

Colonial Williamsburg

The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation
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70th Colonial Williamsburg Antiques Forum: “Celebrating the American Spirit” Convenes Feb. 23-27

WILLIAMSBURG, Va. (Feb. 5, 2018) –Colonial Williamsburg convenes its 70th annual Antiques Forum, “Celebrating the American Spirit,” Feb 23-27, offering the latest findings on furniture, ceramics, textiles, architecture and a host of related topics.

“This year’s Colonial Williamsburg Antiques Forum is a special one as we celebrate the 70th anniversary of the nation’s oldest decorative arts program,” said Ronald L. Hurst, Colonial Williamsburg’s Carlisle H. Humelsine chief curator and vice president of collections, conservations and museums. “Guests will gain fresh insights on early American material culture from presenters including Colonial Williamsburg’s own experts and other premier museum and antiques professionals.”

Forum presenter highlights include **Alexandra Kirtley** of the Philadelphia Museum of Art, who will discuss “Furniture as Canvas: Painted Decoration in the American Psyche,” **Mel Buchanan** from the New Orleans Museum of Art, presenting on Louisiana decorative arts, and **Dennis Carr** from the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, who will discuss items from early America’s “Borderlands.”

Forum keynote speaker **Gordon S. Wood**, noted historian, author and Alva O. Way professor of history emeritus at Brown University will discuss “John Adams and Thomas Jefferson and the Arts.”

In addition to four days of lectures and demonstrations, Forum guests may register for optional private tours of historic homes in the region Feb. 23, as well as post-session hands-on workshops with the Colonial Williamsburg collections staff.

Space is limited. Forum information and registration is available online at bit.ly/antiquesforum2018 or by calling 1-800-603-0948 Mondays through Fridays 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Program registration is \$650 and \$325 for museum professionals. Pre-conference day trips are \$175 and post-conference workshops; while registrant guest tickets are \$50 for the opening reception and \$85 for the closing reception and dinner.

Additional information about Colonial Williamsburg is available online at colonialwilliamsburg.com/learn/conferences, by calling 855-296-6627 toll-free, by downloading the free Colonial Williamsburg Explorer app via the Apple App Store and Google Play, and by following Colonial Williamsburg on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/colonialwilliamsburg) and @colonialwmsburg on [Twitter](https://twitter.com/colonialwilliamsburg) and [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/colonialwilliamsburg).

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The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation preserves, restores and operates Virginia's 18th-century capital of Williamsburg. Innovative and interactive experiences, highlight the relevance of the American Revolution to contemporary life and the importance of an informed, active citizenry. The Colonial Williamsburg experience includes more than 400 restored or reconstructed original buildings, renowned museums of decorative arts and folk art, extensive educational outreach programs for students and teachers, lodging, culinary options from historic taverns to casual or elegant dining, the Golden Horseshoe Golf Club featuring 45 holes designed by Robert Trent Jones and his son Rees Jones, a full-service spa and fitness center, pools, retail stores and gardens. Philanthropic support and revenue from admissions, products and hospitality operations sustain Colonial Williamsburg's educational programs and preservation initiatives.

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