is 1781 and Benedict Arnold’s army is marching toward the city. What advice will John Carter have for the people of Williamsburg?

WEEKLY WORKSHOPS 1 hour – Requires a $5 program ticket in addition to museum admission.

Folk Art and Craft Saturdays, May 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29 at 12:30 p.m.  
Explore the Folk Art collection then make a craft inspired by an object on exhibit. $5 ticket

Finding Jane Austen Fridays, May 7, 14, 21 and 28 at 12:30 p.m.  
Exploring regency objects, using quotes from Austen’s books, then make an inspired bookmark. $5 ticket

A Quilter's Housetop Tuesdays, May 11, 18 and 25 at 12:30 p.m.  
Discuss Susana Allen Hunter’s pieced Housetop quilt, then make a mini-quilt to take home. $5 ticket

DAYS OF THE WEEK

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Meet John Jarret Carter, a soldier in Washington’s army and local barkeep. The year is 1781 and Benedict Arnold’s army is marching toward the city. What advice will John Carter have for the people of Williamsburg?

Visit with the Printers Thursdays, May 6 at 4:30 p.m.  
Join Peter Stinely as he shares his forty years at the letter press through pictures and recollections.

Visit with the Apothecary Sunday, May 9 at 4:30 p.m.  
Join the Apothecary and discover how much, and how little, medicine has changed since the time of George Washington.

Visit with the Bookbinder Tuesdays, May 18 at 4:30 p.m.  
Learn about the tools and techniques used by Bookbinders used in 18th-century Williamsburg.

Visit with Foodways Sundays, May 30 at 4:30 p.m.  
Join our Historic Foodways staff as they explore cuisines of the 18th century.