



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **EXPLORE THE HISTORY OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES IN CHARLOTTE AT TWO FREE EVENTS THIS SPRING**

**CHARLOTTE, N.C., May 18, 2022** – Join The Charlotte Museum of History for two free events this spring highlighting the historic contributions of Indigenous peoples in the Charlotte region.

First, join the museum on the campus of Davidson College on **Saturday, May 28, for a guided walking tour of “Unshadowed Land,” an art installation** that reflects on the history of the site as Indigenous land as well as a site of enslavement. The tour also will explore historic foodways and cultural memory. Lia Newman, director and curator of the Van Every/Smith Galleries at Davidson College, and Dr. Rose Stremmlau, associate professor of history at Davidson, will lead the tour, along with Mea Agazio, education specialist at The Charlotte Museum of History.

Then come to the museum on **Saturday, June 4, for the unveiling of a new portrait in the museum’s Path of Portraits project. The portrait, created by contemporary Catawba artist Alex Osborn, features Sally New River.** New River was an elder in the Catawba Nation in the late 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> centuries and a granddaughter of King Hagler. Osborn most recently was artist-in-residence at the Native American Studies Center at USC Lancaster.

In the late 1700s, when Europeans threatened the Catawba’s land holdings, the Catawba Nation deeded hundreds of acres of land to Catawba women, naming New River as the legal owner. This ensured the land, which contained agricultural and sacred sites, would not be leased to new settlers. New River safeguarded the Catawba Nation’s heritage while teaching others to do the same, fostering a culture of adaptation and survival.



These events are made possible by the Arts & Science Council.

**HOW TO GO:**

Both events are free. The May 28 walking tour takes place at Davidson College. Pre-registration is required for this tour, and space is limited.

The June 4 event takes place on the museum's campus in East Charlotte at 3500 Shamrock Drive. No registration is required for this event.

More information about both events is at [charlottemuseum.org/events](http://charlottemuseum.org/events).

**About The Charlotte Museum of History**

The Charlotte Museum of History exists to save and share the Charlotte region's history, helping create a better understanding of the past and inspiring dialogue about the future. The museum is the steward of the 1774 Hezekiah Alexander Rock House and homesite, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is the oldest home in Mecklenburg County. Visit [charlottemuseum.org](http://charlottemuseum.org) and follow the museum on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#). The museum is an independent 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

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