



For Immediate Release

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Historic Deerfield Announces its 2023 Season**

*Highlights include Grand Reopening of Barnard Tavern, Wooly Wonders, and Garden of Hearts Exhibition*

(Deerfield, MA) – [Historic Deerfield](#) is thrilled to celebrate spring and its full slate of events and programs sure to engage and inspire visitors of all ages.

**The regular season at the museum kicks off on Saturday, April 15, 2023 at 10:00 a.m., with the [Barnard Tavern Opening Celebration](#)**, a day of festivities, tours, and activities, including horse-drawn wagon rides, hearth cooking demonstrations featuring tavern fare, a craft activity for kids, games in the bar room, and early 19th century music and dance in the assembly hall. There will also be historic demonstrations of broom making, 18th century medicine, and coopering.

Later in April on the 22nd, is the [Heart of the House: Exploring New England's Historic Kitchens](#), a virtual and in-person forum exploring the culture and shifting functions of the New England kitchen from the colonial period to the present.

On **Saturday and Sunday, May 20 and 21**, Historic Deerfield welcomes adorable, historic, and rare heritage breed sheep (and lambs!) at [Wooly Wonders – Heritage Breed Sheep Weekend](#). Visitors of all ages are encouraged to come watch a sheepdog-herding demonstration, learn about textiles and wool-processing with hands-on activities, and visit with heritage breeds of sheep including Lincoln Longwool, Shetland, and Merino. This event teaches visitors about the role sheep played in early New England farming and agriculture.

In conjunction with the season opening, visitors can also take in a new exhibition at Historic Deerfield's Flynt Center of Early New England Life, starting on April 15th. [Garden of Hearts: Madeline Yale Wynne and Deerfield's Arts and Crafts Movement](#) celebrates the Arts & Crafts movement in New England, and Wynne's masterpiece, the *Garden of Hearts*. This piece is an oak bride's chest ornamented with hammered copper panels, intricate woodcarving, wrought iron hinges, and semi-precious stones. It is a tour-de-force of Arts and Crafts design—which favored handcraftsmanship over mechanized production—which will be exhibited with 35 examples of work by Wynne and other Deerfield crafters from the collections of Historic Deerfield and the Pocumtuck Valley Memorial Association.

On **June 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>**, [the Antiques Dealers' Association of America \(ADA\) and Historic Deerfield Antiques Show](#) returns! The show brings together some of the nation's finest dealers featuring the best of 18th, 19th and 20th-century American art, antiques, and design. Remarkable objects that will

improve any collection and home will be on view and for sale. A ticket to the antiques show grants visitors access to Historic Deerfield, including the Flynt Center and tours of our historic homes.

The [Summer Evening Stroll](#) program will take place June 11, 18, 25 with a new stroll, focused on the topic of Slavery and Freedom. This special walking tour explores the history of labor in Deerfield, both enslaved and free, posing the question: *Who built the beautiful town we know today? How do we remember and honor these complicated histories in the present?*

The 2023 Dublin Seminar of Early New England Life, [Indigenous Histories in New England: Pastkeepers and Pastkeeping](#), will take place on June 23-24. The seminar will address gaps in Indigenous voice and visibility in public views of the past. Participants will critically consider who has claimed responsibility for "keeping" the Indigenous past in New England, including how it has been represented, how historical research can be decolonized and improved, and what museums and tribal nations have done to engage the public in a better understanding of this part of history.

[Make Your Mark on Metal](#), this season's family program at The History Workshop, invites visitors to come learn about the materials and techniques employed by artisans of the Arts and Crafts Movement here in Deerfield, through a hands-on metal-stamping activity. Participants can bring home a metal creation of their own! 12 p.m. - 4:30 p.m most Saturdays and Sundays. (See [www.historic-deerfield.org/events](http://www.historic-deerfield.org/events) for specific dates.)

The season will also be replete with **workshops and demonstrations** of open hearth cooking and historic trades:

[Open Hearth Cooking Demonstration: Tavern Fare](#) (April 15, 29)

[Broommaking, Medicine, and Coopering](#) (April 15)

[Dressmaking and Shoemaking](#) (April 29)

[Make a Whisk Broom](#) (April 29)

[Baking in the Beehive Oven](#) (May 6, 13, 27)

[Redware Pottery and Silversmithing](#) (May 6)

[Historic Trade Demonstration: The Doctor is in!](#) (May 13)

[Cooking with Lamb](#) (May 20, 21)

[Stoneware Pottery](#) (May 27)

[White Pine and Ash Bark Basket Making](#) (June 10)

[Open Hearth Cooking Demonstration: Grains - Maize, Wheat, and Rye: The Big Three Grains of Early New England](#) (June 3, 10, 17, 24)

A full calendar of events can be found at [www.historic-deerfield.org/events](http://www.historic-deerfield.org/events).

To learn more about Historic Deerfield, visit the website, [historic-deerfield.org](http://historic-deerfield.org).

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**About Historic Deerfield.** Historic Deerfield is a museum of early American life situated in an authentic 18th-century New England village in the Connecticut River Valley of Massachusetts. Its historic houses and world-famous collection of early American decorative arts open doors to new perspectives that inspire people to seek a deeper understanding of themselves, their communities, and the world.