

HISTORY MUSEUM OF MOBILE

Our story starts here

FY 23-24 ANNUAL REPORT

SPECIAL EXHIBITION

The Global Language of HEADWEAR

Cultural Identity, Rites of Passage, and Spirituality

March 15 - June 7, 2024

This blockbuster exhibition featured 87 hats and headdresses from 42 countries -- a stunning diversity of the world's cultures. More than utilitarian objects, each hat is a work of art, not merely due to the skill required to make it, but also as an expression of creativity and meaning. The exhibition was organized into five thematic sections: Cultural Identity; Power, Prestige, and Status; Ceremonies and Celebrations; Spiritual Beliefs; and Protection. Hats and headdresses communicate timeless ideas—not only of beauty, but also of what it means to be human.



*The Global Language of
Headwear: Cultural Identity,
Rites of Passage, and Spirituality*
was jointly organized by
Stacey W. Miller and
International Arts & Artists,
Washington, DC.



BEHIND-THE-SCENES COLLECTION TOURS

Where does a museum keep 117,000 objects?

Only about one percent of the collection is on permanent display. The rest are cared for year-round by a talented team of highly-trained curators. In 2024, the Collections department started offering monthly themed tours to discuss the particular environmental, handling, and housing factors needed to prevent damage and ensure the preservation of the objects they collect, safeguard, and interpret for present and future generations of citizens. Themes have included weaponry, textiles, rare books, and Mardi Gras.





These special one-hour tours are free for members, \$20 for ages 18+, and \$15 for ages 8-17. Two time options are available for each date: 10:30am and 5:30pm. Check our website for upcoming tours: www.historymuseumofmobile.com.

LIVING HISTORY *at* COLONIAL FORT CONDÉ

Built on the same site of its 1723 predecessor, this partial reconstruction of Fort Condé offers visitors the chance to learn about Mobile's journey from its beginnings as a French colonial settlement to its early years as an American territory. The Fort is quickly becoming a vibrant living history site, filled with opportunities for visitors to not only learn about colonial Mobile history, but to *experience* it. Living history interpreters perform daily demonstrations and weekend tours, offering exciting new ways to discover our shared past.



A full calendar of annual events includes Colonial Day, Living History Festival, Colonial Eats food festival, musketry demonstrations, historical reenactments, and Christmas at the Fort.



Visitors to the Fort may find someone mending garments, churning butter, whitling, firing a musket, or doing a variety of other colonial arts, crafts, and chores!

PHOENIX FIRE MUSEUM

From turn-of-the-century horse-drawn fire trucks and early motorized engines to vintage uniforms and badges, visitors delight in discovering the history of Mobile's volunteer fire companies at the Phoenix Fire Museum. Housed in the restored Phoenix Volunteer Fire Company No. 6. Fire House, the Phoenix provides an exciting museum experience for visitors of all ages. Admission is always free.





CLOTILDA THE EXHIBITION

AT THE AFRICATOWN HERITAGE HOUSE
A SITE OF THE HISTORY MUSEUM OF MOBILE

CULTURE FEST

This special event, held July 27, 2024, was a day of jubilant celebration, meaningful reflection, and community, opening a lens to the African American experience and celebrating the legacy of Africatown.

HERITAGE LECTURE SERIES

Africatown Heritage House hosted six lectures in 2024, a collection of speeches designed to touch on topics related to the Black experience.

CHRISTMAS AT AFRICATOWN HERITAGE HOUSE

"A Serenade to the Ancestors" was a joyous event that brought the community together through music and entertainment. Guests were invited to tour the museum, snap photos with Santa, and enjoy games, hands-on activities, special performances, and treats.



EDUCATION EVENTS

LEARNING LUNCH LECTURES

This ongoing monthly series allows guests to enjoy free presentations on a wide range of historical and cultural topics. Admission to Learning Lunch is free.

Guests may bring their lunch and enjoy complimentary beverages.

AFRICAN AMERICAN MUSIC FESTIVAL

The African American Music Festival, held in honor of Black History Month, includes musical performances by artists who specialize in three different musical genres developed by African Americans: Spirituals, Blues, and Jazz. Local schools are invited to the performances, where the artists discuss how their chosen genre of music was developed by African Americans and the lasting influence of these genres on the popular music we enjoy today.

NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM

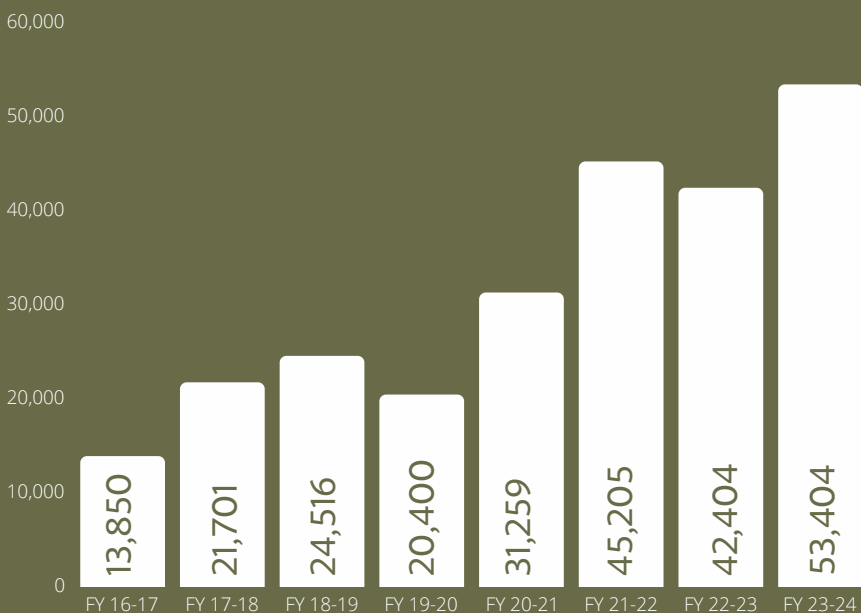
This family event includes a historical scavenger hunt, storytelling, Halloween crafts & games, live music, and costume contests for all ages.

WORKSHOPS

The Education department holds hands-on workshops throughout the year, enhancing the educational value of special exhibitions.



BY THE NUMBERS



ATTENDANCE

NEARLY 300 ACCESSIONS TO THE COLLECTION

45 PUBLIC EVENTS

24,000+ SOCIAL MEDIA FOLLOWERS

1,288 VOLUNTEER HOURS

6 NAPPIE AWARDS
FOR BEST MUSEUM



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PHOTO CREDIT: Dana Lee Davis Photography



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MUSEUM RENTALS

The History Museum of Mobile is the perfect place to host your meeting, conference, wedding, or corporate event.



Visit historymuseumofmobile.com or email museumevents@historymuseumofmobile.com for more information.



MEMBERSHIP

Membership to the History Museum of Mobile entitles you to free admission for a year and includes invitations to exclusive events and openings!

Through a reciprocal membership program with Southeastern Museums Conference (SEMC), **you also receive free admission to over 150 museums around the Southeast.** That's an incredible value. You can enjoy your membership on your travels while supporting your local institution.

Other members-only benefits include the annual Mardi Gras parade party, discounts on gift shop purchases, and free admission to all Behind-the-Scenes Collection Tours.



INDIVIDUAL · \$50

*Free admission for a year
15% discount on museum sales
Free admission to exclusive events & openings*

STUDENT · \$25

Same as above with valid student ID

COUPLE · \$75

Same as above for two people

FAMILY · \$95

*Same as above for 2 adults and children under 18
10% discount on one facility rental
Free admission to children's programming*

ASSOCIATE · \$150

Same as above with one guest pass

SUPPORTING · \$250

Same as above with two guest passes

PATRON · \$500

*Same as above with four guest passes
15% discount on one facility rental*

BENEFACTOR · \$1,000

*Same as above with six guest passes
25% discount on one facility rental*



Join online!

www.historymuseumofmobile.com/membership

Or tear off this form and return to:

History Museum of Mobile
Attn: Memberships
P.O. Box 2068
Mobile, AL 36652

- \$50 INDIVIDUAL
- \$25 STUDENT
- \$75 COUPLE
- \$95 FAMILY
- \$150 ASSOCIATE
- \$250 SUPPORTING
- \$500 PATRON
- \$1,000 BENEFACTOR

Name _____ *please include honorific (Mr/Mrs/Dr/Miss/Ms, etc)*

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Birthday _____

Please make checks payable to
History Museum of Mobile

VISA AMEX Mastercard Discover

Card Number _____

Expiration Date _____

I would like to volunteer at the museum



HISTORY MUSEUM
OF MOBILE



Colonial
FORT CONDÉ



111 South Royal St. | Mobile, AL 36602
www.HistoryMuseumofMobile.com