



Museums of the State of Delaware Event Calendar September–December, 2012

Special Events

Saturday, Sept. 1, 2012

"Back to School." First Saturday in the First State program explores E.R. Johnson's role in making music a fundamental subject in public education through the donation of talking machines and records to schools across the country, and the development of educational programs for students of all ages. [Johnson Victrola Museum](#), 375 S. New St., Dover, DE 19901. 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Free admission. 302-744-5055.

Saturday, Sept. 1, 2012

"We Poor Devils." First Saturday in the First State 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 3 p.m. Museum open 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Free admission. 302-744-5055.



Saturday, Sept. 1, 2012

"The First People of the First State: A Celebration of Heritage." First Saturday in the First State program welcomes the Lenape Indian Tribe of Delaware as they celebrate mother earth and their culture. [The Old State House](#), 25 The Green, Dover, DE 19901. Program Noon–4 p.m. Museum open 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Free admission. 302-744-5055.

Elected Chief Dennis Coker of the Lenape Indian Tribe of Delaware will participate in programs on Sept. 1 and 22.

Sunday, Sept. 2, 2012

"Native-American Life." First Sunday interactive program comparing Native American objects and tools with the modern tools of today. [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.

Monday, Sept. 3, 2012

"The Star Spangled Banner: Then and Now." Program examines the development of America's national anthem through time with original recordings played on authentic Victor Talking Machines. [Johnson Victrola Museum](#), 375 S. New St., Dover, DE 19901. Programs at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Museum open 10 a.m.–3:30 p.m. Free admission. 302-744-5055.

Thursdays, Sept. 6, 2012

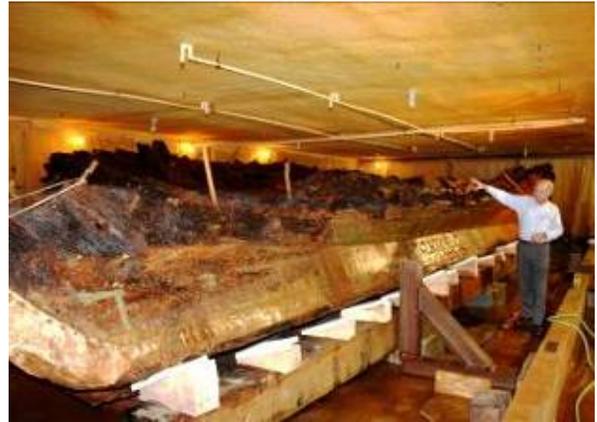
"Tools of Our Ancestors." Interactive, after-school program that examines tool manufacturing and the tools and methods of hunting utilized by native people of Delaware over 10,000 years ago. Program geared to children ages 6-14 but open to all. [The Old State House](#), 25 The Green, Dover, DE 19901. Program 3- 4 p.m. Museum open 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Free admission. 302-744-5055.

Saturday, Sept. 8, 2012

Demonstrations by the Thistledown Fiber Arts Guild. Program explores spinning, weaving, knitting and other fabric arts. [John Dickinson Plantation](#), 340 Kitts Hummock Road, Dover, DE 19901. Program 1–3 p.m. Museum open 10 a.m.–3:30 p.m. Free admission. 302-739-3277.

Monday Sept. 10, 2012

[Lecture/tour of His Majesty's Sloop DeBraak.](#) Explore the history of the DeBraak which was capsized and lost off the Delaware coast on May 25, 1798. Program includes a trip to the hull facility in nearby Cape Henlopen State Park for an interpreter-led tour of the ship's remains. [Zwaanendael Museum](#), 102 Kings Highway, Lewes, DE 19958. Programs at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Limited seating. Admission \$10 in advance by reservation only at <http://history.delaware.gov>. For additional information, call 302-645-1148.



Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs archaeologist Chuck Fithian conducting a tour of the remains of the DeBraak's hull.

Thursday, Sept. 13, 2012

"Tools of Our Ancestors." Interactive, after-school program that examines tool manufacturing and the tools and methods of hunting utilized by native people of Delaware over 10,000 years ago. Program geared to children ages 6-14 but open to all. [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, Sept. 15, 2012

Stipple-drawing demonstrations. Historical interpreter and artist Sharyn Murray will demonstrate the stipple technique used to draw artifacts from the Roosevelt Inlet Shipwreck, a British commercial ship that sank off Lewes in the late 18th century. [Zwaanendael Museum](#), 102 Kings Highway, Lewes, DE 19958. 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Free admission. 302-645-1148.

Saturday, Sept. 15, 2012

"The Star Spangled Banner: Then and Now." Program examines the development of America's national anthem through time with original recordings played on authentic Victor Talking Machines. [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.

Monday Sept. 17, 2012

[Lecture/tour of His Majesty's Sloop DeBraak.](#) Explore the history of the DeBraak which was capsized and lost off the Delaware coast on May 25, 1798. Program includes a trip to the hull facility in nearby Cape Henlopen State Park for an interpreter-led tour of the ship's remains. [Zwaanendael Museum](#), 102 Kings Highway, Lewes, DE 19958. Programs at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Limited seating. Admission \$10 in advance by reservation only at <http://history.delaware.gov>. For additional information, call 302-645-1148.

Thursday, Sept. 20, 2012

"Tools of Our Ancestors." Interactive, after-school program that examines tool manufacturing and the tools and methods of hunting utilized by native people of Delaware over 10,000 years ago. Program geared to children ages 6-14 but open to all. [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.

Friday, Sept. 21, 2012

"Yo Ho Ho and a bottle of" Fun-Friday Oktoberfest program exploring beer, grog, rum and other beverages and foods that sustained sailors on their long voyages. [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.

Saturday, Sept. 22, 2012

"Smoked, Pickled and Salted for Survival." Learn how smoked, pickled and salted meats helped stretch food reserves in the winter, and participate in pickling meats with brine and smoking meats in the plantation's smokehouse. [John Dickinson Plantation](#), 340 Kitts Hummock Road, Dover 19901. Program 11 a.m.–2:30 p.m. Museum open 10 a.m.–3:30 p.m. Free admission. 302-739-3277.

Saturday, Sept. 22, 2012

"The Test of Time: The Relationship Between the Lenape Indian Tribe of Delaware and the Swedish Royal Family." Elected Chief Dennis Coker of the Lenape Indian Tribe of Delaware will discuss the rekindled relationship with the Swedish government after a 300-year lapse and the advancements made by both communities. [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.



Chet "Wolf Walker" Peden will be demonstrating wood carving techniques on Sept. 22, 2012.

Saturday, Sept. 22, 2012

Native-American carving demonstration. Chet Peden (Wolf Walker) chief, Appalachian Cherokee, Delaware region, demonstrates his carving skills. [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.

Monday Sept. 24, 2012

Lecture/tour of His Majesty's Sloop DeBraak. Explore the history of the DeBraak which was capsized and lost off the Delaware coast on May 25, 1798. Program includes a trip to the hull facility in nearby Cape Henlopen State Park for an interpreter-led tour of the ship's remains. [Zwaanendael Museum](#), 102 Kings Highway, Lewes, DE 19958. Programs at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Limited seating. Admission \$10 in advance by reservation only at <http://history.delaware.gov>. For additional information, call 302-645-1148.

Thursday, Sept. 27, 2012

"Tools of Our Ancestors." Interactive, after-school program that examines tool manufacturing and the tools and methods of hunting utilized by native people of Delaware over 10,000 years ago. Program geared to children ages 6-14 but open to all. [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, Sept. 29, 2012

"First Peoples of the First State." Based on the research of archaeologist Cara Blume, the program will explore Delaware's Native American communities of the past and present. [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.

Saturday, Sept. 29, 2012

"A Whale of a Tale, Part One." Program on the whaling industry's relationship to the first settlement in the First State. [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.

Monday Oct. 1, 2012

Lecture/tour of His Majesty's Sloop DeBraak. Explore the history of the DeBraak which was capsized and lost off the Delaware coast on May 25, 1798. Program includes a trip to the hull facility in nearby Cape Henlopen State Park for an interpreter-led tour of the ship's remains. [Zwaanendael Museum](#), 102 Kings Highway, Lewes, DE 19958. Programs at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Limited seating. Admission \$10 in advance by reservation only at <http://history.delaware.gov>. For additional information, call 302-645-1148.

Saturday, Oct. 6, 2012

"Sailor's Saturday." Activities include a shipwreck presentation, block and tackle demonstrations, sea shanties and more. Held in conjunction with Lewes' annual Boast the Coast Maritime Festival. [Zwaanendael Museum](#), 102 Kings Highway, Lewes, DE 19958. 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Free admission. 302-645-1148.

Saturday, Oct. 6, 2012

"The Caroline." First Saturday in the First State event features Bill Sparke portraying Eldridge Reeves Johnson, founder of the Victor Talking Machine Company, as he shares his memories of his beloved yacht the Caroline. Visitors will also be able to hear a recording of the song that was written and recorded about the Caroline played on authentic Victor Talking Machines. [Johnson Victrola Museum](#), 375 S. New St., Dover, DE 19901. E.R. Johnson at 1 p.m. Museum open 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Free admission. 302-744-5055.

Saturday, Oct. 6, 2012

"William Penn: The City He Envisioned." First Saturday in the First State program celebrates the 330th anniversary of the landing of William Penn in America and his laying out of the City of Dover. [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.

Saturday, Oct. 6, 2012

"A Walk and Tea With William Penn." Walking tour of the area where Penn landed in New Castle featuring re-enactors portraying the Livery of Seizen ceremony. Followed by tea and a talk with William Penn at [Traders Cove Cafe](#). Program begins at 3 p.m. at the [New Castle Court House Museum](#), 211 Delaware St., New Castle, DE 19720. Museum open 10 a.m.–3:30 p.m. Admission charged and reservations required. 302-323-4453.

Sunday, Oct. 7, 2012

"The Trial of William Penn." First Sunday program in which historical re-enactors will portray the events surrounding Penn's trial on religious freedom and the rights of English subjects under the law. [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, Oct. 13, 2012

"A Day in the Life of the John Dickinson Plantation." Visitors of all ages will enjoy a day of music, food, entertainment and hands-on activities from colonial trades to hearth cooking in the 18th-century setting of the home of the "Penman of the Revolution." [John Dickinson Plantation](#), 340 Kitts Hummock Road, Dover, DE 19901. 10 a.m.–3:30 p.m. Free admission. 302-739-3277.



Mansion house at the John Dickinson Plantation.

Saturday, Oct. 13, 2012

"A Walk and Tea With William Penn." Walking tour of the area where Penn landed in New Castle featuring re-enactors portraying the Livery of Seizen ceremony. Followed by tea and a talk with William Penn at [Traders Cove Cafe](#). Program begins at 3 p.m. at the [New Castle Court House Museum](#), 211 Delaware St., New Castle, DE 19720. Museum open 10 a.m.–3:30 p.m. Admission charged and reservations required. 302-323-4453.

Sunday, Oct. 14, 2012

"History Goes Hollywood." Screening of the 1942 film "Penn of Pennsylvania" starring Clifford Evans and Deborah Kerr. Story of William Penn, his fight for religious freedom and the founding of Pennsylvania. [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, Oct. 20, 2012

"A Walk and Tea With William Penn." Walking tour of the area where Penn landed in New Castle featuring re-enactors portraying the Livery of Seizen ceremony. Followed by tea and a talk with William Penn at [Traders Cove Cafe](#). Program begins at 3 p.m. at the [New Castle Court House Museum](#), 211 Delaware St., New Castle, DE 19720. Museum open 10 a.m.–3:30 p.m. Admission charged and reservations required. 302-323-4453.

Sunday, Oct. 21, 2012

"History Goes Hollywood." Screening of the 1942 film "Penn of Pennsylvania" starring Clifford Evans and Deborah Kerr. Story of William Penn, his fight for religious freedom and the founding of Pennsylvania. [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.



Portrait of William Penn.

Saturday, Oct. 27, 2012

"Penn's Landing: Celebration of the 330th Anniversary of William Penn's Landing in New Castle." Programs and activities commemorating the landing of Penn and his receiving of the Three Lower Counties. [New Castle Court House Museum](#), 211 Delaware St., New Castle, DE 19720. 10 a.m.–3:30 p.m. Free admission. 302-323-4453.

Saturday, Oct. 27, 2012

"A Whale of a Tale, Part Two." Featuring Suzanne Thurman, executive director of the [Marine Education, Research and Rehabilitation Institute, Inc.](#), a non-profit stranding response and rehabilitation organization dedicated to the conservation of marine mammals and sea turtles. [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, Nov. 3, 2012

"18th Century Market Fair." First Saturday in the First State program explores an era when The Green and The Old State House served as the focal point of life in Dover as historical interpreters explore the goods, wares and political attitudes of the 18th century. Sponsored by the [First State Heritage Park](#), [The Old State House](#), 25 The Green, Dover, DE 19901. Museum open 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Free admission. 302-744-5055.

Saturday, Nov. 3, 2012

"Some Like Classical." First Saturday in the First State program explores some of Victor Records' earliest recordings of classical music 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.

Sunday, Nov. 4, 2012

"Dutch-American Heritage." First Sunday program explores the contributions the Dutch have made to the economic, social, political and cultural life of Delaware and the United States, and the historical relationship between the two nations. [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.

Tuesday, Nov. 6, 2012

"Cast a Vote." In celebration of Election Day, tours will explore Delaware's earliest elections. [The Old State House](#), 25 The Green, Dover, DE 19901. 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Free admission. 302-744-5055.

Tuesday, Nov. 6, 2012

"Swing." Enjoy the sounds of swing music 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.



Tuesday, Nov. 6, 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. Tours at 10 a.m., Noon and 3 p.m. Museum open 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Free admission. 302-744-5055.

First State Heritage Park Welcome Center and Galleries

Saturday, Nov. 10, 2012

Demonstrations by the Thistledown Fiber Arts Guild. Program explores spinning, weaving, knitting and other fabric arts. [John Dickinson Plantation](#), 340 Kitts Hummock Road, Dover 19901. Program 1–3 p.m. Museum open 10 a.m.–3:30 p.m. Free admission. 302-739-3277.

Saturday, Nov. 10, 2012

"Vanishing Voices of WW II: Southern Delaware's Humble Heroes." Screening of film by James Diehl followed by a discussion with the filmmaker. [Zwaanendael Museum](#), 102 Kings Highway, Lewes, DE 19958. Program at 2 p.m. Museum open 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Free admission but, due to space restrictions, reservations for the film are required by calling 302-645-1148 no later than Nov. 3, 2012.

Sunday, Nov. 11, 2012

"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, Nov. 17, 2012

"Light Me Up!" Workshop on candle dipping and discussion of lighting devices of the 18th century. [John Dickinson Plantation](#), 340 Kitts Hummock Road, Dover, DE 19901. Workshop 1–3 p.m. Museum open 10 a.m.–3:30 p.m. Free admission but, due to space restrictions, reservations for the workshop are required by calling 302-739-3277 no later than Nov. 16, 2012.

Saturday, Nov. 17, 2012

Dutch-American Heritage Day. Learn about Sint Nicolaas (Sinterklaas) as Jonathan De Jonge portrays the traditional holiday figure of the Netherlands and patron saint of mariners. [Zwaanendael Museum](#), 102 Kings Highway, Lewes, DE 19958. Program at 2 p.m. Museum open 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Free admission but, due to space restrictions, reservations for the program are required by calling 302-645-1148 no later than Nov. 10, 2012.

Thursday, Nov. 29, 2012

"Hospitality Night." Swedish holiday-themed program featuring Ellie Leuliett who will share her Swedish holiday décor collection; Tomte, the Swedish Christmas-elf who gives treats to good children; plus seasonal refreshments. [Zwaanendael Museum](#), 102 Kings Highway, Lewes, DE 19958. 6–9 p.m. Free admission. 302-645-1148.

Saturday, Dec. 1, 2012

"**American Pride.**" First Saturday in the First State program explores patriotic music recorded by Victor Records 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, Dec. 1, 2012

"**The First State.**" First Saturday in the First State program explores why Delaware is known as the First State due to its place in the ratification of the U.S. Constitution. [The Old State House](#), 25 The Green, Dover, DE 19901. 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Free admission. 302-744-5055.

Victor Talking Machines at the Johnson Victrola Museum.

Saturday, Dec. 1, 2012

"**Tour Zwaanendael Museum.**" Enjoy the museum's festive Swedish holiday-décor. Event held in conjunction with the Lewes Historical Society's Christmas Tour of Lewes. [Zwaanendael Museum](#), 102 Kings Highway, Lewes, DE 19958. 10 a.m.–4 p.m. Free admission. 302-645-1148.

Saturday, Dec. 1, 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. Tours at 10 a.m., Noon and 3 p.m. Museum open 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Free admission. 302-744-5055.

Sunday, Dec. 2, 2012

"**Sven Skute: The Scapegoat of New Sweden.**" First Sunday program explores who was responsible for the loss of Ft. Trinity (Ft. Casimir) and the Swedish colony—the governor or the head of the military? Presented by historical-site interpreter David Price. [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, Dec. 8, 2012

"**Handmade for the Holidays.**" Seasonal program in which visitors can learn to decorate cards through the art of paper quilling and stenciling. write a personal note with a quill pen and create a sachet with herbs and spices. [John Dickinson Plantation](#), 340 Kitts Hummock Road, Dover, DE 19901. Program 11–2:30 p.m. Museum open 10 a.m.–3:30 p.m. Free admission. 302-739-3277.

Saturday, Dec. 8, 2012

"**Home for the Holidays: A Soldier's Christmas.**" [Candlelight tours of historic New Castle museums](#) highlighting seasonal activities and customs during various wars. A soldier's tree with images of New Castle and Delaware veterans past and present will be featured at the [New Castle Court House Museum](#). Downtown New Castle, DE 19720. 6:30–9 p.m. Admission charge. 302-322-2794 or 302-323-4453.

Sunday, Dec. 16, 2012

"**Swedish Christmas With Tomte.**" Program explores the Swedish elf who gives candy and good luck. [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.

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.



Street scene in front of the New Castle Court House Museum.

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.

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.



Photo of the 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.