



Calendar

Visit historic-deerfield.org for up-to-date information and to register for special programs.

Museum Events, Programs, and Exhibitions · Spring 2026



Picturing the Revolution

Dressing the Revolution

*A Town Divided:
Deerfield in the Age of Revolution*

*Woolly Wonders:
Heritage Breed Sheep Weekend*

*Futurecasting, Futurekeeping:
New Englanders Imagine Worlds
to Come*

Historic Deerfield





Highlights of the Season

Museum Opening Day and the Start of Three New Exhibitions!

April 18, 9:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m. at the Flynt Center of Early New England Life

Join us for a day celebrating three new exhibitions focused on the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution!

- ✦ Meet the curators and explore each exhibit at your own pace.
- ✦ Learn more about the objects on display through historic trades demonstrations with gunsmith Richard Colton, dressmaker Linda Oakley, and shoemaker Peter Oakley who will be focusing on the styles of the 1770s.
- ✦ Enjoy hands-on activities for all ages. Kids will have fun learning about Revolutionary-era spy codes and ciphers at the Discovery Center.
- ✦ Learn about tea and revolution at the Ashley House, and try a taste of Liberty Tea and China Tea at the Hearth Cooking Demonstration.
- ✦ Take one of the *Deerfield in the American Revolution* walking tours offered throughout the day.

The Flock Returns!

Woolly Wonders: Annual Heritage Breed Sheep Weekend

May 2 & 3 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the grounds outside the Flynt Center of Early New England Life · Our favorite woolly weekend is back! Celebrate New England's rare and historic heritage sheep with two days of hands-on fun and fascinating demonstrations.





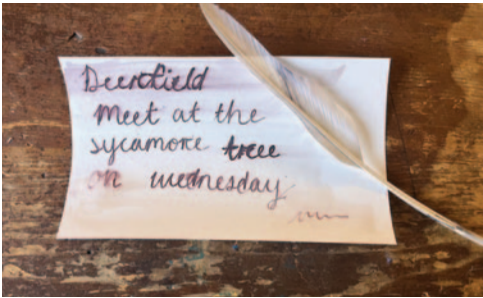
Meet sheep and lambs up close, watch skilled sheepdogs at work, and see shearing, spinning, weaving, and more. Visitors of all ages can get involved by washing, carding, dyeing, and weaving wool—or enjoy games, crafts, and a family-friendly scavenger hunt. Included with general admission. Free for members, youth 17 and under, and residents of Deerfield/South Deerfield.

Family Program!

Top Secret Fun—

Spies, Ciphers, and Secret Codes

12–4:30 p.m. at the Discovery Center (formerly the History Workshop) · May 9, 10, 16, 17, 23, 24, 30, 31 · June 6, 7, 13, 14, 20, 21, 27, 28 · During the American Revolution, spies used methods like invisible ink and secret codes to carry important information. Visit the Discovery Center this spring to learn about these techniques and try some of them yourself. Write your own secret message to bring home!



**Juneteenth Commemoration:
Witness Stones Walking Tours**

June 19, departing from Hall Tavern at 11 a.m., 1 p.m., and 3 p.m. · Join us for a guided walking tour of some of the Witness Stones that commemorate the lives of enslaved individuals who lived in Deerfield during the 18th century. As part of Historic Deerfield’s ongoing commitment to broadening visitor knowledge and experience, the Museum has partnered with the Witness Stones Project (now affiliated with Historic New England), with a unique approach to memorializing enslaved individuals. Inspired by the Stolpersteine project in Germany commemorating victims of the Nazis, the Witness Stones

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Project works to restore the history and honor the humanity of the enslaved individuals who helped build our communities. Accompanying the tours, visitors are invited to learn about the life of an enslaved man named Prince, who attempted self-emancipation from his enslaver, Joseph Barnard. Through an ad in a Boston newspaper, several items of clothing are described, and Historic Deerfield has had two of those items reproduced by master tailor Henry Cooke. These items, a checked linen shirt and a wool coat, will be on display in Hall Tavern.

Hybrid event!

Dublin Seminar for New England Folklife—Futurecasting, Futurekeeping: New Englanders Imagine Worlds to Come

June 26–27 at the Deerfield Community Center and on Zoom · In June 2026, the Dublin Seminar for New England Folklife will mark its 50th anniversary by looking both backwards and ahead and contemplating ways residents of the region have envisioned, foretold, and worked to shape various futures over the region's long history. The seminar will feature a keynote address by Holly Jackson, Professor of English and Chair of American Studies at the University of Massachusetts, Boston, and author of *American Radicals: How Nineteenth-Century Protest Shaped the Nation*. Other speakers will address how New Englanders have envisioned new futures during moments of crisis or uncertainty. How did people try to anticipate what the future held or if there was a future at all? How did imagining the future shape the present? Visit Historic-Deerfield.org for pricing and registration details.



Historic Trades Demonstrations

Bringing the Revolution to Life

10 a.m.–4 p.m. · Come and marvel at the “art and mystery” of making things by hand. Meet our talented guest artisans as they create objects inspired by the skill and talent of tradespeople and artisans of the past. Included with general admission.

April 25 · Blacksmithing with Rick Martin and Friends at Stebbins House Lawn

April 25 · Tailoring a Revolutionary War Era Military Uniform with Henry Cooke at the Flynt Center



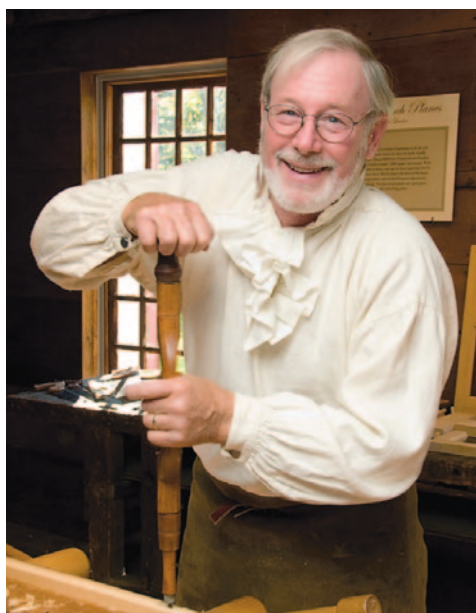


May 9 · Powder Horn Carving with Laurie Semple McCarthy and Military Leather Work with Jay Blain at Hall Tavern

May 16 · Silversmithing with Steve Smithers at the Silver Shop and Pottery with Stephen Earp at the Apprentice's Workshop

May 23 · Joinery with Ted Ingraham, Redware Pottery with Rick Hamelin, and Candles with Gariné Arakelian at the Apprentice's Workshop

May 30 · Block Printing on Fabric with Jennifer Roy, Revolutionary-Era Doctor with Greg Morin, and 18th Century Herbal Remedies and Women's Medicine with Amy Lanham at Hall Tavern



June 6 · Chair-Making with Charles Thompson at the Apprentice's Workshop

June 20 · 18th-Century Chest Carving with Sharon Merhman at the Apprentice's Workshop, and 1770s Carving and Chair Details with Craig Farrow at the Flynt Center



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Revolutionary Recipes • June 6, 13, 20, 27, 10 a.m.–4 p.m. This month, our hearth cooks will be exploring common dishes of the 1770s. While many men went to war during the Revolution, women remained in Deerfield, feeding their families. Come and see what was on the menu for families during the Revolutionary period.

Great Cakes! April 25, May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, 10 a.m.–4 p.m. Visitor Center at Hall Tavern During the 18th century, towns in New England held muster days for men to practice military drills. These became community affairs and people made special food, including a treat that became known as Muster Cake. Later versions were named Election Cake or Washington Cake after the first President. Come and see which cake our cooks choose to bake!



Become a Member of Historic Deerfield!

Membership at Historic Deerfield is a meaningful way to stay connected to the village you value. Members provide essential unrestricted support that sustains our work—from preserving historic buildings and caring for collections to offering engaging exhibitions and programs throughout the year.

As a member, you receive:

- ✳ Free year-round admission to Historic Deerfield
- ✳ A 10% discount at the Museum Store, the Deerfield Inn, and Champney's Restaurant & Tavern

- ✳ Access to the Member Portal with exclusive digital content
- ✳ Guest pass(es) to share Historic Deerfield with family and friends
- ✳ Membership at the Henry N. Flynt Library
- ✳ Subscriptions to *Historic Deerfield* magazine, the seasonal *Calendar*, and our e-newsletter
- ✳ An annual virtual program presented by Museum staff

Join online at historic-deerfield.org/join or call (413) 775-7176.

Things to Do

When You're
in Deerfield

Included with general admission.

At the Discovery Center (formerly the History Workshop) • Young visitors can explore colonial life through period games, dress-up clothes, a family-friendly garden, handicrafts and more. This spring, the Discovery Center gives families and visitors of all ages the opportunity to learn about a variety of topics, including the secret world of spies during the American Revolution.

The Henry Needham Flynt Silver and Metalware Collection is recognized as one of the top ten collections of American silver nationwide. The building features a silver-smith's workshop with many traditional tools, and a room devoted to metalwares made and used in early America, including pieces made by Paul Revere. Guided tours of the Silver and Metalware Collection are available by appointment during the regular

season. Check at the Visitor Center at Hall Tavern desk for more information.

In the Apprentice's Workshop • This interactive learning space provides visitors with a hands-on experience to show how woven linen textiles, architectural woodworking, and English factory-made ceramics were produced in the late 18th and early 19th century. Please check at the Visitor Center at Hall Tavern desk for more information about tour times.



Guided Outdoor Walking Tours (45–60 minutes) · Enjoy an outdoor walking tour of Deerfield. Tours include Deerfield Architecture and Deerfield History. On the day of your visit, inquire at the Visitor Center to find out which tours are happening for the day. All tours are weather-permitting.

Visit the Witness Stones · Walk the Street and see the 36 Witness Stones memorials (at multiple Historic Deerfield, town, and Deerfield Academy properties) where enslaved men, women and children lived and worked. These plaques allow visitors to learn more about the individuals whose presence they commemorate. Witness Stones are an essential element in the Museum's ongoing initiative to share this history.

"Encountering Pocumtuck" walking tour with Historic Deerfield's mobile app (available for Apple and Android devices). This guided experience features 16 stops in Old Deerfield where you can explore Pocumtuck life, culture, and history.



The Deerfield Inn and Champney's Restaurant & Tavern

Start your spring with great music, beverages, food, and atmosphere at Historic Deerfield's beautiful New England Inn. Call 413-774-5587 or Visit ChampneysRestaurant.com for reservations.

Week Nights at Champney's · Pizza Night Mondays, Burger Night Tuesdays, Oyster Wednesdays, and Prime Rib Fridays.

Mother's Day · May 10, 11 a.m.–5 p.m.
Invite Mom out for a special meal, celebrating all her seasonal favorites!

Summer Concert Series on the Terrace
June 4–September 3 · Thursdays from 6–9 p.m. Come enjoy live music featuring a different local musician each week. Rain or shine!

Father's Day · June 21, 11:30 a.m.–8 p.m. · Take Dad out for his favorite burger: Black Angus, Veggie, Faroe Island Salmon, or Special Burger of the Night!



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New Exhibition! Picturing the Revolution ·

April 18, 2026–January 3, 2027 · Throughout the American War for Independence, scores of images circumnavigated the globe, fighting their own battles to establish a comprehensible narrative for the momentous events occurring in British North America. Differences in politics, disruptions in communication, and the delay of thousands of miles of distance produced competing and often contradictory accounts. Some images became enduring representations of the conflict. Others faded from memory.

Drawing from Historic Deerfield's rich collection of Revolutionary-era materials, this exhibition explores the diverse ways that 18th-century individuals "pictured" or understood the Revolution as it unfolded. Looking across prints, drawings, maps, broadsides, portraits, powder horns, ceramics, and satirical cartoons, *Picturing the Revolution* highlights how images shaped local and global perceptions of the war: its landscapes, its actors, its causes, and its goals. Mining these complex visual records reveals the often-overlooked importance of pictures in the shift from revolt to revolution, and in envisioning a future for the new nation.

This exhibition has been made possible with major support from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Massachusetts Office of Travel & Tourism.



NATIONAL
ENDOWMENT
FOR THE
HUMANITIES



**New Exhibition! Dressing the Revolution:
Fashion and Politics 1760–1789** · April 18,

2026–January 3, 2027 · The exhibition uses garments, accessories, textiles, and prints to illuminate the complex role of clothing at the time of the American Revolution. By posing new questions about fashion's relationship with class, race, and gender, this show places clothing at the center of the political debates, shedding light on dress as a powerful tool that communicated not just status and identity, but political affinities during this volatile period.

The show begins with a look at the consumer revolution of the mid-18th century

when an abundance of highly desirable imported goods, especially finished cloth and accessories, became widely available to all levels of society in the Colonies. Fashionable dress connected Colonists with England but also contributed to the construction of personal identities and social status, while providing the potential for social mobility.

When Britain imposed onerous taxes in the 1760s, perceptions of fashionable dress began to change. Patriots called for non-importation and non-consumption of British goods while advocating for more sober, American-made clothing. Women stepped into new political roles through the many highly publicized spinning bees, putting action to words in their industry and self sacrifice. While the Homespun Movement largely symbolic, it nevertheless changed the narrative around the public display of clothing.

Fashionable dress remained a topic of heated debate and public scrutiny when consumption of imported goods resumed after the tariffs were lifted. Clothes, whether modest or fashionable, could be read for their political implications. When the Revolution brought closed ports and hardship, Colonists often made due by maintaining and altering existing clothes and dressing more plainly. The show concludes with a look at dressing in the new Nation and the conflicting urges to balance familiar calls for republican modesty and virtue with a new eagerness for American-produced fashions.

This program is made possible by a grant from The Coby Foundation.



THE COBY
FOUNDATION



New Exhibition! A Town Divided: Deerfield in the Age of Revolution

April 18, 2026–January 2, 2028 · How did a rural Massachusetts community respond to the upheaval of the late 1760s through the 1780s? Using objects, documents, and personal narratives, the exhibition will present multiple perspectives on how Deerfield residents embraced, rejected, or questioned Revolutionary ideals. While many associate the Revolution with Boston or battlefield sites, *A Town Divided* brings the promises—and contradictions—of the Revolution to life through the lens of a deeply divided rural town in western Massachusetts.

As in other communities, Deerfield's citizens struggled to adapt to an everchanging social, political, and economic landscape as rebellion and war affected villages far from urban centers and coastal cities. In Deerfield, which was evenly split between Loyalists and Whigs, conflicts between neighbors upturned lives and polarized the community. By expanding and interpreting Deerfield's stories, the exhibition investigates overlooked aspects of the Revolution, highlighting a period when Americans faced severe chal-

lenges but eventually emerged a new nation.

Objects, documents, and voices from the period allow us to access the urgency and uncertainty of the era. The ideals of equality and liberty engaged not only Loyalists and Whigs, but also rich and poor, women and children, African Americans (both free and enslaved), and Indigenous people.

This program is made possible by a grant from Mass Humanities, which provided funding through the Massachusetts Cultural Council.



Museum Collections Study Gallery · Visit the visible storage area on the second floor of the Flynt Center to see other fine decorative arts, featuring our world-famous collections of New England furniture and clocks, Samuel Pierce pewter tools, Chinese export porcelain, English pottery, American ceramics, and the *Garden of Hearts* chest. The collections are arranged in more than 80 glass cases, according to media.

This spring, Historic Deerfield marks the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution with a season of exhibitions, programs, and events that explore how a nation—and a community—were transformed.



April 2026 events at a glance

All events are included with general admission unless otherwise noted. Visit Historic-Deerfield.org/events for pricing and registration information.

18 Museum Opening Day and Exhibition Openings • Flynt Center of Early New England Life and other Historic Deerfield locations, 9:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

18 New Exhibition! *Picturing the Revolution* • 9:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m., Flynt Center of Early New England Life

18 New Exhibition! *Dressing the Revolution: Fashion and Politics 1760–1789* • 9:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m., Flynt Center of Early New England Life

18 New Exhibition! *A Town Divided: Deerfield in the Age of Revolution* • 9:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m., Flynt Center of Early New England Life



18–20, 22–26 April School Vacation Week • Top Secret Fun: Spies, Ciphers, and Secret Codes • 9:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m., The Discovery Center

25 Open Hearth Cooking Demonstrations • Great Cakes! at Hall Tavern, **Blacksmithing with Rick Martin and Friends** on the Stebbins House Lawn, and **Tailoring a Revolutionary War Era Military Uniform** with Henry Cooke at the Flynt Center, all 10 a.m.–4 p.m.



The History Workshop is now called The Discovery Center!

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events at a glance

May 2026

All events are included with general admission unless otherwise noted. Visit Historic-Deerfield.org/events for pricing and registration information.

2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Open Hearth Cooking Demonstrations: Great Cakes! •

10 a.m.–4 p.m., Hall Tavern

2, 3 Woolly Wonders: Heritage Breed Sheep Weekend! • 10 a.m.–4 p.m., Flynt Center of Early New England Life

9, 10, 16, 17, 23, 24, 30, 31 Fun for Families • Top Secret Fun: Spies, Ciphers, and Secret Codes • 12–4:30 p.m., The Discovery Center

9 Powder Horn Carving with Laurie Semple McCarthy and Military Leather Work with Jay Blain • 10 a.m.–4 p.m., Hall Tavern

16 Silversmithing with Steve Smithers at the Silver Shop and Pottery with Stephen Earp at the Apprentice's Workshop, both 10 a.m.–4 p.m.

23 Joinery with Ted Ingraham, Redware Pottery with Rick Hamelin, Candles with Gariné Arakelian • 10 a.m.–4 p.m., Apprentice's Workshop

30 Block Printing on Fabric with Jennifer Roy, Revolutionary-Era Doctor with Greg Morin, and 18th-Century Herbal Remedies and Women's Medicine with Amy Lanham • 10 a.m.–4 p.m., Hall Tavern



June 2026 events at a glance

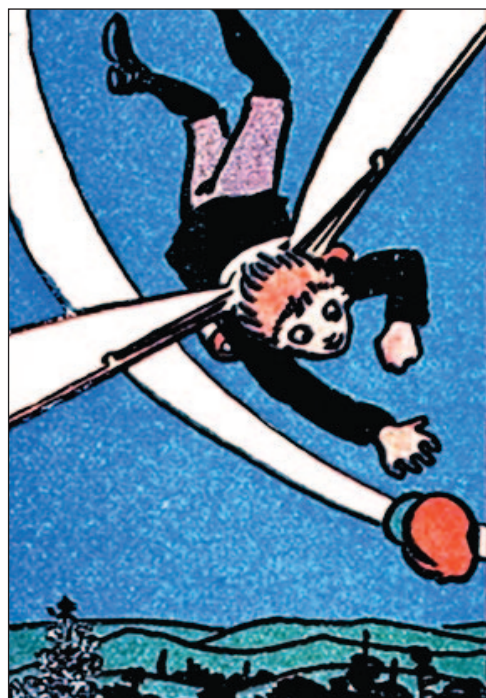
All events are included with general admission unless otherwise noted. Visit Historic-Deerfield.org/events for pricing and registration information.

6, 13, 20, 27 Open Hearth Cooking
Demonstrations: Revolutionary Recipes ·
10 a.m.–4 p.m., Hall Tavern

6, 7, 13, 14, 20, 21, 27, 28
Fun for Families · Top Secret Fun: Spies,
Ciphers, and Secret Codes · 12–4:30 p.m.,
The Discovery Center

6 Chair-Making with Charles Thompson ·
10 a.m.–4 p.m., Apprentice's Workshop at
Dwight House

19 Juneteenth Commemoration: Witness
Stones Walking Tours · Departing Hall
Tavern at 11 a.m., 1 p.m., and 3 p.m.



20 18th-Century Chest Carving with Sharon
Merhman at the Apprentice's Workshop, and
1770s Carving and Chair Details with Craig
Farrow at the Flynt Center, both 10 a.m.–
4 p.m.

26–27 Dublin Seminar for New England
Folklife · *Futurecasting, Futurekeeping:
New Englanders Imagine Worlds to Come* ·
At the Deerfield Community Center and on
Zoom. Learn more and register at historic-deerfield.org.

Visitor Information

Hours: Hours: Historic Deerfield is open to the public Wednesday–Sundays, and Monday holidays, 9:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m., through November 29. The Henry N. Flynt Library is open Tuesday–Friday, 9 a.m.–12 p.m. and 1–5 p.m.

Admission: \$20 for adults (18+), \$5 for youth ages 13–17, and FREE for children ages 12 and under (sponsored by Greenfield Savings Bank), members, and residents of Deerfield/South Deerfield. Admission includes walking tours, historic house tours, the History Workshop, the Apprentice's Workshop and the Flynt Center of Early New England Life. For specific event information or to purchase tickets in advance, visit historic-deerfield.org.

Accessibility: Wheelchairs (26") and assistive listening devices are available at the Visitor Center at Hall Tavern. The first floors of several Historic Deerfield museum houses, the Memorial Libraries, the Flynt Center of Early New England Life, the Deerfield Community Center, the Deerfield Inn, and the Museum Gift Shop and Bookstore are accessible to those using standard-size 26-inch wheelchairs.

Food: Champney's Restaurant & Tavern at the Deerfield Inn is open Wednesday–Sunday for breakfast (7–10 a.m.), and every day for lunch (11:30 a.m.–4 p.m.) and dinner (4–9 p.m.).

Museum Gift Shop and Bookstore: Stop in for gifts, books, cards, housewares, locally made goods and artwork, and more! See hours or shop online at Historicdeerfieldstore.com.

www.historic-deerfield.org

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