ART MUSEUMS Colonial Williamsburg

December 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.

AROUND THE GALLERIES Included in museum admission.

The Art-Full Tree Daily at 12:30 and 3:30 p.m. Not offered on Saturday, Dec 25
Explore the galleries and gaze at all the ornaments on the Art Museum's decorated tree. Then create your own art-inspired ornament to take home. 1 hour - $10 program ticket required in addition to museum admission

HOLIDAY PROGRAMS Additional program ticket required in addition to museum admission

Rum and Highland Tales Wednesdays at 3 p.m.
Listen, laugh, and cry with master storytellers Donna Wolf and Shel Browder as they share tales told by Highlanders of the 18th century. 1 hour - $5 program ticket required in addition to museum admission

A Fugitive Christmas Wednesdays, December 1, 8, 15 and 22 at 11 a.m.
Join two soldiers in 1776 as they celebrate the season, but with enemy forces closing in they must find a way to continue their fight or else this Christmas tide will be their last. 45 minutes - $5 program ticket required in addition to museum admission

Christmas Trees and Museum Treasures Wednesdays from 6 to 9 p.m.
Celebrate the holidays during special evening hours and on our Tree Trek discover themed Christmas trees, including our 16-foot Folk Art tree with over 2,000 hand-crafted ornaments. Then hunt for art objects representing the 12 days of Christmas. Enjoy special holiday cookies, hot cocoa and more for sale in the Museum Cafe. – Included in museum admission

The Magic of Christmas Wednesdays at 7 p.m.
Enjoy mesmerizing magic by William the Conjurer and sounds of the season from medieval to modern with Gabe Stone, David Gardner, and Ron Johnson. 1 hour - $20 adult-$15 youth/child program ticket required in addition to museum admission

Christmas and the Constitution Thursdays at 11 a.m.
1787, James Madison and Alexander Hamilton are locked in a battle of words to save the infant American republic. Will they pull off a Christmas miracle, or will the holiday spent away from their families be for nothing? 45 minutes - $5 program ticket required in addition to museum admission

Green Grows the Holly Thursday, December 2 at 3 p.m.
Join Lynn and Barry Trott for music from the courts of Henry the VIII and Elizabeth the I, with carols and dance tunes for lute, citrion, viol, hurdy gurdy, recorders and voice. 1 hour - $5 program ticket required in addition to museum admission

Joy in the Morning Fridays, December 3, 10, 17 and 31 at 11 a.m.
Gather with members of the enslaved community for a music-filled message of hope that illuminates the struggles and triumphs of 18th-century African Americans. 45 minutes - $5 program ticket required in addition to museum admission

Suites for the Holidays Fridays, December 3, 10 and 17 at 4 p.m.
Timothy Seaman, Ann Robinson, and Robert Wadsworth on hammered dulcimers and more, craft glowing and meaningful arrangements on distinct Christmas themes. 1 hour - $15 program ticket required in addition to museum admission

Santa through the Ages Saturdays, December 4, 11 and 18 at 11 a.m.
Santa has evolved over time from Father Christmas to a Santa, reflecting the diversity of America. Meet Santa and discover how he has changed over time. 1 hour - $5 adult and $2.50 child program ticket required in addition to museum admission

Fiddling Around the Christmas Tree Saturdays, December 4, 11 and 18 at 3 p.m.
Join John Turner, David Gardner and Clif Williams for rousing dance tunes, stories and songs of the season. 1 hour - $15 adult program ticket required in addition to museum admission

Same Space, Different Place Sundays, December 5, 12 and 19 at 11 a.m.
Meet widow Rachel Whittaker and her enslaved servant, Milly. How is the season differ for these two mothers? 45 minutes - $5 program ticket required in addition to museum admission

Five Centuries of Holiday Music in Virginia Sundays, December 5, 12 and 19 at 3 p.m.
Join Henley Fork (Doug Austin, Brian Forsman, and Lynn and Barry Trott) along with special guest Lee Welch for a musical tour of Virginia's holiday traditions and music. 1 hour - $15 adult program ticket required in addition to museum admission

Merriment and Measles Mondays at 11 a.m.
On the eve of Colonel and Mrs. Washington's first anniversary in 1760, they must change their celebratory plans to deal with a measles outbreak at Mount Vernon. 45 minutes - $5 program ticket required in addition to museum admission
Silent Night - Mondays, December 6, 13 and 20 at 4:30 p.m.
Since the Revolutionary War women faced the turmoil of war serving along with men or providing support services. Travel through time as they struggle to experience a silent night. 1 hour - $5 program ticket required in addition to museum admission

Winter in the Valley - Tuesdays at 11 a.m.
Join the Waterman family for delightful Christmas songs and family stories from the 18th century 45 minutes - $5 program ticket required in addition to museum admission

A Christmas Peaceable Kingdom - Tuesday, December 7 at 4:30 p.m.
Kelly Kennedy shares the meaning of the season through tunes and stories of all creatures great and small. 1 hour - $5 program ticket required in addition to museum admission

Music for a Back Porch Virginia Holiday - Thursday, Dec 9 and Sunday, Jan 2 at 3 p.m.
In old Virginia, families and friends would gather to tell stories, sing and dance. Join musical historians Carson Hudson and Arden Clark for an old-time holiday get-together. 1 hour - $5 program ticket required in addition to museum admission

Decorating the Private Homes - Thursday, December 9 at 5:30 p.m.
Join us for the 29th anniversary of this popular program celebrating the decorating efforts of employees living in Colonial Williamsburg's restored private residences. 45 minutes – Included in museum admission

Family, Feasts, Friends and Festivity - Tuesdays, December 14 and 21 at 4:30 p.m.
Join long-time friends and Williamsburg musicians Kelly Kennedy and Dean Shostak as they share fun family songs and stories from many holiday traditions world-wide. 1 hour - $10 program ticket required in addition to museum admission

Now Christmas Comes! - Thursday, December 16 at 3 p.m.
Join Brian Forsman and Bill Weldon as they trace the roots of seasonal tunes and popular carols, before the lighting of the Community Christmas Tree on Market Square. 1 hour - $5 program ticket required in addition to museum admission

Dances with Dwarves: A Celtic Celebration - Thursday, December 23 at 2:30 and 4:30 p.m.
Join Williamsburg’s traditional Irish band, Poisoned Dwarf for unique arrangements that will have your feet tapping and hearts dancing. 1 hour - $10 program ticket required in addition to museum admission

12 days and Night Before Christmas - Friday, December 24 at 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.
Experience the unique spirit of Christmas as people from the past bring two classic Christmas stories to life. Children must be accompanied by ticket holding adult. 1 hour - $5 program ticket free child reservation required in addition to museum admission

Profound Joy - Friday, December 24 at 4:30 p.m.
Timothy Seaman celebrates the wonder of the holiday season with melodies celebrating winter, Christmas and Hanukkah on the extended-range hammered dulcimer. 1 hour - $10 program ticket required in addition to museum admission

Two Nation Builders and the historians who portray them discuss how they enjoyed the holidays with friends and family. 45 minutes - $5 program ticket required in addition to museum admission

A 19th-Century Williamsburg Christmas - Sunday, December 26 at 2:30 and 4:30 p.m.
The Colonial Singers share stories and songs centered around the Civil War, the college town of Williamsburg, circa 1850 and of course the stories of Charles Dickens. 1 hour - $10 program ticket required in addition to museum admission

Fiddling Away the Holidays - Monday, Dec 27 at 2:30 and 4:30 p.m.
Master fiddler John Turner returns for this Christmas tradition of storytelling and reveling in the lighter side of the season with traditional and holiday music. 1 hour - $10 program ticket required in addition to museum admission

Four Centuries of Virginia Christmases - Tuesday, December 28 at 2:30 and 4:30 p.m.
Sing, clap, toe-tap and share the fun of our beloved holiday traditions as veteran Williamsburg musicians Kelly Kennedy, David Gardner, Clif Williams and Doug Austin. 1 hour - $10 program ticket required in addition to museum admission

Brasstastic Holidays! - Thursday, December 30 at 2:30 and 4:30 p.m.
Continue your holiday festivities with the Eastern Virginia Brass as this talented brass quintet shares the joy of the season with traditional holiday tunes. 45 minutes - $10 program ticket required in addition to museum admission

A Season Full of Holidays - Friday, December 31 at 4:30 p.m.
Join Timothy Seaman and Thomas Abernethy as they explore music associated with the many holidays from Thanksgiving to Twelfth Night. 1 hour - $10 program ticket required in addition to museum admission

Hogmanay! Hogmanay! - Saturday, Jan 1 at 3 p.m.
Join John Turner and Kelly Kennedy as they usher in the new year with traditional Scottish tunes and songs, including the annually popular Hogmanay Song. 1 hour - $10 program ticket required in addition to museum admission
January Programs
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ART MUSEUMS MEMBERS Free reservation required.

Art Museums Members: Behind the Scenes Thursdays, Jan. 6 and 13 and Thursday Jan. 25
Art Museum Members are invited to join us for a private tour behind the scenes with Mary Cottrill, manager of museum operations and the Hennage Auditorium. This tour will showcase our new mechanical rooms, workroom, the design suite and backstage of the auditorium. Meet Mary at the museum entrance. Free reservation required. Exclusively for Art Museum Members. To book your reservation, please visit a ticket office or call Guest Services at 888.965.7254. (1 hour)

AROUND THE GALLERIES Included in museum admission.

At a Glance – Daily starting January 3 at 10:30 a.m.
Join us on a 20-minute guided tour and enjoy some Museum favorites at a glance.

Pop-Up Archaeology – Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2 to 4 p.m.
Archaeologists will be on hand to talk with guests about our ongoing excavations at the Custis Square, First Baptist Church, and Powder Magazine archaeology sites and showing off some of the recently unearthed

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HENNAGE PROGRAMS Included in museum admission.

The Only Unavoidable Subject of Regret Mondays, January 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31 at 1:30 p.m.
Join Mrs. Washington in December of 1799 as she comes to terms with the General's Last Will and Testament, and hear from George Washington on his evolution on slavery. (45 minutes)

A Williamsburg Artisan Goes to War Wednesday, January 5 at 4 p.m.
Edmund Dickinson's American Revolution: Discover the story of a Williamsburg artisan who ultimately fought and died as a well-regarded officer in the American Revolution. (45 minutes)

Old Christmas Past Thursday, January 6 at 3:30 p.m.
Whether it was called 12th Night, Epiphany, Old Christmas, or Three Kings Day, the turn of January 5th into January 6th has been celebrated for centuries in Virginia as the end of the Christmas season. Join Lynn and Barry Trott for songs and stories from 17th-century England and 20th-century Appalachia to bring your holidays to a joyous close. (1 hour)

Succordia's Prayer Fridays, January 7, 14 and 28 at 1:30 p.m.
As she mourns the passing of her beloved, Succordia, an enslaved woman in the twilight of her life, tells us her story of love and faith that transcends her enslaved status. Through story and song she relives the best and worst times of her life ultimately realizing her worth isn’t the one determined by slave-owners, but by knowing who she is and who she really belongs to. (45 minutes)

A Soldier's Journey Saturdays, January 8, 15 and 29 at 1:30 p.m.
Meet John Jarret Carter, a soldier in Washington's army and a barkeep in Williamsburg. The year is 1781 and Williamsburg stands on brink of invasion! Benedict Arnold's army is marching toward the city. What advice will this military man have for the people of Williamsburg? (45 minutes)

A Patriotic American Sundays, January 9, 16 and 30 at 1:30 p.m.
Elizabeth Braxton, the 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. Explore identity, loyalty & patriotism as she ponders how to define an American when you cannot yet define the Country. (45 minutes)