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of Events and Exhibitions**

COLUMBIA, S.C, Wednesday, March 26, 2014— The South Carolina State Museum announces its April – June 2014 calendar of events and exhibitions. The following will be held at the State Museum, located at 301 Gervais Street in Columbia. The museum and store are open Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. and on Sunday from 1 – 5 p.m. The museum and store will be closed on the following Mondays: April 7 and 28 and May 5, 12 and 19.

Special Events:**South Carolina Statewide Star Party: April 4 and 5**

The South Carolina State Museum is proud to present the inaugural South Carolina Statewide Star Party, which is a two day free stargazing celebration that will take place on April 4 and 5 around the state with several astronomy partners. The State Museum's Star Party events will take place from 7:30 – 10:00 p.m. on Friday, April 4 at Congaree National Park at the Cedar Creek Boat Landing and from 7:30 – 10:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 5 at Hunter Gather, located at 900 Main St. in Columbia. Both parties are free and open to the public. Each partnering organization will also present a free stargazing and telescope viewing session in their area. [Click here](#) for a full list of Star Party dates and times across the state.

\$1 Sunday: April 6, May 4 and June 1

General admission to the South Carolina State Museum is only \$1 for guests on the first Sunday of every month.

History Day: April 12

Come celebrate South Carolina's history during History Day at the South Carolina State Museum on Saturday, April 12 from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. The day will be packed full of exciting history activities, including military and civilian reenactors, archeology presentations and crafts, history movies, C.S.S. Hunley discussions given by Hunley expert, Stoney Hilton, and traditional Gullah folk music presentation with the opportunity for guest participation. In addition, there will be book reading and signing by the author of the Sal and Amanda children's book series, Dr. Mary Anne Solisbee, who will be reading her latest edition to the series, "Sal and Amanda Take Morgan's Victory March to the Battle of Cowpens." History Day is included with museum general admission or membership. To learn more, visit scmuseum.org/events.

Clay Rice Silhouette Cutting and Book Signing: April 26

In conjunction with the changing exhibit, [Mama, Let's Make a Moon](#), the South Carolina State Museum is hosting a Clay Rice silhouette cutting and book signing event on Saturday, April 26. It is an opportunity to bring the kids out to have their silhouette created by award winning artist and children's book author, Clay Rice. Space is limited, so please reserve your portrait sitting today. The available time slots are between 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. The silhouette cuttings are \$42 for two copies of the same person and \$10 for each for additional copy. Please call (803) 898-4967 or email lorraine.glandon@scmuseum.org to reserve your spot.

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Nefertiti's Golden Spa: April 27

Back by popular demand, Nefertiti's Golden Spa returns to the South Carolina State Museum on Sunday, April 27 from 2 - 4 p.m. Enjoy a "girl's day out" at the museum and learn about the beauty secrets of ancient Egyptian women, including Nefertiti who was considered the most beautiful woman of her time. Guests will have the chance to make luxurious concoctions, enjoy mini-treatments and tour the blockbuster exhibition, [Tutankhamun: Return of the King](#). Tickets are \$10 for members and \$12 for non-museum members. Advance ticket purchase recommended by calling (803) 898-4999. To learn more, visit scmuseum.org/events or email publicprograms@scmuseum.org.

Festival Cinco de Mayo: May 4

The South Carolina State Museum is partnering with Hispanic Connections to celebrate Mexican heritage and pride by hosting Festival Cinco de Mayo at the State Museum from 12:30 – 6 p.m. on Sunday, May 4. Come enjoy a family fiesta that will feature an unbreakable Piñata, Spanish programming and games, Latin performers, refreshments and much more. Admission to the event is included with museum general admission or membership. To learn more, visit scmuseum.org/events.

Egyptian Night at the Museum: May 16

Have you ever wanted to spend the night in a museum and see if everything comes to life? Well now is your chance, as the South Carolina State Museum presents Egyptian Night at the Museum on Friday, May 16 starting at 6:30 p.m. until 8 a.m. on Saturday, May 17. Campers will unearth the mysteries of the ancient civilization of Egypt and enjoy exclusive access to the blockbuster exhibition, [Tutankhamun: Return of the King](#), as well as after-hours exploration of museum galleries. Campers will craft an original Egyptian masterpiece, embark on a scavenger hunt of ancient Egypt, watch a special movie about Egyptian life and much more. Camp-in tickets are \$25 per person. Pizza and a continental breakfast are included. Campers must be at least 5 years old and be accompanied by an adult. Space is limited, so buy your tickets today by [clicking here](#), calling (803) 898-4999 or emailing campin@scmuseum.org.

StoryfestSC: June 7

Join the South Carolina State Library for StoryfestSC, an annual family-friendly reading event, which will be held from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. on Saturday, June 7 at the South Carolina State Museum. StoryfestSC is an opportunity to learn about summer reading programs, meet award winning authors and experience the joy of storytelling. The event will include author presentations and sessions with local storytellers, a craft area with face painting and a Readers Theater presentation, as well as visits from Cocky and SC ETV's SmartCat. For more information, call (803) 734-8666 or visit statelibrary.sc.gov/storyfest.

The American Revolutionary War in South Carolina Discussion Series: June 14, 21 and 28

In conjunction with the South Carolina State Museum's new temporary exhibit, *The American Revolutionary War in South Carolina*, the museum will host a series of discussions led by guest speakers. The discussions are included with museum general admission or membership. Visit scmuseum.org/exhibits to learn more about the exhibit and upcoming Revolutionary War events. The following discussions will take place at the State Museum:

- **"Fighting for Freedom" – June 14 at 1 p.m.** Dr. Anthony J. Scotti Jr., a history instructor at Midlands Technical College will discuss the importance of the Revolution in South Carolina and highlight some key battles. Dr. Scotti has published many scholarly articles including *Brutal Virtue: The Myth and Reality of Banastre Tarleton* (2002).
- **"Real People, Making Real Decisions, in Real Time" – June 21 at 1 p.m.** John McCabe, member of the State Museum Foundation Board, will focus on South Carolinian partisan, political and continental army leaders. Subjects will include Francis Marion, William Danger Thompson, Henry Laurens and others who faced internal struggles pitting neighbor against neighbor.

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- **“Women of the Revolutionary War” – June 28 at 1 p.m.** JoAnn Zeise, curator of history at the State Museum, will put the lives of women in 18th century America in context by exploring their roles in society and the creation of republican motherhood. While looking at women from all kinds of racial and social backgrounds, Zeise will focus on several South Carolina women whose lives and actions made great contributions to the war effort and the creation of our new country.

Summer Camps at the State Museum: June 16-20 and June 23-27

The South Carolina State Museum is excited to present another year of entertaining and educational summer camps that will take place June 16 - July 25. In partnership with Engineering for Kids, the State Museum will present five weeks of day camps that will focus on combining engineering and science with fun for all campers. Each week, the STEM-based camp days will be broken down into morning and afternoon sessions. Campers are able to sign up for weekly full days or weekly half days. The weekly full day price is \$220 (\$200 for members) and the weekly half day price is \$130 (\$115 members). To learn more, visit scmuseum.org/events.

Museum Road Show: June 21

One of the South Carolina State Museum’s most popular bi-annual events is back. The Museum Road Show, taking place from 9:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. on Saturday, June 21, will bring local experts under one roof to offer informal appraisals of fine art, textiles, military memorabilia, furniture, jewelry and much more. There is a limit of four items per person. Tickets are \$20 for the first item (\$15 for museum members), \$30 for two items (\$25 members), \$35 for three items (\$30 members) and \$40 for four items (\$35 members). Tickets can be purchased in advance by calling (803) 898-4999 or the day of the event. Visit scmuseum.org/events or e-mail publicprograms@scmuseum.org for more information.

On Going Events:

Museum and a Movie: Every Saturday and Sunday

Movies are offered twice a day on Saturdays (11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.) and once a day on Sundays (1:30 p.m.) to guests during their visits to the South Carolina State Museum. “Museum and a Movie” is included with museum general admission or membership. [Click here](#) for the full schedule.

Museum Highlights Tours: Every Saturday

Every Saturday at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m., docents lead 60-minute Museum Highlights Tours of the South Carolina State Museum. Highlight Tours are included with museum general admission or membership.

Exhibitions:

The American Revolutionary War in South Carolina: Opens May 24

The South Carolina State Museum will open a new temporary exhibit, *The American Revolutionary War in South Carolina*, on Saturday, May 24. The exhibit will examine the major role that South Carolina played in the Revolutionary War, where over 200 engagements (battles and skirmishes) took place, more than any other colony during the war. The exhibit will also highlight major battles that took place in South Carolina, including the Battle of Sullivan’s Island, the Cherokee Attack and the Battle of Cowpens, as well as the role that African Americans and women played in the war. The exhibit will be on display at the State Museum until Sunday, Aug. 17 and is included with museum general admission or membership. Visit scmuseum.org/exhibits to learn more about the exhibit and upcoming Revolutionary War events. The exhibit, made possible by a grant from the South Carolina Humanities Council, is part of the State Museum’s [Traveling Exhibits Program](#) and will be available to travel to other venues starting September 2014.

The Civil War in South Carolina Expansion: May 30

The State Museum's expanding *Civil War in South Carolina* exhibit is getting a facelift. New updates to the exhibit can be seen on Friday, May 30, which will focus on the coast of South Carolina, specifically Port Royal, Charleston and the Union blockade of Charleston Harbor. Visitors will see small things that were used in everyday life during the war, including a pipe bowl owned by one of the Drayton brothers and a small secession flag, as well as larger artifacts such as ordnance (ammunition) from several types of cannons and mortars used to defend the coast. The museum began enlarging its permanent exhibit on the war in 2011, the 150th anniversary of the war's beginning, and will continue to add to that expansion through 2015, with the end of the sesquicentennial observation of the war. The Civil War exhibit is included with museum general admission or membership. Visit scmuseum.org/exhibits to learn more.

Tutankhamun: Return of the King: Open through June 1

Held over by popular demand, [Tutankhamun: Return of the King](#) has been extended to Sunday, June 1 at the South Carolina State Museum. This exciting blockbuster exhibition is a breathtaking display of reproductions of the treasures of "King Tut" that awed the world when they toured decades ago and represents the greatest archaeological discovery in history. Admission to the exhibition is \$15 for adults, \$13 for seniors and \$11 for children and includes general museum admission. [Click here](#) to learn more.

South Carolina Unearthed: June 28

The South Carolina State Museum's new natural history exhibit, *South Carolina Unearthed*, which opens Saturday, June 28, will showcase a variety of specimens from the museum's extensive and nationally-known collection of animals that once inhabited South Carolina. The exhibit will feature a wide array of fossil animals like the American lion, long-nosed crocodile and saber-toothed cat, along with many other ancient beasts. *South Carolina Unearthed* is included with museum general admission or membership. Visit scmuseum.org/exhibits to learn more.

Mama, Let's Make a Moon: Open through June 29

The South Carolina State Museum presents *Mama, Let's Make a Moon*, an exhibition featuring original artwork from award winning artist and children's book author, Clay Rice. The exhibition features illustrations from Rice's most recent children's book, "[Mama, Let's Make a Moon](#)," which artfully weaves its way through the mountains towards core family values such as love of family, making something from nothing and just plain having fun. The exhibition will run through Sunday, June 29, 2014 and is included with museum general admission or membership. Visit scmuseum.org/exhibits to learn more.

For additional information about these events and exhibits, please call (803) 898-4921 or visit scmuseum.org. General admission to the museum is \$7 for adults, \$6 for seniors and \$5 for children. Children two and under are admitted free. Become a member of the State Museum to enjoy free admission, store discounts and much more. [Click here](#) for more information about visiting the museum.

About the South Carolina State Museum: On Oct. 29, 1988, the South Carolina State Museum opened its doors, bringing to the citizens of the Palmetto State the newest, and one of the finest, state museums in America. The Museum has four large floors devoted to the disciplines of art, history, natural history and science/technology. It houses both long-term exhibits and several changing exhibit galleries. For more information about the museum, visit scmuseum.org or follow @SCStateMuseum on Twitter.