

North Carolina Museum Council 2023 Conference Schedule

Sunday, March 26, 2023

- *Check in at the Hilton Garden Inn*

9am-11am - Museum Tours

Gaston County Museum

The Schiele

Gastonia/Loray Mill History tour

10am-12pm - **Collections Management Workshop: Custom Storage Boxes and Moving Complex Collections** with *Ali Pizza, Markecia Koulessner, and Elizabeth Reighn*

- *Pre-registration required**

Break (Lunch provided for all day Pre-Conference Workshop attendees)

2pm-4pm - Museum Tours

Gaston County Museum

The Schiele

Belmont Abbey Campus and Library

Catawba River Paddle *

1pm-3pm - **Creating Museum-based Programs for People with Dementia and their Care Partners** with *Arts and Minds*

- *Pre-registration required**

3:15pm-5:15pm - **The Power of Storytelling & Storykeeping for Inclusivity & Genuine Representation** with *Jade Cintrón Báez of ¡Looking Bilingüe!*

- *Pre-registration required**

7pm-8:30pm - Reception and Awards Ceremony @ the Schiele

9pm-11pm - Networking Event/Drag Bingo @ The Rooster

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Full conference registration is required to attend museum tours and other events

** Additional Fee required*

Monday, March 27, 2023

Check In, breakfast, lunch, and sessions located at Loray Mills

Breakfast from 8-9am

Vendor Hall Open 9am-3pm

Concurrent Sessions 9:30-10:30am

Room 1

Grant-writing for Cultural Institutions; Caitlin Stanley, Director of Grants and Compliance at NC Humanities

Participants will learn the fundamentals of writing a competitive grant proposal, what cultural funders look for, and perspectives on how reviewers approach the evaluation of proposals and letters of interest/intent (LOIs). Participants will also learn about current funding opportunities offered by North Carolina Humanities.

Room 2

EE for All: Providing Engaging Programs for Seniors

Tori Duval; Outreach Education Program Manager, Friends of the WNC Nature Center

This session will focus on creating and delivering high quality environmental education programs for senior citizens. We'll explore both virtual and in-person opportunities to engage with this traditionally underserved population and provide options for advertising to retirement facilities across the state.

Room 3

Face to Face: Authentic Peer Collaboration

Molly Humphries; Tour Programs Coordinator, Mint Museum

Margaret Mauldin; Assistant Head of School & Gallery Programs, Mint Museum

A case study looking at how to implement new tour strategies through authentic docent collaboration. This presentation will provide a road map to creating a tour that employs different, engaging tour methodologies and how to train your docents to use them.

Concurrent Sessions 10:40-11:30am

Room 1

Plantation, Gardens, and Complex History

Janet E. Levy; Co-president, Board of Directors at Historic Rosedale

Barbara McCray Jackson; Historic Rosedale

Elizabeth Medearis Myers; Historic Rosedale

Cher Lambeth; Historic Rosedale

Historic Rosedale's African American Legacy project. Incorporating long-term research into the lives and families of the enslaved at the site, as well as collaborations with descendants and local organizations, we discuss challenges and opportunities for expanded programming and commemoration of the enslaved at the 1815 former plantation in central Charlotte.

Room 2

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Museums and the Carolina Queer Experience

Christopher Mielke; Executive Director, Beverly Heritage Center

Alexander Brooks; Education Manager, Gaston County Museum

Chris Rudisill; Former Director, Stonewall National Museum and Archives

How can museums tell the stories of its marginalized LGBTQ+ Community? Join this roundtable for local stories on LGBTQ+ History as well as hints and tips for how museums can incorporate more diversity.

Room 3

TechTalk: Incorporating VR in the Museum Experience

Jamie Justice; Education Manager, Ocean Isle Museum Foundation

Interested in incorporating virtual reality into your exhibits or programs but aren't sure where to start? In this roundtable discussion, we will go through the benefits of incorporating and ideas for overcoming barriers to using VR in museum exhibits and programs.

12pm-1pm – Food truck circle for lunch

Concurrent Sessions 1:00-2:00pm

Room 1

Breaking Down How to Speak Up: Influencing Decision Makers Through Communication

Nate McGaha; Executive Director, Arts North Carolina

Scott Warren; Immediate Past President, North Carolina Museums Council

You will never get a seat at the table if you wait for an invitation. You have to knock on opportunity's door, ask to be seated, then start talking... and listening. Creating change through communication can be as simple as casual conversations or as complex as a coordinated campaign. Join Arts North Carolina Executive Director Nate McGaha as he breaks down how to speak up for your cause or yourself, and make a case to decision makers that provides context and compels action. Participants will also learn more about the work of Arts NC to promote public funding and policy for the arts and arts education and get a preview of the ARTS Day conference and advocacy event happening in Raleigh April 17 & 18, 2022.

Room 2

Community Engagement through Exhibits

Courtney Smith; Exhibits and Programs Coordinator, Orange County Historical Museum

Share your issues with community involvement and devise ways to increase engagement! To spark discussion, staff from the Orange County Historical Museum will briefly present the problems they have faced, the creative methods they have employed in their special exhibits to meet these challenges, and the lessons they have learned.

Room 3

Why Did I Fail?

Steven Blashfield; Cultural Studio Director, Glave & Holmes Architecture

Zinnia Willits; Executive Director, Southeastern Museum Conference

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Managing an organization, a department or just an individual task sometimes requires skills that go outside your experience and education. This session will explore some of those skills and discuss how to avoid mistakes, learn from your mistakes, and to make mistakes a part of your growth.

Concurrent Sessions 2:10-3:00pm

Room 1

Creating Digital Interactive Labels for Art Museums

Kevin Kane; Software Developer, North Carolina Museum of Art

Felicia Ingram; Manager of Interpretation, Accessibility, and Diversity, NC Museum of Art

Learn how NCMA staff implemented a digital interactive labeling platform across their on-site galleries. This session is intended for any museum professional interested in learning about how digital touch labeling can deepen collection interpretation, enhance the visitor engagement with heritage objects, and streamline the content editing process for labeling.

Room 2

What do post-pandemic strategic plans look like?

A.J. Rhodes; Owner & Principal Consultant, R&L Consulting

Sarah Macey; Consultant, R&L Consulting

Elizabeth Dampier; Kaleideum

Lauren Fike; Supervisor, Monroe Science Center

Edith Brady; Director, High Point Museum

What do strategic plans look like in 2023? Any different from the ones completed in 2019? In this roundtable discussion, museum leaders sit down with team members from R&L Consulting to discuss the future of this necessary but problematic document. R&L Consulting will share outcomes and lessons learned from an in-progress strategic planning project integrating strategic foresight practices as part of the process.

Room 3

Real Collections Problems, Mishaps, and Disasters

Christian Edwards; Assistant Keeper, NCC Gallery; Wilson Library, UNC at Chapel Hill

Elizabeth Reign; Chief Curator, NC State Historic Sites

Jennifer French; Objects Conservator, NC Museum of History

Marian Inabinett; Collections Manager, High Point Museums

Collections mishaps and disasters happen all the time in museums. From small to overwhelming, professionals in the collection field will share real stories of collections problems from real museums and ideas on how to handle and, hopefully, prevent collections mishaps from happening again.

Room 4

Does Design Matter?

Samantha Shannon; Nest Coordinator, Kidzu Children's Museum

Melanie Levinson; Chief Creative Officer and Lead Curator, Kidzu Children's Museum

Kidzu Children's Museum's newest learning environment, the Nest, is informed by the Reggio Emilia philosophy, which views the "environment as the third teacher". Participants will learn about the Reggio Emilia approach, how its principles can be applied to a museum context,

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and how the design can impact intentional learning outcomes and even alter visitor behavior in our post-pandemic museum landscapes.

Break

4:30-5:30pm - Emerging Museum Professionals Meet Up and Happy Hour

- Hilton Garden Inn Restaurant and Bar

Mid-Career Museums Professionals Meet Up and Happy Hour

- Buffalo Wild Wings

5:30pm-11pm - Progressive Dinner

5:30pm-7pm Appetizers @ Schiele

7:30pm-9pm Dinner @ Kessel History Center and African American Museum

9:30pm-11pm Dessert @ Esquire

Tuesday, March 28, 2023

Check in, lunch, and sessions located at Loray Mills

Breakfast from 8-9am

Vendor Hall Open 9am-3pm

Concurrent Sessions 9:30-10:30am

Room 1

Not Your Average Commemoration

LeRae S Umfleet; America 250 NC Coordinator

Sarah Koonts; State Archivist, State Archives of NC, DNCR

This session will present various strategies for the development of programs, exhibits, and outreach for the upcoming semiquincentennial in 2026. Attendees will receive toolkits for planning 250th activities at their institutions and ideas for collaboration. Examples of programs from AASLH and the official North Carolina America 250 Committee will be presented.

Room 2

Collaboration Not Consultation: Forging Equitable Community-Institutional Partnerships

Linda Jacobson; Keeper, NCC Gallery; Wilson Library, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Biff Hollingsworth; Collecting and Outreach Archivist, Southern Historical Collection, Wilson

Library, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Stephen J. Fletcher; Photographic Archivist, North Carolina Collection, Wilson Library, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Presenters will discuss their experiences collaborating with members of the Warren County Environmental Action Team on a community-driven archives project to co-curate an exhibition about the Warren County PCB landfill protests, 1978-1982, focusing especially on the

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importance of establishing a set of guiding principles for equitable partnership. Presenters will include specific examples from the exhibition of how the collaboration led to content and design decisions.

Room 3

The Impact of 18th and 19th Century African American Decorative Arts on Museums and Galleries

Paul K. Baker; Executive Director, Contemporary Art Museum (Raleigh)

Early African Americans artisans have gone unheard for centuries. As their stories and decorative arts surface, the opportunity to show their work now exists. Enslaved silversmith Abraham of Charleston, SC and freedman cabinetmaker Thomas of Milton, NC will be some artisans discussed along with inclusive strategies to exhibit their work.

FRANKLIN ROOM A

Student Work in Museums - Poster Session

Students will showcase their work in a poster display at the NCMC conference. They may share their experiences as interns, volunteers, and paid consultants or describe their work collaborating with a museum in the classroom setting.

Concurrent Sessions 10:40-11:30am

Room 1

Kinesthetic activities to teach basic Astronomy Concepts

Kenneth C. Brandt; Director, Robeson Planetarium/NCSEA Space Grant Fellow

In this session, you will learn some basic kinesthetic activities to demonstrate concepts such as Day and Night, the Year, phases of the moon, the "supermoon" controversy, and why Mars gets so bright in the sky every 26 months. You will be doing most of these activities, prizes, NASA swag, and the instructions to take back to your institution to share

Room 2

The Basics of Accessibility: Introducing Access to your Institution

Molly Hull; Independent Consultant and Accessibility Coordinator, North Carolina Museum of Art

Through exploring the basics of accessibility, this session addresses the importance of creating an inclusive and welcoming workplace and visitor experience. The presenter explores how participants can construct tangible goals related to accessibility that can be achieved according to their institution, budget constraints, buy-in, and time.

Room 3

Research Grants: Making Research Possible at Your Institution

Lisa Withers; History Fellow, Gaston County

Alicyn Wiedrich; Curator, Gaston County Museum of Art & History

The Gaston County Museum of Art & History was one of the national recipients of the American Historical Association's Grants to Sustain and Advance the Work of Historical Organizations Program in 2022-2023 for the research of four African American sites relevant to Gaston County history. These four sites are being researched and investigated to be dedicated by the local Historic Preservation Commission. Knowledge gained will also be added to the

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interpretation of the Gaston County Museum of Art & History. Alicyn Wiedrich will talk about the grant and the goals the museum is trying to achieve with the support of their history fellow, funded by the grant. Lisa Withers will discuss research methodologies that any museum or organization can use to collect research and data to serve their mission, exhibits, programming, and other forms of outreach.

Break

12pm-1pm – Business Lunch with Keynote Lisa Withers

Concurrent Sessions 1:30-2:30pm

Room 1

Investigation in the Making

Amanda Brantley; Site Manager, House in the Horseshoe

Marisa Balatico; Education Coordinator, House in the Horseshoe

Developing an innovative field trip can be tough. Learn how House in the Horseshoe developed their hands-on field trip "Investigation: Alston House" and learned from their own experiences. The activity incorporates STEM learning while being fun and interactive.

Room 2

We're Here to FOCoS: An Information Session About Free On-Site Consultation Services

Alicyn Wiedrich; Curator, Gaston County Museum of Art & History

Alexander Brooks; Education Coordinator, Gaston County Museum of Art and History

Corinne Midgett; Registrar, High Point Museum

What is FOCoS? How can I apply? Who can I expect to work with? Are Just some of the questions Alicyn Wiedrich, Alexander Brooks, and Corrine Midgett will answer in their informational session about one of North Carolina Museums Council's important services: FOCoS (Free On-Site Consultation Services). Alicyn Wiedrich, current Vice President of NCMC, will talk about the program and how you can benefit. She brings with her two consultants and current professionals in the field to share their experiences with the program and answer some of your burning questions.

Room 3

Community Partnerships with Non-Museum Entities to Enhance STEM Engagement

Candice Jordan; Planetarium Administrator, Schiele Museum of Natural History and Planetarium

This session will highlight the importance of community partners in enhancing guest experiences with programs, events, and exhibits.

FRANKLIN ROOM A

2nd Annual DEAI Showcase

Christian Edwards; President, North Carolina Museums Council

Molly Hull; Accessibility Coordinator, NCMA

Various Museum Professionals from Across the State

Our 2nd Annual NCMC DEAI Showcase will feature museums from across the state to share programs, tours, materials, and exhibits advancing the principles of diversity, equity, accessibility, and/or inclusion. Set as a program 'exhibitor hall', rather than lecture or roundtable,

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participants will visit tables, each with museum professionals discussing their DEAI work and inspire participants on new and innovative work happening across NC museums.

Regional Section Meet and Greet 2:40-3:30pm

Join the Regional Section Chairs for a meet and greet! NCMC is transitioning from topical sections into regional sections. In this way, we hope to connect with museum professionals year-round closer to your museum's home-base. Come and meet the chair of your region, share your thoughts and ask how you can get involved!