

Art Raffle

Saturday

April 26



Join us for an art raffle to
benefit NCPC Grants!

Upcoming Events and Deadlines

May 1	NEH Preservation Assistance Grant
May 1	Heritage Preservation MayDay
April 27- May 3	Preservation Week
May 15	FAIC Professional Development Grant
May 18-21	AAM Annual Meeting
June 11	NEH-Digital Projects Grant
June 26	NEH-Humanities Initiatives Grants

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MayDay: Saving Our Heritage



MayDay is the time to celebrate spring, but it is also a great time to consider what preparations your cultural institution can do to protect your collection. On May 1st, museums, historic sites, archives, and libraries will observe MayDay by creating collection management plans, inventorying disaster kits, or conducting training for staff and volunteers.

Studies reveal that training and development accounts for only 0.2% of a cultural institutions budget, yet it's critical to stay up-to-date. In addition, only 50% of collections surveyed in the Heritage Health Index have a disaster plan and staff trained to implement it.

Consider joining in and do something for your collection. Submit your plans or accomplishments to Heritage Preservation throughout the month of May and you will be entered in a drawing to win disaster supplies from Gaylord. Also, Like Heritage Preservation's Facebook page to get weekly tips on disaster preparedness.

What can you do to help preserve the cultural heritage in your collection? For ideas, go to Heritage Preservation, Society of American Archivists, and Small Museum Ideas blog.

NCPC Sponsors Basic Book Repair Workshop

The University of Mount Olive hosted a basic book repair workshop sponsored by the NCPC to teach attendees how to assess damage in books, evaluate treatment options and perform basic repairs and restorations to books. Craig Fansler, Preservation Librarian at the Z. Smith Reynolds Library at Wake Forest University, conducted the workshop which included nine attendees from across the state. NCPC offers a variety of workshops for the public and professionals at low cost. See the Events page for upcoming workshops or join the mailing list on the News page to stay up to date!



Attendees of the Basic Book Repair Workshop at the University of Mount Olive.

Be Prepared for the Changing Seasons

Summer is right around the corner. Is your cultural institution ready for the change in seasons? The warmer months bring an increase in humidity and an increase in visitors. Here are a few brief tips to help you prepare and protect your collections:

- Check the HVAC system for your collection to ensure it is operating smoothly.
- Create a disaster plan and discuss it with museum staff and maintenance personnel.
- Verify your fire protection system is up-to-date (ie: fire extinguishers, smoke alarms).
- Make sure your administrative documents related to the collection are backed up and stored in two locations.
- Have a list of professionals you could contact in the event of damage to your collections. Check out the NCPC Emergency page for a starting point.
- Some grant deadlines are due in the fall. Start thinking about what your collections needs are now.

Ask A Conservator: Important Tools for Maintaining a Collection

We asked objects conservator, Susanne Grieve, Director of Conservation at East Carolina University, what the four most useful things are for maintaining a collection. Here are her suggestions for how you can best protect your objects:

- **Environmental Datalogger** (\$75-\$1000+): These are getting more affordable and can be used to track and monitor the environment around your collection (relative humidity, temperature, light). This information helps determine what the natural cycles are and where we can make improvements.
- **Insect Traps** (\$1.50-\$200): Placing several of these around your collections area will help identify the insects in your storage areas. Try putting some near doorways to see the amount of insects that are using that as an entry and exit.
- **Mylar Polyester Film** (\$15-\$100+): Mylar can be used as a barrier to separate two types of materials on display (for example, place under a ceramic dish that will be displayed on a table to prevent from scratching). It can be cut to size and your visitors won't even know its there. We also use it for interleaving between objects in storage or to cover books.
- **Acid Free Tissue Paper** (\$10 and up, sheets or rolls): Its uses are endless! Use acid free tissue paper for padding out textiles that need support, for wrapping objects in storage, or for interleaving flat materials.

Become a Member of the NCPC

We would be honored to welcome your organization to the consortium. Membership is open to archives, conservation centers, historic sites, libraries, museums and other institutions with a mission to support the preservation of cultural, educational, and historical collections in our state. Employees of member institutions receive registration discounts on our workshops and annual conference, and are also eligible to hold leadership positions on the consortium's board of directors and committees. The minimum annual membership fee for institutions is only \$100.00. Additional financial support is voluntary.

NCPC Grant Provides Environmental Monitoring Program at Historic Körner's Folly – Dale Pennington

Historic Körner's Folly is the home of artist and designer Jule Körner. Built in 1880 in Kernersville, North Carolina, the house originally served to display his interior design portfolio. The 22 room, house museum boasts three stories across seven levels with ceilings ranging in height from 5.5 feet to twenty-five feet. With over 90% of the original furnishings, including furniture designed by Körner himself, the Körner's Folly collection is comprised of nearly 1,000 objects original to the house or the Körner family. In addition to original furnishings, the collection also contains decorative ceramics, textiles, and fourteen works of art by Körner relatives.

In June of 2013, Körner's Folly was awarded a generous grant from the North Carolina Preservation Consortium to begin an environmental monitoring program. The two goals of the environmental monitoring program were to first, minimize temperature fluctuations by installing auto-change thermostats, and second, employ digital hygrothermometer data loggers to collect environmental data and use the data to monitor change over time. Based on the data collected, Körner's Folly will create a preservation plan and policy to better address environmental issues.



Photograph courtesy of Historic Körner's Folly .

The auto-change thermostats were installed in July of 2013 and have greatly reduced seasonal temperature fluctuations. In August of 2013, the digital hygrothermometer data loggers were installed in nine zones throughout Körner's Folly. Data being collected from the various zones allows staff to identify and observe naturally occurring seasonal ranges, as well as, identify any variants outside of the normal range. Staff has been able to identify which zones are more susceptible to wider temperature variations. For example, data loggers show the kitchen zone, which was a later addition to the house, has the widest temperature ranges, with readings from 45-80 degrees over the last eight months. Given the wide ranging fluctuations, staff has now moved sensitive artifacts from the kitchen zone to more stable areas of the house.

Since implementing the environmental monitoring program, staff is able to better understand how the house responds to changing environmental conditions, allowing for more proactive preservation. Wide variations in temperature and relative humidity are extremely damaging to the collection and must be monitored to be appropriately addressed. The Körner's Folly Foundation would like to thank NCPC for the generous support!

Local and Federal Grants

For some small cultural institutions, applying for grants can be an intimidating process. Grants are necessary to create or supplement income for a museum, historic site, or other cultural organizations. Here are some tips and small local and federal grant sources that can help you start the process today!

Tips!

- Read the guidelines thoroughly.
- Contact the agency and discuss your project.
- Allow plenty of time to write and compile the information.
- Be specific about the project and your methods.
- Use images and illustrations.
- Try working on one section at a time and focus on quality.

Grant Sources to Start With:

- NCPC Grants: General preservation, conservation, training, or equipment; \$2000 maximum
- NEH Preservation Assistance Grants: General preservation, conservation, training, or equipment; \$6,000 maximum
- NCMC Internship Grant: Provides an intern over the summer; \$1500 maximum

Membership Roll Call

Thank you to all who have made a financial contribution to the North Carolina Preservation Consortium. Personal philanthropy is a meaningful way to declare your commitment to preserving cultural and historical resources. Please consider joining these *Friends of NCPC*.



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You may join the *Friends of NCPC* with a tax deductible donation. Giving levels are cumulative. We accept checks and credit card payments. Please contact the NCPC Executive Director to discuss giving and fundraising opportunities.

Think a Disaster Won't Happen to Your Collection? Think Again!

On January 7th the Yancey County Public Library staff discovered water coming from the attic of their historic Burnsville building. A pipe in the fire suppression system had expanded due to freezing. Heather South and Jeff Futch from the Western Office of the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources responded to assess the damage and offer assistance. Heather and Jeff are members of the NC Cultural Resources Emergency Support Team (CREST) and the Mountain Area Cultural Resources Emergency Network (MACREN). With their guidance, library staff and members of their friends group salvaged approximately 2,000 volumes. This is a reminder for all of us that damage can occur at any time. Have you updated your disaster plan? Do you have disaster supplies on hand? Where should you start? The resources below are a great way to start for MayDay:

[Connecting to Collections-Air Drying](#)

[Museum Assessment Program-Disaster Preparedness Kit](#)

[Florida Association of Museums-Supplies](#)

[National Park Service-Conserve-O-Gram](#)

[Northern States Conservation Center-Collections Caretaker](#)

Membership Roll Call Continued

NCPC programs are made possible by the generosity of our members. These organizations have demonstrated their commitment to the preservation of tangible and intangible heritage of enduring value. We are grateful for their financial support.

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Greenville Industrial-Charles Montgomery Eppes High School
Alumni Heritage Society
High Point Museum
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Hunter Library (Western Carolina University)
J. Murrey Atkins Library (University of North Carolina at Charlotte)
J.Y. Joyner Library (East Carolina University)
Jamestown Public Library (Old Jamestown School Association)
Lawndale Museum (Lawndale Historical Society)
Library Services (Rockingham Community College)
Mint Museum
Mooresville Public Library
Moravian Archives
Moyer Library - Free Will Baptist Historical Collection Archives (University of Mount Olive)
Museum of Anthropology (Wake Forest University)
North Carolina Museum of Art
North Carolina Museum of History

Orange County Historical Museum
Pew Learning Center and Ellison Library (Warren Wilson College)
Prezell R. Robinson Library (Saint Augustine's University)
Professional Center Library (Wake Forest University)
Rowan Public Library
RTP Library
(U.S. Environmental Protection Agency)
School of Info & Lib Science (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill)
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Wilkes Heritage Museum
William E. Laupus Health Sciences Library (East Carolina University)
Z. Smith Reynolds Library (Wake Forest University)



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Preserving collections in libraries, museums, archives, and historic sites

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