October 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.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Museum Murder Mystery: Curse of the Witch Bottle – Wed, October 6, 13, 20 and 27 at 4 p.m.
Just before a scheduled press conference announcing the recent discovery of a suspected “witch bottle” found near Williamsburg, a British expert is found murdered. Did a Williamsburg colleague kill her, or was it a curse from the bottle itself? With the help of crime scene clues along with expert and suspect interviews, join the team to solve this fictitious murder. This event is not recommended for young children. 90 minutes – Requires a $10 adult/$5 youth program ticket in addition to museum admission.

History Half Told is UnTold Film Screening – Saturday, October 9 and 2 at 6 pm (1 hour)
This film provides an in-depth look into the 245-year history of The Historic First Baptist Church, the oldest continually active African American church in the United States established by free and enslaved Blacks. You will also feel the power of resiliency as the story of how the church’s “Freedom Bell” was restored after years of silence to loudly and proudly proclaim the opening of the National Museum of African American History and Culture in Washington, DC. 1 hour - Free reservation required. Available at any ticket location.

The Wreck of the Sea Venture – Saturday, October 30 at 4:30 pm (1 hour)
Witness this exciting true tale - told with light and shadow on an ingeniosus moving background, then discover the technology behind this unique form of storytelling. The Wreck of the Sea Venture is considered one of the most famous shipwreck stories in the World. 1 hour - Included in museum admission.

AROUND THE GALLERIES Included in museum admission.

At a Glance – Daily 10:30 a.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 (Not offered on Tuesdays)
Visit with joiners, harpsichord-makers, silversmiths, cabinetmakers, tailors, engravers, or wigmakers.

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

LECTURES 1 hour. Included in museum admission.

Convicts for the Colonies Fridays, October 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29 at 10:30 a.m.
Discover the role convict labor played in the colonies as English convicted men and women were transported to Virginia as punishment in the 18th century. Join Donna Wolf to discover the lives of these people who helped build the colony.

Pride not Prejudice Mondays, Oct. 4, 11, 18 and 25 at 10:30 a.m. & Fridays, Oct. 22 and 29 at 4 p.m.
Members of the Gender and Sexual Diversity Research Committee share their research during LGBTQIA History Month. While the LGBTQIA+ abbreviation is modern, the individuals represented by the letters are not.

Witchcraft in Colonial Virginia Tuesday, October 12 and Wednesdays 20 and 27 at 10:30 a.m.
Historian Carson Hudson discusses how colonial Virginians shared a common belief in the existence of witches with their northern neighbors, and also conducted several witchcraft inquiries.

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

Washington’s First Crucible of War Fridays, October 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29 at 1:30 p.m.
George Washington’s first skirmish in the French and Indian War brought him into contact with French officer, Michel Pepin dit La Force. Follow their relationship and see how they were changed, in a war that set the world on fire.

God is My Rock Saturdays, October 2, 16, 23 and 30 at 1:30 p.m.
Gowan Pamphlet, an enslaved man and popular local preacher, offers his perspective on slavery, religion, and freedom.
All Things are Possible Sundays, October 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31 at 1:30 p.m.
Meet with Robert Carter III, who in 1791 owned more slaves than any other Virginian. His inner struggles and new-found faith will lead him to an extraordinary decision, which was followed by an equally remarkable action.

Nation Builders Discuss the Institution of Slavery Sundays, Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31 at 4:30 p.m.
Speak with two Nation Builders, and the historians who portray them, to give context to the ins and outs of their 18th-century world.

A Patriotic American Mondays, October 4, 11, 18 and 25 at 1:30 p.m.
Elizabeth Braxton, wife of a signer of the Declaration of Independence, reflects on challenges, and consequences faced by her family during the Revolution, as she ponders how to define an American when you cannot define the Country.

Good Progress Tuesdays, October 5, 12, 19 and 26 at 1:30 p.m.
As the first official school for African Americans, the Williamsburg Bray School meant something different to every person. Mrs. Wager, teacher of the school, debates the nature of her school with Elizabeth DeRosario, a free woman of color.

Nation Builders Discuss Myths Tuesdays, October 5, 12, 19 and 26 at 4:30 p.m.
Discuss with our Nation Builders what is true, what is not, and how such beliefs and stories could have developed. Nation Builders and the historians who portray them tackle myths of their 18th-century world.

From Freedom to Slavery Wednesdays, October 6, 20 and 27 at 1:30 p.m.
After making a free life for herself as an adopted Shawnee Indian, Methotaskee is brought back into slavery. Her compelling story unfolds as her mistress prepares her to reenter Williamsburg society as Elizabeth.

A Congressional Curriculum Thursdays, October 7, 21 and 28 at 1:30 p.m.
Join freshman congressman, James Madison, as he compiles a list of some of the greatest works of political theory and learn the valuable lessons they hold for an enlightened citizenry.

DROP-IN CRAFT TIME

Art Stop DAILY between 3:30 and 4:30 p.m.
Explore the galleries, then drop by the Education Studio to create a work of art inspired by an object on exhibit.

TRADE TALKS 45 minutes (30 minutes program and 15 minutes Q&A) Included in museum admission.

Weathervanes in Williamsburg Monday, October 4 at 4:30 p.m.
Weathervanes would have been a familiar sight to 18th-century townspeople and travelers through Williamsburg. Talk with a blacksmith and discuss the history, construction, and meaning of the weathervanes adorning our public buildings.

Copperplate Textiles Thursday, October 7 at 4:30 p.m.
Apprentice Engraver William Fleming explores the history of applying copperplate printing to textiles and shares his current progress towards reproducing the process at Colonial Williamsburg.

Forty Years in the Trade Monday, October 11 at 4:30 p.m.
Join Master Carpenter Garland Wood as he takes a look back at his forty years working in Colonial Williamsburg’s Historic Trades Carpentry Program.

Engineers in the Revolution Monday, October 18 at 4:30 p.m.
One of the most important positions in a military is the engineer. Unfortunately there were few military engineers, to assist in the Revolution. Discover the instrumental role engineers played in an 18th-century military and in the Revolution.

Visit with the Apothecary Thursday, October 21 at 4:30 p.m.
Join the Apothecary and discover how much, and how little, medicine has changed since the time of George Washington. This is part of the trades in the Hennage Auditorium series as Tradespeople discuss their craft.

Visit with the Printers Monday, October 25 at 4:30 p.m.
During overview of the Printing Office, Peter Stinely shares his forty years at the letter press through pictures and recollections.

Tinware Production in the Publick Armoury Thursday, October 28 at 4:30 p.m.
Join Journeyman Tinsmith, Joel Anderson, for a discussion of the ongoing research into the people, place, and production of the Williamsburg Publick Armoury Tin Shop.