All programs are included with museum admission, unless indicated otherwise. Programs are subject to change.

See reverse for program descriptions.
In the Henneage Auditorium

See calendar on reverse for exact days and times.

MUSIC

Governor’s Music at the Art Museums (Thursdays and Saturdays). Join members of the Governor’s Music for musical entertainments enjoyed during Christmastide. (45 minutes)

A Charles Dickens Christmas (Fridays) Enjoy readings from various Charles Dickens’ writings paired with Victorian Christmas carols. (60 minutes)

William & Mary Early American Ensemble (Nov. 26 & Dec. 17) In this concert, enjoy tunes of the Christmastide seasons of old. (60 minutes)

Time for 2 (Nov. 26) Enjoy a time of holiday and classical music with Sisters Kearston and Kendall Gonzales. (60 minutes)

Through the Seasons (Nov. 28) Join Lynn and Barry Trot to revel in the delights of rural life from 18th and early 19th centuries. (60 minutes)

For St. Andrew’s Day (Nov. 29) Join John Turner for tunes and traditions related to the celebration in 21st-century Scotland. (60 minutes)

Brass Ensemble (Dec. 3 & 31) Enjoy bold and festive melodies to both kick off the season and give a lively send-off to 2023. (60 minutes)

Wassail, Wassail All Over the Town (Dec. 4) Join Lee Welch and Barry Trot to enjoy tunes and tales that celebrate winter and the spirit of the colonial holiday season. (60 minutes)

Now Christmas Comes (Dec. 5) Join Bill Weldon to celebrate the music of Christmas past. (60 minutes)

Christmas Through the Ages (Dec. 3, 20, 26) Timothy Seaman reveals and rejoices on early Christmas carols and traditions related to the celebration in 21st-century Scotland. (60 minutes)

Four Centuries of Virginia’s Holiday Music (Dec. 6) Join Henley Fork and special guest Lee Welch for a celebration of the music of Christmas from the season’s from the time of Jamestown through the twentieth century. (60 minutes)

One Street Over (Dec. 10) Join One Street Over, a four-piece traditional Irish band that combines the sounds of flute, fiddle, guitar, mandolin, cello, banjo, and bodhran into foot-tapping melodies. (60 minutes)

American Folk Hymns for Christmas (Dec. 11) Join Kelly Kennedy and John Turner as they invite you to join in singing along with favorites carols from the 17th-19th centuries. (60 minutes)

Green Grow the Holly (Dec. 17) Join Lynn and Barry Trot to enjoy music for the winter season from the late 16th through the 17th centuries on the lute, cittern, violin, harp-gurdy, recorders, violin, and voice. (60 minutes)

Breaking Up Christmas (Dec. 18) Dance tunes and songs that create a musical portrait of Virginia in the Appalachian hills and hollows. (60 minutes)

For the Holidays! (Dec. 19) Celebrate Christmas with the sounds of traditional, spirituals, gospel, and contemporary music. (60 minutes)

Profound Joy (Dec. 24) Timothy Seaman celebrates the season with early American and world music. (60 minutes)

Nowell Sing We Clear (Dec. 24) Join Lynn and Barry Trot in this concert to sing along with favorite carols from the 17th-19th centuries. (60 minutes)

Jolly Old St. Nicholas (Dec. 27) Celebrate that jolly old elf and discover worldwide traditions with Gabe Stone and David Gardner through tunes and stories about the star of the Christmas gift-giving season. (60 minutes)

Hogmanay! The Scotsman’s Greatest Day! (Dec. 31) Join John Turner and Kelly Kennedy as they joyfully celebrate the Scottish New Year with traditional songs, tunes, toasts, traditions, and Caledonian nonsense! (60 minutes)

PERFORMANCES

A Patriotic American (Sundays) Elizabeth Braxton reflects on the changes during the American Revolution. (45 minutes)

A Holiday Medley (Mon, Thurs, & Sat) With the warmth of the holidays, we tell the tale of winter in Williamsburg over 250 years ago. (45 minutes)

All Things are Possible (Mondays, except Dec. 25) Meet with Robert Carter III, who in 1791 owned more enslaved people than any other Virginian. His inner struggles and newfound faith will lead him to an extraordinary decision, followed by an equally remarkable action. (45 minutes)

A Soldier’s Christmas (Tuesdays and Saturdays) Colonel James Innes returns home from the war filled with the haunting voices of his fallen comrades. Will he be able to recover from the war and find peace this Christmas? (45 minutes)

Merriment and Measles (Most Wednesdays) Join the Washingtons on the eve of Twelfth Night in 1760 as they reflect on the past year and their hopes for the future in the midst of a measles outbreak at Mount Vernon. (45 minutes)

Nation Builders Discuss the Tea Party (Thursdays) Join two Nation Builders as they discuss the events of the Tea Party in Boston and the impacts it had throughout the colonies. (45 minutes)

God is My Rock (Fridays) Gowon Pamphlet, an enslaved man and popular local preacher, discusses slavery, religion, and freedom. (45 minutes)

IN THE GALLERIES

Tour: Art Museums Overview - Holiday Edition (Every day at 3:00) Celebrate the holiday season at the Art Museums of Colonial Williamsburg. (20 minutes)

Museum Discoveries: The Art-full Tree (Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays, beginning Nov. 30) Explore the Art Museums of Colonial Williamsburg and discover the Folk Art Christmas Tree, then make your way to the Goode Education Studio and create an ornament to take home. (Drop in between 10:30-12:30)

Museum Discoveries: Pop-up Archaeology (Tuesdays and Thursdays) Stop by for a special pop-up exhibition of recent finds from Custis Square, along with artifacts from some of Colonial Williamsburg’s most iconic sites. (Drop in between 2:00 and 4:00)

To see Colonial Williamsburg’s complete Holiday Planner go to: https://www.colonialwilliamsburg.org/explore/holidays/planner/

PRESENTATIONS

The Folk Art Christmas Tree (Dec. 1, 2, 29) Join Christina Westenberger and Jan Gilliam, the authors of The Art-full Tree, for a presentation and demonstration that will guide you to create art inspired by the originals. (45 minutes)

CW’s Holiday Decorations (Dec. 8) Join CW’s landscape staff for a presentation about CW’s famed Holiday decorations. (45 minutes)

Winter Tales of Jefferson’s Library (Dec. 15) Join Lee Dugatin, author, to imagine Jefferson in his library on a few chilly winter eves and discover how his sortie into his library had scientific and political consequences. (60 minutes)

Presentation: Students of the Brafferton Indian School (Monday the 27th) Join Fallon Burner, Historian, on an Indigenous tour of 18th-century Williamsburg while introducing the legacy of four centuries of Indian School projects in North America. (45 minutes)

SPECIAL EVENTS

Thanksgiving Proclamation (Thanksgiving Day) Hear from Washington on the 234th anniversary of this day of Thanksgiving. (45 minutes)

Decorating the Private Homes (Dec. 8) Enjoy decorating the “Williamsburg way” and awards of decorating contest winners. (45 minutes)

UNDERSTUDY PROGRAMS

When a program must be changed due to staffing, illness, or emergency you can expect to see:

- Rochambeau! Forgotten Hero - General Rochambeau discusses the Yorktown campaign.
- My Dear Madam - Mrs. Washington reflects on her friendship with Mrs. Adams.
- Nation Builders Discuss the Tea Party - See above.
- God is My Rock - See above.
- All Things are Possible - See above.
- A Soldier’s Christmas - See above.
- Merriment and Measles - See above.

Artful Winter Evenings

Thursdays, 5:30pm-8pm
Nov. 30 - Dec. 28
In these magical after-hours events at the Art Museums, enjoy a concert ($), take a guided tour through the galleries, enjoy hot chocolate and house-made rum cream churros, make crafts, and experience the charm of the Art Museums at night.

DON'T MISS THE CENTERPIECE OF THE MUSEUMS

16-foot Folk Art Christmas Tree decorated with over 2,000 hand-crafted ornaments

Artful Winter Evening Concerts - 7pm
Nov. 30 - The William & Mary Accidents
Dec. 7 - Holiday Handbell Concert
Dec. 14 - The Williamsburg Symphony
Dec. 21 - The Magic of Christmas
Dec. 28 - The Gonzales Sisters

(Updated 11/13)