



## Museums of the State of Delaware Event Calendar March–August, 2012

### Special Events

#### March

**Women's History Month programs.** During the month of March, the [museums of the state of Delaware](#) will be offering programs that honor women's lives and celebrate their historic achievements. See calendar entries below for details or call 302-744-5055.

#### Thursday, March 1, 8, 15 and 22

**"A Woman's World."** Explore the daily responsibilities of 18th-century women and the domestic skills that they were expected to possess. [John Dickinson Plantation](#), 340 Kitts Hummock Road, Dover, DE 19901. Program 11 a.m.–2:30 p.m. Museum open 10 a.m.–3:30 p.m. Free admission. 302-739-3277.

#### Saturday, March 3

**"Victor's Queens."** Program focusing on the talented female vocalists of the Victor Talking Machine Company, accompanied by early recordings of those artists played on authentic Victor Talking Machines. [Johnson Victrola Museum](#), 375 S. New St., Dover, DE 19901. 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Free admission. 302-744-5055.

#### Saturday, March 3

**"Letters to My Mother."** Utilizing the exhibit, "[The Civil War: Five Delaware Soldiers' Stories](#)," as a backdrop, guided tours will explore women's roles during America's bloodiest conflict through letters written by soldiers to their families in Delaware. [First State Heritage Park Welcome Center and Galleries](#), 121 Duke of York St., Dover, DE 19901. Guided tours at 10 a.m., Noon and 3 p.m. Museum open 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Free admission. 302-744-5055.

#### Saturday, March 3

**"House on Fire: The 208th Anniversary of the John Dickinson Mansion Fire."** "Tis with regret I acquaint you that your house was burnt down on Saturday last." With these words, John Dickinson learned of the destruction of his home. The program will explore the details of the fire and his decision to rebuild the mansion. [John Dickinson Plantation](#), 340 Kitts Hummock Road, Dover, DE 19901. 10 a.m.–3:30 p.m. Free admission. 302-739-3277.

#### Saturday, March 3

**"War of the Roses."** Living-history theater presentation featuring a debate from the days of the women's suffrage movement. [The Old State House](#), 25 The Green, Dover, DE 19901. Program at 1 p.m. Museum open 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Free admission. 302-744-5055.



*Rosa Ponselle, a Victor recording artist who will be featured in the "Victor's Queens" program on March 3.*



### **Sunday, March 4**

#### **"Victorian Secrets: Undressing the Well-Dressed Victorian Man and Woman."**

Program by period-clothing designer Thomas Tear on Victorian fashion and social customs. Models will display and disrobe their period clothing. [New Castle Court House Museum](#), 211 Delaware St., New Castle, DE 19720. Program at 2 p.m. Museum open 1:30–4:30 p.m. Free admission but, due to space restrictions, reservations are required by calling 302-323-4453.

*Nineteenth-century fashion will be on display at the "Victorian Secrets" program on March 4.*

### **Wednesday, March 7, 14, 21 and 28**

**"Women's Work Wednesdays."** After-school presentation and hands-on activity highlighting historical women in the First State from pre-Colonial times to the suffrage movement. [The Old State House](#), 25 The Green, Dover, DE 19901. Program 3–4 p.m. Museum open 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Free admission. 302-744-5055.

### **Saturday, March 10**

**"Divas."** Program spotlighting the female pioneers of recorded sound accompanied by recordings of those artists played on authentic Victor Talking Machines. Featured artist on March 10: Rosa Ponselle. [Johnson Victrola Museum](#), 375 S. New St., Dover, DE 19901. 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Free admission. 302-744-5055.

### **Saturday, March 10**

**"Savory Sussex."** A series of programs on the unique and delectable local flavors of Sussex County, Del., the March 10 event will feature Tom King of [King's Home Made Ice Cream Shops](#) which has locations in Lewes and Milton. [Zwaanendael Museum](#), 102 Kings Highway, Lewes, DE 19958. Program at 2 p.m. Museum open 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Free admission. 302-645-1148.

### **Saturday, March 17**

**St. Patrick's Day program.** Activities exploring the life of the noted Irish tenor John McCormack, accompanied by recordings by the artist played on authentic Victor Talking Machines. [Johnson Victrola Museum](#), 375 S. New St., Dover, DE 19901. 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Free admission. 302-744-5055.

### **Saturday, March 17**

**"The Death of Col. E.P. Jones."** Historical play by Thomas Reed depicting a young Union recruit at Fort Delaware charged with shooting a Confederate prisoner. [New Castle Court House Museum](#), 211 Delaware St., New Castle, DE 19720. Program at 1 p.m. Museum open 10 a.m.–3:30 p.m. Free admission. 302-323-4453.

### **Saturday, March 17**

**Program on the Zwaanendael Women's Club.** Club historian B. J. Young will give a presentation on this Lewes-based group of community-minded women. [Zwaanendael Museum](#), 102 Kings Highway, Lewes, DE 19958. Program at 2 p.m. Museum open 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Free admission. 302-645-1148.

### **Thursday, March 22**

**"A Stitch in Time: Hand-Stitching in the Colonial Tradition."** Hands-on workshop in which participants learn basic stitching techniques and then take home their sampler. [Zwaanendael Museum](#), 102 Kings Highway, Lewes, DE 19958. Program 2–3:30 p.m. Museum open 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Free admission. 302-645-1148.

### **Saturday, March 24**

**"Divas."** Program spotlighting the female pioneers of recorded sound accompanied by recordings of those artists played on authentic Victor Talking Machines. Featured artist on March 10: Nellie Melba. [Johnson Victrola Museum](#), 375 S. New St., Dover, DE 19901. 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Free admission. 302-744-5055.

### Wednesday, March 28

"Espionage in the American Revolution." Program by John Nagy, author of the book, "Invisible Ink: Spycraft of the American Revolution." [New Castle Court House Museum](#), 211 Delaware St., New Castle, DE 19720. Program at 7 p.m. Free admission but, due to space restrictions, reservations are strongly suggested by calling 302-323-4453.

### April

**Earth Day programs.** During the month of April, the [museums of the state of Delaware](#) will be offering programs in commemoration of Earth Day, a national celebration designed to inspire awareness and appreciation of the Earth's environment. See calendar entries below for details or call 302-744-5055.

### Sunday, April 1

"Swanendael." Program by Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs archaeologist Craig Lukezic on Delaware's first European settlement established by the Dutch in 1631. [New Castle Court House Museum](#), 211 Delaware St., New Castle, DE 19720. Program at 2 p.m. Museum open 1:30–4:30 p.m. Free admission. 302-323-4453.

### Saturday, April 7

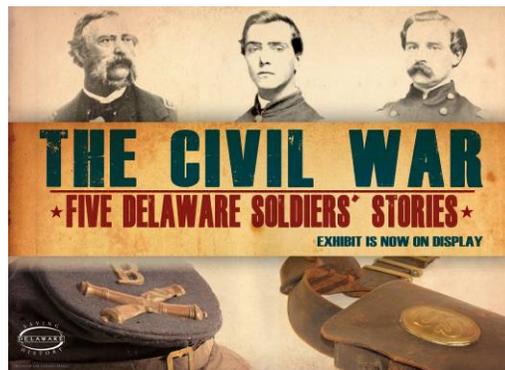
**Jazz Appreciation Month program.** Activities explore the early jazz performers who were recorded by the Victor Talking Machine Company, accompanied by recordings of those artists played on authentic Victor Talking Machines. [Johnson Victrola Museum](#), 375 S. New St., Dover, DE 19901. 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Free admission. 302-744-5055.

### Saturday, April 7

"Discover the Dutch Roots in Delaware Through Archaeology." Lecture and hands-on demonstrations. [The Old State House](#), 25 The Green, Dover, DE 19901. Program time TBA. Museum open 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Free admission. 302-744-5055.

### Saturday, April 7

"We Poor Devils." Utilizing the exhibit, "[The Civil War: Five Delaware Soldiers' Stories](#)," as a backdrop, guided tours will explore the beginning of the war as seen through the eyes of five Delaware soldiers. [First State Heritage Park Welcome Center and Galleries](#), 121 Duke of York St., Dover, DE 19901. Guided tours at 10 a.m., Noon and 2:30 p.m. Museum open 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Free admission. 302-744-5055.



### Wednesday, April 11

**Candle-dipping demonstration.** As part of a 1781 lease agreement, John Dickinson expected his tenant William White to provide 50 pounds of candles at 6 candles per pound. Visitors can help the plantation meet this requirement by learning how to hand-dip candles utilizing 18th century techniques. [John Dickinson Plantation](#), 340 Kitts Hummock Road, Dover, DE 19901. Program 11 a.m.–2:30 p.m. Museum open 10 a.m.–3:30 p.m. Free admission. 302-739-3277.

### Saturday, April 14

"Savory Sussex." A series of programs on the unique and delectable local flavors of Sussex County, Del., the April 14 event will feature a presentation on farming and preparation of cream of asparagus soup by the T.S. Smith and Sons century farm from Bridgeville. [Zwaanendael Museum](#), 102 Kings Highway, Lewes, DE 19958. Program at 3 p.m. Museum open 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Free admission. 302-645-1148.

### Wednesday, April 18

**Candle-dipping demonstration.** As part of a 1781 lease agreement, John Dickinson expected his tenant William White to provide 50 pounds of candles at 6 candles per pound. Visitors can help the plantation meet this requirement by learning how to hand-dip candles utilizing 18th century techniques. [John Dickinson Plantation](#), 340 Kitts Hummock Road, Dover, DE 19901. Program 11 a.m.–2:30 p.m. Museum open 10 a.m.–3:30 p.m. Free admission. 302-739-3277.

### Friday, April 20

**Eco-Tourism Fair.** Eco-friendly tours and more presented in celebration of Earth Day. [Zwaanendael Museum](#), 102 Kings Highway, Lewes, DE 19958. Fair 2–4 p.m. Museum open 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Free admission. 302-645-1148.

### Saturday, April 21

**Earth Day at the John Dickinson Plantation.** Explore the natural beauty at the home of the “Penman of the Revolution,” and learn the art of paper quilling. [John Dickinson Plantation](#), 340 Kitts Hummock Road, Dover, DE 19901. Program 11 a.m.–2:30 p.m. Museum open 10 a.m.–3:30 p.m. Free admission. 302-739-3277.

### Saturday, April 21

**Dutch-American Friendship Day.** Discover Delaware's Dutch roots and learn how that connection is alive today. [New Castle Court House Museum](#), 211 Delaware St., New Castle, DE 19720. 10 a.m.–3:30 p.m. Free admission. 302-323-4453.

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### Wednesday, April 25

**Candle-dipping demonstration.** As part of a 1781 lease agreement, John Dickinson expected his tenant William White to provide 50 pounds of candles at 6 candles per pound. Visitors can help the plantation meet this requirement by learning how to hand-dip candles utilizing 18th century techniques. [John Dickinson Plantation](#), 340 Kitts Hummock Road, Dover, DE 19901. Program 11 a.m.–2:30 p.m. Museum open 10 a.m.–3:30 p.m. Free admission. 302-739-3277. Free admission. 302-739-3277.



*Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands. The Dutch monarchy will be explored in the "Queen's Day programs on April 28 and 30.*

### Saturday, April 28

**Queen's Day.** Help celebrate the Dutch queen's birthday and Delaware's connection to the Netherlands. [Zwaanendael Museum](#), 102 Kings Highway, Lewes, DE 19958. 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Free admission. 302-645-1148.

### Saturday, April 28

**Queen's Day.** Celebrate the birthday of the queen of the Netherlands by exploring historical Dutch foodways. [John Dickinson Plantation](#), 340 Kitts Hummock Road, Dover, DE 19901. Program 11 a.m.–3 p.m. Museum open 10 a.m.–3:30 p.m. Free admission. 302-739-3277.

### Monday, April 30

**Queen's Day in Dover.** Help celebrate the Dutch queen's birthday and Delaware's connection to the Netherlands. [The Old State House](#), 25 The Green, Dover, DE 19901. 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Free admission. 302-744-5055.

### Saturday, May 5, 2012

**Dover Days program at the Old State House.** Activities TBA. [The Old State House](#), 25 The Green, Dover, DE 19901. 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Free admission. 302-744-5055.

### Saturday, May 5, 2012

**"The Story of Nipper the Dog."** Learn about the famous trademark of the *The Old State House* Victor Talking Machine Company and his English roots. [Johnson Victrola Museum](#), 375 S. New St., Dover, DE 19901. 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Free admission. 302-744-5055.

### Saturday, May 5, 2012

**"We Poor Devils."** Guided tours exploring the display **"The Civil War: Five Delaware Soldiers' Stories."** [First State Heritage Park Welcome Center and Galleries](#), 121 Duke of York St., Dover, DE 19901. Guided tours at 10 a.m., Noon and 2:30 p.m. Museum open 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Free admission. 302-744-5055.

### Saturday, May 5

**Dover Days at the John Dickinson Plantation.** Activities include tours, colonial games and hearth cooking utilizing 18th-century recipes. [John Dickinson Plantation](#), 340 Kitts Hummock Road, Dover DE 19901. 10 a.m.–3:30 p.m. Free admission. 302-739-3277.

### Sunday, May 6

**"Veterans Remembered."** One-hour walking tours encompassing grave sites and residences of United States veterans from the American Revolution to the present day. [New Castle Court House Museum](#), 211 Delaware St., New Castle, DE 19720. Tours depart at 1:30 and 3:30 p.m. Museum open 1:30–4:30 p.m. Free admission but advance registration requested. 302-323-4453.



*Hearth cooking at the John Dickinson Plantation.*

### Friday, May 11

**"Festa Italiana."** Fun Friday event celebrating Italy. Programs on Italian explorers, the game of bocce and more. [Zwaanendael Museum](#), 102 Kings Highway, Lewes, DE 19958. 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Free admission. 302-645-1148.

### Saturday, May 12

**Symposium on the Early Colonial Archaeology of the Delaware Valley.** Featuring informal presentations, the program is designed to build a regional-level dialog that can identify the uniqueness of the early colonial cultures of the Delaware Valley. [New Castle Court House Museum](#), 211 Delaware St., New Castle, DE 19720. 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Free admission. 302-323-4453. To reserve a place, send an e-mail to [craig.lukezic@de.state.us](mailto:craig.lukezic@de.state.us).

### Wednesday, May 23

**"The Three Forts, Delaware, DuPont and Mott."** Program on the early development and history of the forts guarding the approaches to the Delaware River's major ports. [New Castle Court House Museum](#), 211 Delaware St., New Castle, DE 19720. 7 p.m. Free admission. 302-323-4453.

### Saturday, May 26

**"The DeBraak Story."** Archaeology programs and hands-on activities for children focusing on the British warship DeBraak that sank off Cape Henlopen in 1798. [Zwaanendael Museum](#), 102 Kings Highway, Lewes, DE 19958. 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Free admission. 302-645-1148.

### Sunday, May 27

**"Veterans Remembered."** One-hour walking tours encompassing grave sites and residences of United States veterans from the American Revolution to the present day. [New Castle Court House Museum](#), 211 Delaware St., New Castle, DE 19720. Tours depart at 1:30 and 3:30 p.m. Museum open 1:30–4:30 p.m. Free admission but advance registration requested. 302-323-4453.

### Saturday, June 2

**Black Music Month program.** Activities TBA. [Johnson Victrola Museum](#), 375 S. New St., Dover, DE 19901. 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Free admission. 302-744-5055.

### Saturday, June 2

**“The Second Revolution: The War of 1812.”** Lecture exploring Delaware’s role in the war as seen through the eyes of everyday citizens. [The Old State House](#), 25 The Green, Dover, DE 19901. Time of lecture TBA. Museum open 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Free admission. 302-744-5055.

### Sunday, June 3

**“Resolved Unanimously.”** Historical-theater program commemorating the 236th anniversary of the June 15, 1776 separation of the three Lower Counties from Great Britain and Pennsylvania to form the Delaware State. [New Castle Court House Museum](#), 211 Delaware St., New Castle, DE 19720. Program at 2 p.m. Museum open 1:30–4:30 p.m. Free admission but, due to space restrictions, reservations are required by calling 302-323-4453.

### Saturday, June 16

**“Shall Faithfully Serve!”** Program explores indentured servitude and tradesmen associated with the home of the “Penman of the Revolution.” [John Dickinson Plantation](#), 340 Kitts Hummock Road, Dover 19901. 10 a.m.–3:30 p.m. Free admission. 302-739-3277.



*The Zwaanendael Museum*

### Sunday, June 17

**14th Annual Chautauqua Tent Show—“Rockets Red Glare: 1812 in America.”** Day-long series of activities focusing on the War of 1812, culminating with re-enactors portraying historic personalities. [Zwaanendael Museum](#), 102 Kings Highway, Lewes, DE 19958. Free admission. 302-645-1148.

### Monday, June 18

**14th Annual Chautauqua Tent Show—“Rockets Red Glare: 1812 in America.”** Day-long series of activities focusing on the War of 1812, culminating with re-enactors portraying historic personalities. [Zwaanendael Museum](#), 102 Kings Highway, Lewes, DE 19958. Free admission. 302-645-1148.

### Sunday, July 1

**“History Goes Hollywood.”** Screening of “Thunder and Rain: Caesar Rodney’s Ride for Independence,” a short film by Bill Deering. [New Castle Court House Museum](#), 211 Delaware St., New Castle, DE 19720. Film at 2 p.m. Museum open 1:30–4:30 p.m. Free admission. 302-323-4453.

### Sunday, July 8

**“Many Declarations of Independence.”** Historical interpreter Bob Vander Decker will speak on the many different copies and forms of the Declaration of Independence. [New Castle Court House Museum](#), 211 Delaware St., New Castle, DE 19720. Program at 2 p.m. Museum open 1:30–4:30 p.m. Free admission. 302-323-4453.

### Wednesday, July 11, 18, 25; Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29

**“Watercolor Wednesdays.”** Staff-led program in which visitors utilize watercolors to capture a scene at the home of the “Penman of the Revolution.” Different scene each week. Bring supplies or utilize materials provided by the museum. [John Dickinson Plantation](#), 340 Kitts Hummock Road, Dover, DE 19901. 10 a.m.–3:30 p.m. Free admission. 302-739-3277.

### Saturday July 14

"A Sailor's Life for Me." Outdoor maritime festival featuring sea shanties, sailors, pirates, life-saving techniques, crafts and more. [Zwaanendael Museum](#), 102 Kings Highway, Lewes, DE 19958. Program 10 a.m.–3 p.m. Museum open 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Free admission. 302-645-1148.

### Saturday, Aug. 25

"In Order to Prevent a Continuance of Slavery." Program utilizes primary-source materials including manumission documents, bills of sales and family information to illustrate the lives of African-Americans on St. Jones Neck. [John Dickinson Plantation](#), 340 Kitts Hummock Road, Dover, DE 19901. Program 10 a.m.–Noon. Museum open 10 a.m.–3:30 p.m. Free admission. 302-739-3277.

## Exhibits

### Ongoing

"[Archaeology of the New Castle Court House](#)." The exhibit highlights the many phases of archaeological investigations at the New Castle Court House including artifacts representing over 300 years of continuous use of the building. [New Castle Court House Museum](#), 211 Delaware St., New Castle, DE 19720. Wed.–Sat., 10 a.m.–3:30 p.m. Free admission. 302-323-4453.

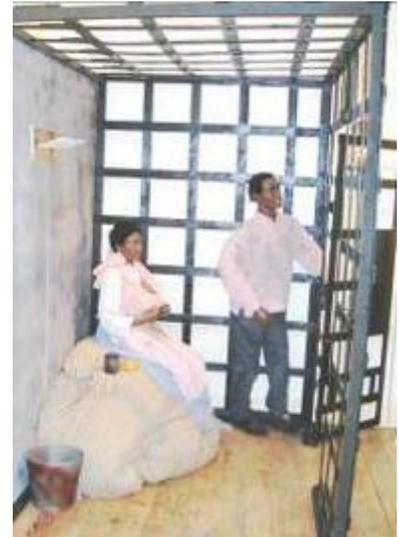
### Ongoing

"[The Civil War: Five Delaware Soldiers' Stories](#)." Display explores the experiences of five of the more than 13,000 Delawareans who fought in the American Civil War. [First State Heritage Park Welcome Center and Galleries](#), Delaware Public Archives building, 121 Duke of York St., Dover, DE 19901. Mon.–Fri., 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Sat., 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Sun., 1:30–4:30 p.m. Free admission. 302-744-5055.

### Ongoing

"[Emeline Hawkins: Her Journey from Slavery to Freedom on the Underground Railroad](#)."

Exhibit chronicles the compelling story of Emeline Hawkins and her family and their 1845 odyssey on the Underground Railroad from slavery in Maryland, through Delaware to freedom in Pennsylvania. [New Castle Court House Museum](#), 211 Delaware St., New Castle, DE 19720. Wed.–Sat., 10 a.m.–3:30 p.m. Free admission. 302-323-4453.



*Display from the exhibit, "Emeline Hawkins: Her Journey from Slavery to Freedom on the Underground Railroad."*

### Ongoing

"[Maritime History on the Delaware](#)." Exhibit showcases over 11,000 years of Lewes history and culture supported by an array of artifacts, maps, sketches, lithographs and photographs. [Zwaanendael Museum](#), 102 Kings Highway, Lewes, DE 19958. Oct. 1–March 31, Wed.–Sat., 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m. April 1–Sept. 30, Tues.–Sat., 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m., Sun., 1:30–4:30 p.m. Free admission. 302-645-1148.

### Ongoing

[“Rediscovery Through Recovery.”](#) Exhibit features a selection of artifacts recovered from a British commercial ship that sank off Lewes’ Roosevelt Inlet in the late 18th century. [Zwaanendael Museum](#), 102 Kings Highway, Lewes, DE 19958. Oct. 1–March 31, Wed.–Sat., 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m. April 1–Sept. 30, Tues.–Sat., 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m., Sun., 1:30–4:30 p.m. Free admission. 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 all complicated machines are composed. [John Dickinson Plantation](#), 340 Kitts Hummock Road, Dover, DE 19901. Wed.–Sat., 10 a.m.–3:30 p.m. Free admission. 302-739-3277.



*USS Delaware*

### Ongoing

[“USS Delaware: An American Battleship.”](#) The story of the USS Delaware (1909-1924), told through objects, photographs and ceremonial silver. [First State Heritage Park Welcome Center and Galleries](#), Delaware Public Archives building, 121 Duke of York St., Dover, DE 19901. Mon.–Fri., 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Sat., 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Sun., 1:30-4:30 p.m. Free admission. 302-744-5055.