



News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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State Museum Announces
Special February Events

Editors and News Directors, please note:

The State Museum is closed on Mondays. However, our offices are open. 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 February.

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.

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 Sept. 3, 2012.

401 Gallery (Fourth Floor)

The Great Charleston Earthquake 1886. This 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 29, 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. Continues through Summer 2012.

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) 898-4962.

Special Activities and Events

February

3rd – **Museum and a Movie.** “Our Health: Overcoming Obesity,” 11 a.m.; “Why We Smoke,” 1:30 p.m., Auditorium.

4th – **Museum and a Movie.** “The Civil War: Most Hallowed Ground,” 11 a.m.; “The Incredible Human Machine,” 1:30 p.m., Auditorium.

4th -- **Museum Highlights Tours.** Join a weekend walk-in tour highlighting museum exhibits. 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.

5th – **\$1 Sunday.** General admission to the State Museum is only \$1 today.

5th -- **Museum and a Movie.** “The Incredible Human Body,” 1:30 p.m., Auditorium.

7th – **Museum and a Movie.** “Our Health: The Noble Profession,” 11 a.m.; “Why We Smoke,” 1:30 p.m.; “The Incredible Human Machine,” 3 p.m., Auditorium.

10th – **Museum and a Movie.** “Our Health: Overcoming Obesity,” 11 a.m.; “Why We Smoke,” 1:30 p.m., Auditorium.

11th -- **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 Civil War: War is All Hell,” 11 a.m.; “The Incredible Human Machine,” 1:30 p.m., Auditorium.

12th – **Museum and a Movie.** “The Incredible Human Body,” 1:30 p.m., Auditorium.

14th – **Museum and a Movie.** “Our Health: The Noble Profession,” 11 a.m.; “Why We Smoke,” 1:30 p.m.; “The Incredible Human Machine,” 3 p.m., Auditorium.

17th – **Museum and a Movie.** “Our Health: Overcoming Obesity,” 11 a.m.; “Why We Smoke,” 1:30 p.m., Auditorium.

18th – **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 Civil War: The Better Angels of Our Nature,” 11 a.m.; “The Incredible Human Machine,” 1:30 p.m., Auditorium.

19th – **Museum and a Movie.** “The Incredible Human Body,” 1:30 p.m., Auditorium.

20th – **Museum open for Presidents Day!**

21st – **Museum and a Movie.** “Our Health: The Noble Profession,” 11 a.m.; “Why We Smoke,” 1:30 p.m.; “The Incredible Human Machine,” 3 p.m., Auditorium.

24th – **Museum and a Movie.** “Our Health: Overcoming Obesity,” 11 a.m.; “Why We Smoke,” 1:30 p.m., Auditorium.

25th -- **Museum Highlights Tours.** Join a weekend walk-in tour highlighting museum exhibits. 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.

25th – **Museum and a Movie.** “The Civil War: Most Hallowed Ground,” 11 a.m.; “The Incredible Human Machine,” 1:30 p.m., Auditorium.

26th – **Museum and a Movie.** “The Incredible Human Body,” 1:30 p.m., Auditorium.

28th – **Museum and a Movie.** “Our Health: The Noble Profession,” 11 a.m.; “Why We Smoke,” 1:30 p.m.; “The Incredible Human Machine,” 3 p.m., Auditorium.

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: 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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