

Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs to sponsor 12 free programs during November 2017

(DOVER, Del.—Oct. 25, 2017)—The Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs will be sponsoring 12 special events during the month of November 2017 at the [five museums of the State of Delaware](#). A full schedule is included below. All programs are free and open to the public.



Historic-site interpreter Dennis Fisher will portray Dr. James Sykes during the “18th Century Market Fair” on Nov. 4, 2017

Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs special programs, November 2017

Saturday, Nov. 4, 2017

“[18th Century Market Fair](#).” Programs explore an era when The Green served as the focal point of life in Dover as historical interpreters explore the goods, wares and political attitudes of the 1700s. [The Old State House](#) will celebrate the fair with special tours and 18th-century-style demonstrations. First Saturday in the First State event sponsored by the [First State Heritage Park](#). The Green, Dover. Programs 10 a.m.—4 p.m. Museum open 9 a.m.—4:30 p.m. 302-744-5054.



Historic-site
interpreter Tom
Pulmano will be
presenting
“Life at Sea”
during the
“18th Century
Market Fair” on
Nov. 4, 2017

Saturday, Nov. 4, 2017

“Johnson Victrola Museum’s 50th Anniversary Celebration: A Classical Tale.” Guided tours, entitled “Some Like Classical,” explore some of Victor Records’ earliest recordings of classical music accompanied by 78-rpm records played on authentic Victor Talking Machines. Part of a [series of programs](#) celebrating the museum’s creation in 1967. [First Saturday in the First State](#) program. [Johnson Victrola Museum](#), 375 S. New St., Dover. 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. 302-739-3262.

Friday, Nov. 10, 2017

Veterans Day. All museums of the State of Delaware will be open: The [Johnson Victrola Museum](#) and [The Old State House](#), open 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m.; the [John Dickinson Plantation](#), [New Castle Court House Museum](#) and the [Zwaanendael Museum](#), open 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m. 302-744-5054.

Friday, Nov. 10, 2017

Concert by Free Range. Bluegrass music. Presented in partnership with the [Delaware Friends of Folk](#) and the [First State Heritage Park](#). [The Old State House](#), 25 The Green, Dover. 7:30 p.m. Free admission. 302-744-5054. ?

Saturday, Nov. 11, 2017

“Johnson Victrola Museum’s 50th Anniversary Celebration: A Soldier’s Tale.” Guided tours, entitled “The Victors of

World War I: The Power of Music,” examine music’s influence during World War I when patriotic songs were being composed throughout America, accompanied by 78-rpm records played on authentic Victor Talking Machines. Part of a [series of programs](#) celebrating the museum’s creation in 1967. [Johnson Victrola Museum](#), 375 S. New St., Dover. 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. 302-739-3262.



“Over There” will be featured in the program “The Victors of World War I: The Power of Music” that will be presented at the Johnson Victrola Museum on Nov. 11, 2017.

Saturday, Nov. 11, 2017

“Delaware Band of Brothers: A Salute to Veterans.” Program examines the interconnected lives, dedication and friendship of four Union officers who served together for four years in the Delaware volunteers during the American Civil War. [The Old State House](#), 25 The Green, Dover. Program at 1 p.m. Museum open 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. 302-744-5054.

Saturday, Nov. 11, 2017

Demonstrations by the Thistledown Fiber Arts Guild. Program explores spinning, weaving, knitting and other fabric arts. [John Dickinson Plantation](#), 340 Kitts Hummock Road, Dover. Program 1–3 p.m. Museum open 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m. 302-739-3277.

Saturday, Nov. 18, 2017

Bayberry candle workshops. Programs examine bayberries and their use in creating bayberry candles. Presented in partnership with the [St. Jones Reserve](#). [John Dickinson](#)

[Plantation](#), 340 Kitts Hummock Road, Dover. Workshops to take place from 10 a.m.–Noon and 1–3 p.m. Museum open 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Free admission but, due to space restrictions, reservations for the workshop are required by calling 302-739-3277 no later than Nov. 17.



Hand-dipped candles (bottom center) and the materials needed to produce them at the John Dickinson Plantation. Candle-dipping workshops will be held at the plantation on Nov. 18, 2017.

Saturday, Nov. 18, 2017

Dutch-American Heritage Day. Celebrate the anniversary of Nov. 16, 1776 when an American warship sailed into the harbor of the Dutch island of St. Eustatius in the West Indies and was greeted by a friendly salute, the first ever given by a foreign power to the flag of the newly-independent United States. Activities include Dutch crafts, historical information and, at 2 p.m., “An Overview of the Environmental History of the Delmarva Peninsula,” a lecture by historic-site interpreter Alan Roth. [Zwaanendael Museum](#), 102 Kings Highway, Lewes. Environmental history lecture on the museum’s 2nd floor (entry via staircase; no elevator). Museum open 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Free admission but, due to space restrictions, reservations for the lecture are required by calling 302-645-1148 no later than Nov. 17, 2017.



Thursday, Nov. 23, 2017

Thanksgiving Day. All museums of the State of Delaware (the

[John Dickinson Plantation](#), the [Johnson Victrola Museum](#), the [New Castle Court House Museum](#), [The Old State House](#) and the [Zwaanendael Museum](#)) will be closed. 302-744-5054.

Friday, Nov. 24, 2017

Day After Thanksgiving. All museums of the State of Delaware will be open: The [Johnson Victrola Museum](#) and [The Old State House](#), open 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m.; the [John Dickinson Plantation](#), [New Castle Court House Museum](#) and the [Zwaanendael Museum](#), open 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m. 302-744-5054.

Friday, Nov. 24, 2017

Day After Thanksgiving at The Old State House. Guided tours explore one of the country's oldest capitols in continuous use. [The Old State House](#), 25 The Green, Dover. 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. 302-744-5054.

Friday, Nov. 24, 2017

"Johnson Victrola Museum's 50th Anniversary Celebration." Guided tours explore the museum and its collections during the [golden anniversary](#) of its creation in 1967, accompanied by 78-rpm records played on authentic Victor Talking Machines. [Johnson Victrola Museum](#), 375 S. New St., Dover. 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. 302-739-3262.

Saturday, Nov. 25, 2017

"Handmade for the Holidays." Seasonal program in which visitors can create a sachet with herbs and spices. [John Dickinson Plantation](#), 340 Kitts Hummock Road, Dover. Program 11 a.m.–3 p.m. Museum open 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m. 302-739-3277.

Thursday, Nov. 30, 2017

"Hospitality Night–Victorian Yule-Tide Celebration." Holiday-themed program in which the museum will be decorated for the season by the [Sussex Gardeners](#) including luminarias lighting the entrance walkway. Activities will include historical interpreters, demonstrations, music and seasonal refreshments. Presented in partnership with the [Lewes](#)

[Chamber of Commerce](#). [Zwaanendael Museum](#), 102 Kings Highway, Lewes. 5–8 p.m. 302-645-1148.

Exhibits and displays, November 2017

In addition to special programming, the Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs is sponsoring the following exhibits and displays. Admission is free and open to the public:

Thru Dec. 31, 2017

[“Rose Color to Gold to Glowing Red: Orville and Ethel Peets in Paris 1913-1914.”](#) Exhibit featuring paintings and painting materials used by the noted Delaware artists Orville Houghton Peets and Ethel Canby Peets. [Zwaanendael Museum](#), 102 Kings Highway, Lewes. April 1–Oct. 31: Tue.–Sat., 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m.; Sun., 1:30–4:30 p.m. Nov. 1–March 31: Wed.–Sat., 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m. 302-645-1148.

Ongoing

[“Drawing America to Victory: The Persuasive Power of the Arts in World War I.”](#) Online exhibit revolves around 27 World War I posters from the collections of the State of Delaware.

Ongoing

[“Discovering Delaware’s Maritime Past.”](#) Display explores the DeBraak, a shipwrecked 18th-century British warship, including a photo of the hull recovery, reproductions of items aboard ship and a model of the vessel. [Zwaanendael Museum](#), 102 Kings Highway, Lewes. April 1–Oct. 31: Tue.–Sat., 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m.; Sun., 1:30–4:30 p.m. Nov. 1–March 31: Wed.–Sat., 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m. 302-645-1148.

Ongoing

[“Five Stories.”](#) Display explores the varied lives of people who lived on the plantation including Dickinson family members, tenant farmers, tradesmen, free blacks, indentured servants and enslaved individuals. [John Dickinson Plantation Welcome Center](#), 340 Kitts Hummock Road, Dover. Oct. 1–March

31: Tue.–Sat., 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m. April 1–Sept. 30:
Tue.–Sat., 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m.; Sun., 1:30–4:30 p.m.
302-739-3277.

Ongoing

[“New Castle: Three Forts, One Community.”](#) Exhibit examines the 17th-century struggle for control of New Castle by the Dutch, Swedes and English, and the strongholds that they built to maintain their power. [New Castle Court House Museum](#), 211 Delaware St., New Castle. Tue.–Sat., 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Sun., 1:30 p.m.–4:30 p.m. 302-323-4453.



Ongoing

[“The Old State House: A True Restoration 1976-2016.”](#) Display explores preservation work that has been conducted since Delaware’s first state capitol building was restored to its original appearance in 1976. From the collections of the State of Delaware. [The Old State House](#), 25 The Green, Dover. Mon.–Sat., 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Sun., 1:30–4:30 p.m. 302-744-5054.

Ongoing

[Sculpture by Charles Parks](#). Display of works by the noted Wilmington artist featuring historical and political figures including a Minute Man, and presidents Richard Nixon, Gerald Ford and George W. Bush. [New Castle Court House Museum](#), 211 Delaware St., New Castle. Tue.–Sat., 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Sun., 1:30 p.m.–4:30 p.m. 302-323-4453.

Ongoing

[“A Seaborne Citizenry: The DeBraak and Its Atlantic World.”](#) Exhibit utilizes artifacts recovered from His Majesty’s Sloop of War DeBraak, a British warship that sank off the Delaware coast on May 25, 1798, to tell the story of the vessel, its crew and the historical context within which it operated in the Atlantic World of the late 18th century.

[Zwaanendael Museum](#), 102 Kings Highway, Lewes. April 1–Oct. 31: Tue.–Sat., 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m.; Sun., 1:30–4:30 p.m. Nov. 1–March 31: Wed.–Sat., 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m. 302-645-1148.

Ongoing

“[Simple Machines](#).” Exhibit demonstrating the six “simple machines”—incline ramp, screw, wedge, pulley, lever and wheel—that constitute the elementary building blocks of which many more-complicated machines are composed. [John Dickinson Plantation](#), 340 Kitts Hummock Road, Dover. Oct. 1–March 31: Tue.–Sat., 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m. April 1–Sept. 30: Tue.–Sat., 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m.; Sun., 1:30–4:30 p.m. 302-739-3277.

Administered by the [Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs](#), the five museums of the State of Delaware—the John Dickinson Plantation, the Johnson Victrola Museum, the New Castle Court House Museum, The Old State House and the Zwaanendael Museum—tell the story of the First State’s contributions to the history and culture of the United States. Through tours, exhibits, school programs and hands-on activities, the museums shine a spotlight on Delaware’s unique history and the diverse people who came to live there. The museums are accredited by the [American Alliance of Museums](#). The New Castle Court House Museum and the John Dickinson Plantation are partner sites of the [First State National Historical Park](#). The Old State House is located on the Dover Green, another partner site of the park.

Go to the following for a [comprehensive, long-term calendar of division-sponsored events](#).



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