



News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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State Museum Announces
Special December Events

Editors and News Directors, please note:

The State Museum is open seven days a week through Jan. 16. If you need to reach us, please contact Tut Underwood at (803) 898-4948 or tut.underwood@scmuseum.org or Celeste Wszola at (803) 898-4952 or celeste.wszola@scmuseum.org.

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These special events and exhibits are scheduled at the South Carolina State Museum in December.

Special Attractions!

BODY WORLDS Vital. In its southeastern premiere, *BODY WORLDS Vital* celebrates the potential of the human body and the body in motion. Featuring authentic, donated human bodies, the exhibition shows the body in health, distress and disease and tells the pressing story of how best to defeat life-threatening diseases such as cancer, diabetes, and heart ailments through informed choices and healthy lifestyle changes. Continues through April 15, 2012. Admission: Adults \$11, seniors 62 and up \$9, ages 3-12 \$7 in addition to museum general admission.

Lipscomb Gallery (first floor)

Uncommon Folk. The world of folk and traditional art is explored with pieces from the museum's permanent collection: works of traditional art from the collection that have rarely, if ever, been seen on exhibit, including baskets, quilts, pottery (with an emphasis

on native American earthenware) and nontraditional sculptures and works of art by self-taught and outsider artists. Continues through Jan. 15, 2012.

Stringer Discovery Center (First Floor)

Enjoy hands-on activities in this special gallery for young children and their families.

Recent Acquisitions Gallery (Fourth Floor)

Tangible History: South Carolina Stoneware from the Holcombe Family Collection. This exhibit consists of some of the best pieces of South Carolina stoneware from the extensive collection of the Holcombe family of Clinton, S.C., most of which have never been on public display before. They include some classic pieces by Dave (a slave potter who worked in clay from the 1830s into the 1860s), plus Upstate examples from Thomas Owenby and other important 19th century potters. The family collection is supplemented with some pieces from the State Museum's collection and a traditional treadle potter's wheel that contemporary potters will use to demonstrate their craft on selected weekdays. Continues through May 2012.

401 Gallery (Fourth Floor)

The Great Charleston Earthquake. This new exhibit tells the story of the second biggest earthquake in U.S. history, which occurred in Charleston, S.C. at 9:51 p.m. Aug. 31, 1886. More than 100 people were killed, almost every building in Charleston was damaged, and the effects of the quake were felt as far away as Maine, Iowa and Louisiana. The exhibit is co-produced with the South Carolina Emergency Management Division and features photographs of the destruction as well as period artifacts. The exhibit runs through April 2012.

Palmetto Gallery (Fourth Floor)

The Robert B. Ariail Collection of Historical Astronomy. Donated by Robert B. Ariail of Columbia, this historic collection, considered among the best of American-made telescopes, comprises individually-made historic and modern telescopes, some dating back nearly 300 years, plus binoculars, lenses and other scientific equipment related to the study of the universe.

Fourth Floor

Soldiers of the Palmetto State, 1861 – 1865: “We left in a storm of cheers.” This second in a series of six planned exhibits over a four-year period marking the observance of the 150th anniversary of the American Civil War examines the everyday lives of Confederate soldiers from South Carolina. Portraying their experiences both in battle and in camp through letters, uniforms, weapons and other artifacts, the exhibit depicts the

hardships these men endured, from disease and primitive medical practices to homesickness and worry for families left behind. Continues through May 2012 when the next phase of the series begins.

Volunteer Opportunity

Docents (volunteer teachers) are needed to give tours, teach lessons and help in a variety of other ways at the museum. Benefits for all museum volunteers include a 20 percent discount at the museum store and opportunities to learn more about South Carolina's art, natural history, cultural history, science and technology. For more information, contact volunteer@scmuseum.org or (803) 898-4901.

Special Activities and Events

December

2nd & 3rd – **Museum and a Movie.** “Taking Charge in Meadowland,” 11 a.m.; “The Incredible Human Machine,” 1:30 p.m., Auditorium.

3rd – **Museum Highlights Tours.** Join a weekend walk-in tour highlighting museum exhibits. 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.

4th – **\$1 Sunday.** General admission to the State Museum is only \$1 today.

4th – **Society of American Foresters.** Join the Society of American Foresters for their holiday activity, making tree “cookies.” 1-4 p.m., Discovery Center.

4th – **Museum and a Movie.** “The Incredible Human Body,” 1:30 p.m., Auditorium.

6th – **Museum and a Movie.** “Taking Charge in Meadowland,” 11 a.m.; “The Incredible Human Body,” 1:30 p.m.; “The Incredible Human Machine,” 3 p.m. Auditorium.

9th & 10th – **Museum and a Movie.** “Taking Charge in Meadowland,” 11 a.m.; “The Incredible Human Machine,” 1:30 p.m., Auditorium.

10th – **“The Mystery of the *H.L. Hunley*.”** Retired submariner Stonewall “Stoney” Hilton tells the tale of that fateful night in February 1864 when the Confederate submarine *H.L. Hunley* sank the *USS Housatonic* just outside of Charleston Harbor. Free with general admission or membership. Seating is limited. 11 a.m., noon, 1 p.m., 2 p.m., 3 p.m., Fourth floor gallery.

10th – **Museum Highlights Tours.** Join a weekend walk-in tour highlighting museum exhibits. 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.

11th – **Museum and a Movie.** “The Incredible Human Body,” 1:30 p.m., Auditorium.

13th – **Museum and a Movie.** “Taking Charge in Meadowland,” 11 a.m.; “The Incredible Human Body,” 1:30 p.m.; “The Incredible Human Machine,” 3 p.m. Auditorium.

16th & 17th – **Museum and a Movie.** “Taking Charge in Meadowland,” 11 a.m.; “The Incredible Human Machine,” 1:30 p.m., Auditorium.

17th – **Museum Highlights Tours.** Join a weekend walk-in tour highlighting museum exhibits. 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.

18th – **Museum and a Movie.** “The Incredible Human Body,” 1:30 p.m., Auditorium.

18th – **Holiday Tea.** Join The Charleston Silver Lady (Dawn Corley) for afternoon tea to celebrate the season! See a gorgeous display of china and silver tea services; learn about the uses and histories of the pieces on display; and enjoy several varieties of tea with a lovely menu of goodies. Call for ticket prices and more information 803-898-4952.

19th – 23rd – **Winter Fest.** The South Carolina State Museum’s holiday tradition offers a chance to escape the holiday crowds with a variety of holiday-oriented family activities. Highlights of Winter Fest include special movie screenings, musical performances, seasonal Star Labs, holiday crafts and, of course, several visits from “the right jolly old elf” himself.

19th – **Museum and a Movie.** “Uncommon Folk,” 11 a.m.; “The Incredible Human Machine,” 1:30 p.m., Auditorium.

20th -- – **Museum and a Movie.** “My Christmas Soldier,” 11 a.m.; “The Incredible Human Body,” 1:30 p.m.; “The Incredible Human Machine,” 3 p.m. Auditorium.

21st – **Museum and a Movie.** “Christmas in Yellowstone,” 11 a.m.; “The Incredible Human Machine,” 1:30 p.m., Auditorium.

22nd – **Museum and a Movie.** “Gullah Kinfolk Wish,” 11 a.m.

22nd – **Marionette Theatre Show.** “Santa’s Christmas Party,” 2 p.m., Auditorium.

23rd – **Museum and a Movie.** “My Christmas Soldier,” 11 a.m.; “The Incredible Human Machine,” 1:30 p.m., Auditorium.

24th – 25th – Museum closed for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day!

26th – Jan. 1st – **Winter Fest.** Winter Fest continues with family activities related to the *BODY WORLDS Vital* exhibit as well as crafts, Star Labs and special movie screenings.

26th – **Museum and a Movie.** “Taking Charge in Meadowland,” 11 a.m.; “The Incredible Human Machine,” 1:30 p.m., Auditorium.

27th – **Museum and a Movie.** “Taking Charge in Meadowland,” 11 a.m.; “The Incredible Human Body,” 1:30 p.m.; “The Incredible Human Machine,” 3 p.m. Auditorium.

28th – **Museum and a Movie.** Civil War marathon, 11 a.m., 1:30 p.m., 3 p.m., Auditorium.

29th – **Museum and a Movie.** “Taking Charge in Meadowland,” 11 a.m.; “The Incredible Human Machine,” 1:30 p.m., Auditorium.

30th & 31st – **Museum and a Movie.** “Taking Charge in Meadowland,” 11 a.m.; “The Incredible Human Machine,” 1:30 p.m., Auditorium.

31st – **Museum Highlights Tours.** Join a weekend walk-in tour highlighting museum exhibits. 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Dates and times are subject to change. For the very latest information, be sure to check the State Museum Web site often! southcarolinastatemuseum.org.

For additional information about these and other exhibits and events at the State Museum, please call (803) 898-4952 weekdays and (803) 898-4978 weekends.

The State Museum is located at 301 Gervais St. in Columbia. Open special hours Nov. 13 - Jan. 16: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.; Tuesday 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.; Saturday 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.; Sunday 1 – 5 p.m.

Admission is \$7 for ages 13 to 61, \$6 for adults 62 and over, and \$5 for children ages 3-12. Children two and under are admitted free. Children under 13 cannot be admitted unless accompanied by an adult, age 18 or older.

To get free admission, store discounts and more benefits, join the Friends of the State Museum. Call (803) 898-4935 for information.

Discounts for groups of 10 or more are available. School-age groups should have one adult for every 10 children, both in the galleries and in the museum store.

The museum's Web site is www.southcarolinastatemuseum.org.

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