

October to December 2026 - Fourth Quarter

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AMH CALENDAR

Brown Bag History Lecture
Wednesday, October 14, 12:30pm
A Look at Augusta Families: Through the AMH Collection
Speaker: Alena Rensch

Hands on History Workshop
Victorian Hair Jewelry
Saturday, October 24, 1-4pm

Curious Kids Program
Thursday, October 29, 10-11am
Friday, October 30, 10-11am
Celebrate Dia de Los Muertos

Ofrenda & Dia de Los Muertos
Ofrenda up October 29-November 1
Dia de Los Muertos Discovery Day
Saturday, October 31, 1-3pm

Museum Closed For Veterans Day
Wednesday, November 11, 2026

Brown Bag History Lecture
Wednesday, November 18, 12:30pm
Speaker: TBA

Holiday Gingerbread Village
November 19 through 29, 2026
Open every day except Thanksgiving

Gingerbread Fun Day
Saturday, November 21, 1-3pm
crafts, story time, scavenger hunts

Lecture Series
- Schedule A Tour

Something Extra At The Museum

- Holiday Gifts
- Host an Event at The Augusta Museum of History

Experience Yesterday Today at the Augusta Museum of History!

Closed For Thanksgiving
Thursday, November 26, 2026

All Aboard The Museum Express
December 6 & 13
(11am, 1pm & 3pm Both Sundays)

AMH & EHH Closed
December 24, 25, 31 & January 1
Christmas and New Years Holidays

Jimmie Dyess Symposium
January 14, 2027, 5:00-6:00pm
Free to the Public

FROM THE DIRECTOR

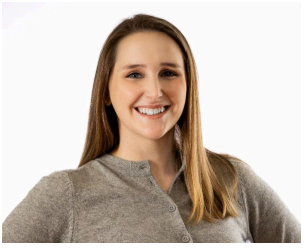


Dear Augusta Museum of History community,

First, I want to acknowledge the loss that this town has felt over the past month after the sudden passing of Nancy Glaser. She came to Augusta twenty-one years ago as the Executive Director of the Museum – the first woman to take the reins. Nancy saw this institution through untold highs and lows over the course of two decades. She developed show-stopping exhibitions, organized entertaining programs, and ensured the longevity of the Museum. Her most enduring legacy is how widely and passionately she shared the CSRA's history.

During this interim period, the Museum Staff and Board have discovered a deep well of resilience. This is in large part due to how supportive our community has been over the last several months. The Augusta Museum of History has proudly preserved and promoted Augusta and the CSRA's history for almost ninety years. Our mission has guided us all these years and will continue to do so into the future.

I do not take this community for granted. In difficult times, we at the Museum trust in you. We hope that you continue to trust in us.



On a personal note, for those of you who I have not yet met, my name is Natalie Smith. I started at the Museum in 2019 as the Registrar, but transitioned to Deputy Director in 2023. After getting my undergraduate degree in History from the University of Georgia, I obtained my Master's in Museum Studies from George Washington University. After arriving in Augusta, I met my now-husband and we have two young boys, a two-year old and a three-month old. The toddler already knows that my work has a train inside the building, which makes him ask if he can come to work with me about once a week.

As the Interim Director, I hope to continue to build your trust in the Museum. And if it has been a while since your last visit, come by – we have a train!

Natalie Smith
Interim Executive Director

UPCOMING EVENTS



Dia de Los Muertos at the AMH

Celebrate Día de Los Muertos at the Augusta Museum of History, October 29 -November 1. The Asociación Hispano Américano del CSRA will be here to set up a community ofrenda in the Museum's Rotunda that will be free to view Thursday through Sunday. If you would like to bring in a photograph of a loved one to be included in our community ofrenda please do so during those days. (Photographs do not need to be framed, but please put your name, phone number, and email address on the back if you would like the photo returned.)

We are celebrating all week at the Museum. The **Curious Kids** sessions on October 29th & 30th will be all about this beautiful holiday (more on that below in Education). And on Saturday, October 31st, the Museum will host a fun-filled day celebrating *Día de Los Muertos*. There will be crafts and fun for kids in the Activity Center and a free film about *Día de Los Muertos* showing in the Museum Theater, and so much more!

More information and details to come so make plans to join us for *Día de Los Muertos* at the Museum!



21st Annual Holiday Gingerbread Village

Just Keeps Getting Better Every Year

The Augusta Museum of History is proud to present the Annual **Holiday Gingerbread Village**! **The Museum will be open every day November 19-29. (except Thanksgiving Day)** and the Gingerbread Village will be free to view in the Rotunda. Each historic building is from the CSRA's past and the sweet confections are constructed by local artisan bakers. The delicious scent of gingerbread fills the air and this is a great spot to bring family and friends during the holidays. Visitors are invited to bid on the gingerbread structures and to cast their vote for the People's Choice Award.

On November 21st from 1-3pm there will be a Gingerbread Fun Day with crafts for kids, a scavenger hunt in the Rotunda and story time. So mark your calendars, invite a friend and make plans to join the Museum as we welcome the holiday season with the annual Gingerbread Village.





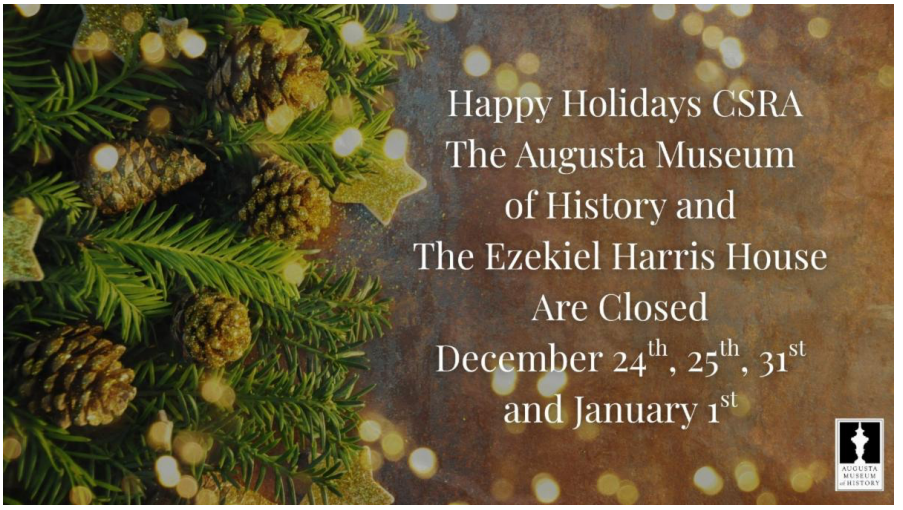
All Aboard the Museum Express!

Children are given a golden ticket to ride the **Museum Express** and will be entertained by the Conductor with this special story while on the train. They will enjoy hot chocolate, cookies, and a very special guest from the North Pole will make an appearance in the Museum's Rotunda! Do not miss out on this annual holiday event!

Ticket Purchasing Information:
Tickets available online for AMH Members on Friday, October 2nd,
Tickets available to the general public on Monday October 5th.
Cost: Child Ticket- $10.00
Ticket Purchase Limit: 3 per sale

Please note that you are only purchasing tickets for children through the link. If you want to see your child on the train, adult admission to the Museum is $7.00 and can be purchased at the Museum the day of the event. This admission is good for the rest of the day to explore the Museum after the Museum Express event.

Performance Capacity: 27 passengers per showing
Showtimes: Sunday, December 6, 2026 | 11 AM, 1 PM, & 3 PM
Sunday, December 13, 2026 | 11 AM, 1 PM, & 3 PM





Jimmie Dyess Symposium

Each year the Augusta Museum of History selects Americans who have outstanding records of service to their fellow citizens, their communities, and their country to receive the Distinguished American Award at the **Jimmie Dyess Symposium**. Save the date, **January 16, 2027** and plan to join us for this annual event.

2027 Distinguished American Honorees

Shell Knox Berry

Dr. Mallory Millender

Colonel Jack Jacobs (Ret.), Medal of Honor Recipient

NEWS FROM COLLECTIONS

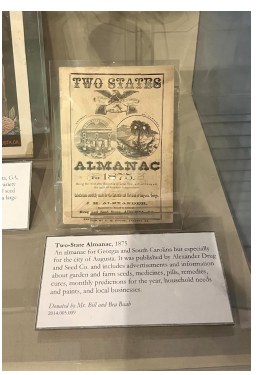
So Much More To Discover



Typewriter, ca. 1900-1930

This typewriter was used by the Pilgrim Health and Life Insurance Company. The company was started by five men, including Walter S. Hornsby and Solomon W. Walker (pictured above the case) in 1898. Pilgrim Health and Life catered to the Black community, and within 20 years of its inception was servicing over 58,000 policies with branch offices in Macon, Savannah, and Atlanta. Find this piece of history in the Reconstruction area of our *Augusta's Story* exhibit.

Donated by Mrs. Rockholt



Two-State Almanac, ca. 1875

Head to *Around the Table, Regional Foodways* to find this unique almanac. It was published by Alexander Drug and Seed Company, and includes information about garden and farm seeds, medicines, pills, remedies, cures, monthly predictions for the year, household needs, and local businesses.

Donated by Mr. Bill and Mrs. Bea Baab

New Discoveries

Fitz-Symms Photography Collection

Donated by Kirk and Lora Baxley in memory of Robert Symms, the photographic collection of Fitz-Symms Photography captures the history of the Augusta region between the 1940's and the 1980's. To preserve this history, the Photography Collections Internship Program at the Augusta Museum of History processes this collection by scanning and rehousing its 800,000 photographic negatives. The following images represent just a fraction of the negatives which thus far have been processed.

Fine Products, August 1947



Nunally's air-conditioned cady display case made for the Fine Products company. The company formed in 1932 and was famous for producing and consolidating classic Southern confections, famously acquiring brands like Atlanta's Nunnally's Chocolates. The company was located in Augusta, Georgia.



Daniel Lincoln Mercury

May 2, 1955

Mr. Woodward of the Daniels Lincoln Mercury Company sells his 100th car. The car dealership was located at 1333 Broad St. across the intersection from Georgia Electric Supply. A military Police truck can be seen parked on the other side of the street.

Allen Park and Jenning Stadium

April 14, 1956



An arial view of North and South Augusta with a focus of Allen Park and Jenning Baseball Stadium. The Augusta Canal and the Butt Memorial Bridge are also visible.

Wilkinson Photography Collection

The Wilkinson Photography Studio collection has over 250,000 negatives documenting the CSRA's past. Robert Wilkinson Jr. was a prominent photographer in the Augusta area active from the 1940s-1980s. Donated by Wilkinson family members Linda Askey and Charles M. Askey, Jr., the collection is digitized and cared for through the Photography Collections Internship Program. The following are a few interesting discoveries made during the collection care process.

Rosenthal's Shoe Store, 1979

Rosenthal's supplied footwear to the Augusta area beginning in 1947, when



Albert J. Rosenthal opened the first store on Broad Street. The business had multiple locations, one of which can be seen here in the Augusta Mall.

Trinity on the Hill, 1980

A young woman operates a large camera for one of Trinity on the Hill Methodist Church's television broadcast, which allowed people to watch church services from their homes on several local channels.





Boy's Club, 1983

The Boys' Club of Augusta started in 1959 to provide community services to children and teens after school and during summer vacations. Here, children and their mentors work on an activity in a decorated club space. In the 1990's, the clubs began accepting girls and was renamed the Boys and Girls Clubs of Augusta.

Augusta Chronicle Photography Collection

Donated by the Augusta-Chronicle, this collection of photo negatives comes from the various photographers who worked at the Chronicle**.** The photo negative collection spans from 1970-2001 and features many events around Augusta and the greater CSRA. To preserve this history and facilitate ease of access to this collection, the Archivist Internship Program at the Augusta Museum of History is creating a log of metadata in order to curate a Finding Aid. The following images represent a small portion of the negatives and metadata processed.



Broad Street Revitalization

Photographed by Mike Bower

June 18, 1976

I.M. Pei, an internationally acclaimed architect, was invited to Augusta, GA in 1973 to redesign and revamp the city's downtown area. By 1976, Pei's designs for the downtown revitalization were complete, featuring the well-known Lamar building penthouse and Broad Street sunken parking bays lined with various shrubs, flowers, and trees.

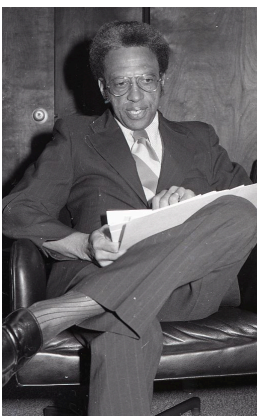
The Savannah River Strings

Photograph by Jim Middleton

July 21, 1976



The Bluegrass group, *Savannah River Strings,* organized a lunch hour concert in Augusta's bicentennial park on Broad Street. Providing live music and entertainment for those gathered for their lunch breaks on a Wednesday afternoon. Over 100 people picnicked in the park with hot dogs, potato salad and cold beverages to enjoy the live entertainment. One woman stated about the concert: "We're doing this for and by the people who love Augusta" – Mrs. Smith, concert impresario.
The Augusta Chronicle, 22 July 1976, page 60

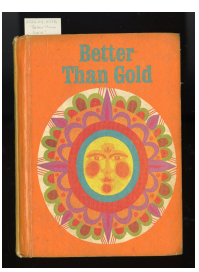


Dr. Julius Scott
Photographed by Ricky Pittman,
August 4, 1976
Dr. Julius S. Scott Jr. served as president of Paine College for two terms, from 1975 to 1982 and then again from 1988 to 1994. He served both of his presidencies committed to strengthening academic programs, community engagement, and supporting the improvement of campus facilities with multiple new construction projects. In 1976, Dr. Scott predicted the fall enrollment for Paine College to be 780 students, the highest recorded student population the College had seen in 94 years.

New Acquisitions



Bumper Sticker, ca. 1967
Sheriff Ernest Rydner "Foots" Atkins served the Augusta Police Dept 1938-1967, in 1952, as a Captain with Augusta Police Dept, attended the National FBI Academy, and was Sheriff of Richmond Co. 1967-1971. He was also the Sheriff of Augusta during the Augusta Riot in 1970.
Donated by Mr. Andrew Daniel Carter



Textbook, 1970
This textbook was used by Richmond County teacher Edna Smith at A. Brian Merry Elementary school. It contains short stories developed to help children learn to read, several of which were written by Beverly Clearly.
Donated by Mr. Earl Welch

Exhibit Update



America's 250th Exhibit

The third installment of *Where We've Been, Where We Are, and the Stories Along the Way: America's 250th* was installed on July 23rd and will be on display until October 11th. This exhibit highlights stories from the AMH collection as we observe the 250th anniversary of the United States' founding. Collections and Education departments are working in tandem to feature these items in chronological order on social media throughout the year.



Collection Care Tips

"Let There Be (A Safe Amount Of) Light!"

Light exposure presents a constant dilemma for museums. We cannot see without light, but light can also cause damage to objects. Being exposed to too much light over time can cause pigments to fade and materials to become brittle. In short, the very thing that allows us to view, appreciate, and learn from historical objects is the same thing that can destroy them if we are not careful. But how can light be so damaging in the first place, and how do museums work to limit its effect on objects?

Visible light is a type of radiation that we can see, and ultraviolet (UV) and infrared (IR) radiation are invisible to the human eye and exist on either side of the visible light spectrum. All three can cause damage to objects, but museums are typically most concerned with visible light and UV. Fluorescent and incandescent lightbulbs can be switched to LEDs, which emit almost no UV. Glass can be treated to block UV to protect any

objects that face windows.

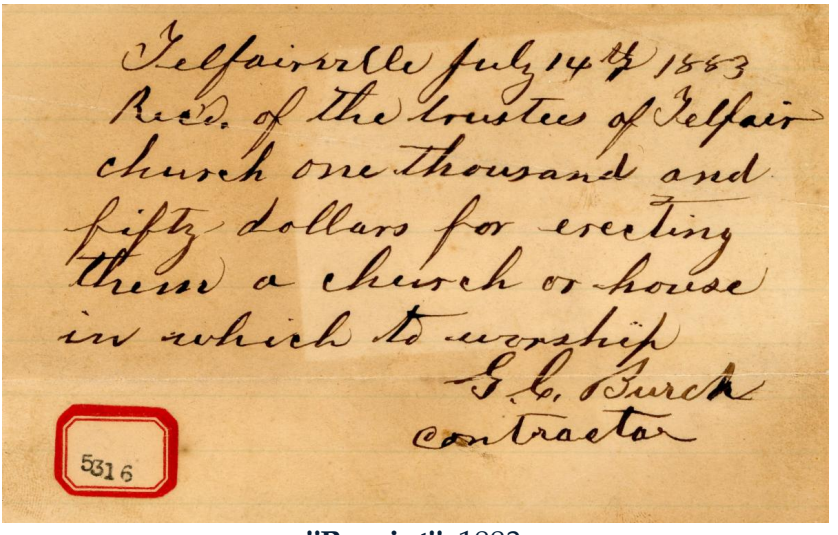
When it comes to visible light, exhibit lighting can be dimmed to be low enough to cause the least amount of damage to an object, while also bright enough to ensure that the object is visible. Hardier materials light stone and wood can withstand higher light levels for longer periods of time. Delicate papers or fabrics, especially those dyed or painted with natural pigments, are the most susceptible to light damage and should only receive low light levels for short periods of time. To balance this, museums may rotate delicate objects off display regularly or make high quality reproductions of documents and photographs so they can be displayed for longer without risking damage to the original.

For more information on light damage, visit this source: https://www.canada.ca/en/conservation-institute/services/agents-deterioration/light.html

Fort Gordon Banner streaked with light damage, ca. 1960-1969
Donated by Ms. Suzette Salet and Mr. Eugene Michael Cook

County Corner

Burke County


Telfairville July 14th 1883
Rec'd. of the trustees of Telfair church one thousand and fifty dollars for erecting them a church or house in which to worship
G. C. Burch
contractor
5316

"Receipt", 1883

G.C. Burch wrote this receipt for contract work done in the construction of Telfaireville Baptist Church in Burke County, Georgia. Telfairville was a small community near Waynesboro, and the church was likely part of a bequest to construct multiple schools and churches by the Telfair family of Savannah, Georgia.
Donated by Mr. Clary L. Ward

NAGPRA Update

As of 2022 the Augusta Museum of History has revitalized its repatriation efforts through NAGPRA (Native



American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act). Since 1990, Federal law has provided for the repatriation and disposition of certain Native American human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects, and objects of cultural patrimony. This process includes research of Museum collections, consultation with members of Native American communities across the country, and communication with the National Parks Service to ensure that any objects housed within the Museum that have sacred or cultural ties to Native peoples are returned to their rightful owners.

As of September 2026, the Augusta Museum of History has repatriated several items to their people of origin and has published several Notices of Intent to Repatriate in the Federal Register. The Museum is now moving towards successful repatriation with several other Tribes. The Museum continues the consultation process with multiple Native American communities to facilitate respectful return of remains, cultural objects, and funerary items.

For more information on NAGPRA and the Repatriation process:
https://www.nps.gov/subjects/nagpra/index.htm

WELCOME NEW AMH STAFF



Museum Archivist

Aubrey Heaton was born and raised in Macon, Georgia. She found her passion for a career within museums while working at the Museum of Arts and Sciences in Macon. She recently moved to Augusta and is currently finishing her Bachelor's in art history and is pursuing her Master's in museum studies, both from Kennesaw State University. She's thrilled to be a part of the AMH team and cannott wait to grow and learn about Augusta's community and history.

Education Assistant Manager



Tony Baughman is a native of the Aiken-Augusta area. A graduate of the University of South Carolina, he is a former radio broadcaster and print journalist. As a life-long storyteller, he chased stories as a reporter and editor at both The Aiken Standard and The Citizen News in Edgefield County. He also served as Public Information Officer at the South Carolina Governor's School for Agriculture at John de la Howe in McCormick County and most recently taught middle school world geography in Aiken County

Public Schools.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

Hands On History Workshops



This year the Augusta Museum of History is hosting workshops for adult participants that blend the history of the CSRA with the arts. It has been an insightful way to experience history. The next **Hands On History Workshop is on October 24 from 1-4pm and the topic is *Victorian Hair Jewelry***. We will look at examples in the Museum's collection, learn how this Macabre artform became a trend, and have time to practice a couple techniques to create your own historic hair keepsakes.

Tickets are just $30.00 and this makes for a delightful afternoon, day date or a wonderful time between a parent and adult child. Click the link below to grab your tickets today!

Tickets For Hair Jewelry HERE!



AMH Curious Kids

The Augusta Museum of History presents, **Curious Kids: Celebrate Dia de Los Muertos**. Kids ages 3-12 are welcome to join in the fun of story time, an activity, an engaging craft and learn about the beautiful holiday of remembrance. This is not a spooky experience, come learn about the different symbols and traditions and place a picture of a loved family member, friend, or pet who has passed on the Community Ofrenda.

There are two sessions to choose from, the very same thing will be presented at both sessions on Thursday, October 29 and Friday, October 30 from 10-11am. Cost is just $5.00 per child and $5.00 per adult. Children spots are limited to 25 per session, so sign up today! **Click the button below to register.**

What's Included:

*Lesson on Ofrenda, and symbols and traditions of the holiday
*Craft supplies and instruction
*Story time in the Museum
*Themed activity
*Admissions into the Museum

*** **Please note Adults must stay with the children for the entirety of the event.** ***

Curious Kids Tickets HERE!



Brown Bag History Lecture Series:

A look at Augusta Families Through the AMH Collection

Wednesday, October 14, 12:30pm

Speaker: AMH Registrar Alena Rensch

The Augusta Museum of History invites you to join us on Wednesday, October 14th at 12:30pm for the Brown Bag Lecture. AMH Registrar, Alena Rensch will share about multiple families who presented their stories during the 2026 Brown Bag. She will do this by showing different artifacts from those families in the AMH Collection and sharing the stories behind them.

More Augusta Family stories are on the way in 2027! In 2025 & '26 the Augusta Museum of History brought you stories from families that have shaped the CSRA. From Flo Carter's music to Milledge Murray's Revolutionary family tree, each one presented us with a special history and perspective. These **"Augusta Families"** have been recorded and can be watched on the AMH YouTube channel.

Please join us one Wednesday a month. Bring a sack lunch, and invite a friend for the lunch hour before the lecture, from 11:30am-12:30pm. The Museum serves water, coffee and dessert during this time. The lectures **start promptly at 12:30pm** in the History Theater and the cost is just $5.00 to attend and free for Museum Members.

Here are the links to recent lectures and a look at the lectures that coming up from in October & November.

January 28- Milledge Murray

February 11- Tom Robertson

March 11- Hap Harris

April 15- Frank Christian

May 13- Deanna Brown Thomas

June 10- Cameron Nixon

July 8- Jimmy Jacobs

September 9- Christine Mangelly

October 14- Alena Rensch

November 18- TBA



Schedule A Group Tour

Group tours are an excellent way to explore Augusta's history and spend time with your staff, family or class. The Museum's staff can create a unique experience for your group. The Museum hosts tours and fieldtrips for children as young as 3, up to senior citizens. The Museum is a big space so large groups are welcome. Special needs groups with wheelchair or walker participants are also encouraged to come. Use our online reservation form for easy registration, please note that time slots go fast and reservations should be made at least one month in advance. Groups of 10 or more people have discounted rates starting at $3.00 per person.



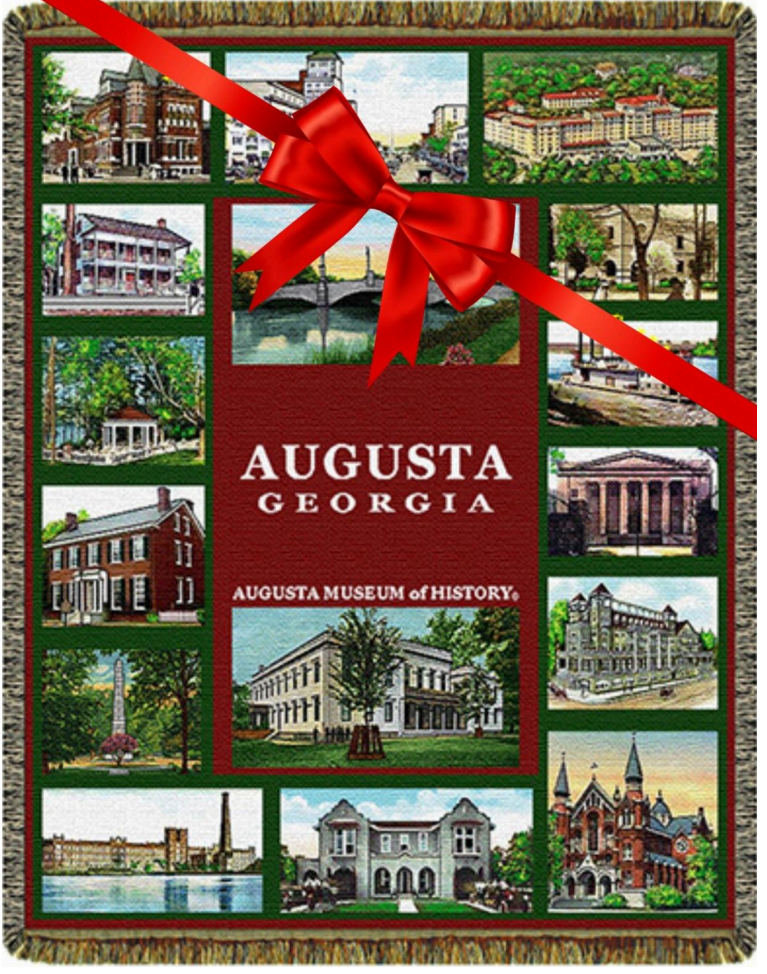
Click the button below to fill out the online form or contact the education department by calling 706-722-8454.

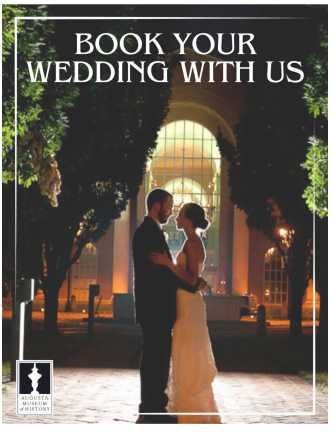
CLICK HERE for Group Tour / Field Trip Registration Form

SOMETHING EXTRA AT THE MUSEUM

Looking For Holiday Gifts? Check Out the AMH Kiosk

Need a gift for the history lover in your life? The Augusta throw blankets are large and soft and make the perfect accent for your living room or den. Plus they are a great conversation starter. Come by and pick one up today at the Augusta Museum of History.





Host Your Event At The Augusta Museum of History

Whether you're looking to host a wedding, a corporate function, a special birthday, a class reunion or other singular event, we have the perfect space for you! Click the button to check out the different spaces and configurations the Museum can offer! If you have any questions or would like to set up a time to tour our spaces, please contact Jazzmyne by email at admin@augustamuseum.org or call 706-722-8454.

Click Here for Rental Info

"Thank You" From The Museum

We appreciate your generous contributions and our wonderful Museum members. You make the Museum a special space for everyone. To see our current list of Donors,



To view our Members,
click here.





Augusta Museum of History, the only Museum in the CSRA accredited by the American Alliance of Museums, was established in 1937 for the purpose of preserving and sharing the material history of Augusta and the region. From a 10,000 year-old projectile point to a 1914 locomotive, to James Brown memorabilia the collections chronicle a rich and fascinating past. The museum is located at 560 Reynolds Street in downtown Augusta. Please call (706) 722-8454 for more information or visit *www.augustamuseum.org*

Hours: Thursday-Saturday, 10am-5pm;
Sunday 1pm-5pm; Closed to public Monday-Wednesday
Admission: Adult: $7 * Senior: $6 * Child (6-18): $5 * Child (5 & under): Free
Group tours (10 and up) available all week; must book in advance. Register here: *https://bit.ly/AMH_FieldTripReg*

The 1797 Ezekiel Harris House, said to be *"the finest eighteenth-century house surviving in Georgia"*, is located at 1822 Broad Street and is an excellent example of early Federal architecture. Fully restored in 1964 and listed in the National Register of Historic Places, the Ezekiel Harris House is a reminder of the days when tobacco was the primary cash crop of Georgia. For more information, call (706) 722-8454 or visit *www.augustamuseum.org* .

Hours: House open with guided tours every other Saturday 10:00 am - 5:00 pm, with the last tour beginning at 4:00 pm; Tours by appointment on Tuesday - Friday, to schedule tours call (706) 722-8454.
Admission: Adult: $7 * Senior: $6 * Child (6-18): $5 * Child (5 & under): Free





Augusta Museum of History Hours

Ezekiel Harris House Museum Hours

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