

“BACKCOUNTRY DAYS” CELEBRATES CITY’S 250th BIRTHDAY
Free museum event serves visitors a slice of life in Colonial Charlotte

CHARLOTTE, N.C., August 30, 2018 – Backcountry Days comes back to The Charlotte Museum of History on Saturday, Sept. 8, giving visitors a snapshot of the different cultures that called the Carolinas home 250 years ago, when our city was founded. The free event highlights 18th-century daily living in this part of North Carolina, then known as the Backcountry.

“This year marks the 250th anniversary of Charlotte’s founding, when Governor Tryon signed the charter for our city. We offer this birthday gift to the Queen City as a way for us to come together and celebrate our founding,” said Adria Focht, president & CEO of The Charlotte Museum of History. “We hope visitors leave with a better understanding of what Charlotte was like 250 years ago, the various cultures that shaped our city then and the places where we can still find our early history today.”

Backcountry Days has become an annual tradition at the museum. This year’s event focuses on socializing and fun in the Colonial Backcountry, including what people did in their limited leisure time – the games they played, the food they ate and the music they performed.

The Charlotte Museum of History and the Charlotte Folk Society present the event in partnership with a number of other local organizations, including Aldersgate, the Charlotte Herb Guild, the Olde Mecklenburg Genealogical Society, the Mecklenburg Historical Association and the UNC-Charlotte Atkins library.

Backcountry Days Activities

Visitors will enjoy a variety of experiences at this free festival, including:

- Traditional music, including Old-time, Celtic and Bluegrass jam sessions.

- Storytelling and an appearance by Dr. Annie Alexander, North Carolina's first female doctor (as portrayed by a member of the Mecklenburg Historical Association).
- Demonstrations of 18th-century life, including cooking, herb gardening, blacksmithing, basket making, spinning and weaving, and instrument making.
- New 19th and 20th century Alexander family artifacts on display, including jewelry and some of Annie Alexander's medical tools.
- Tours of the historic Hezekiah Alexander Home Site, including the 1774 "Rock House."
- Information about preserving your family's history, courtesy of the Olde Mecklenburg Genealogical Society.
- Ice cream.
- Crafts and Colonial games on the front lawn of the historic house.

How to Go

This free event takes place on Saturday, Sept. 8, from noon-4 p.m. at The Charlotte Museum of History, 3500 Shamrock Drive. More information is at charlottemuseum.org or by calling 704.568.1774.

Visitors are encouraged to bring a chair or blanket if they want to sit awhile and an instrument if they want to join the music sessions.

About The Charlotte Museum of History

The Charlotte Museum of History engages a broad audience in the history of the Charlotte region through the stories of its people, places and events to promote dialogue and historical perspective. The museum is the steward of the Hezekiah Alexander House (ca. 1774) and home site, a site listed on the National Register of Historic Places and the oldest home in Mecklenburg County. To learn more, visit charlottemuseum.org and follow the museum on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#).