

Holiday Open House and Family Activities at the Museum

Gaston County Museum of Art & History

DALLAS, N.C.—The Gaston County Museum of Art & History will kick off the holiday season on Friday, December 4, with the Museum's annual Holiday Open House and Carriage Rides from 6:00-8:00 p.m. The event is free and open to the public.

"Again this year, the Museum will transform into a winter wonderland," says Alexandrea Pizza, the Museum's Director. "We'll have free horse-drawn carriage rides around the Court Square in Dallas, along with a visit from Santa and a North Pole Post Box for children who want their letters to get to Santa at "reindeer speed". Santa has been known to write back!"

The Holiday Open House also includes crafts and activities for children and holiday decorations throughout the Victorian-era 1852 hotel. "We love the holidays at the Museum and the chance to show off the Museum's beautiful architecture and interiors during our Open House," says Mrs. Pizza. "We'll have refreshments around the fire pit in the garden, and the Carriage House will be open and beautifully decorated with traditional Victorian decorations."

Carriage rides, which are free, will start from the parking lot of the Museum's Daniel Stowe Carriage House on West Church Street.

The Museum galleries will be open until 8:00 p.m. for visitors to enjoy current exhibits:

- "The Unheard Voices: The African American Communities of Gaston County, 1870s-1970s"; The Turnings: A Cycle of American Time by Mt. Holly artist Emily Andress; The Pillars of Friendship, an exhibit of sculpture and artwork by Ingrid Swanson; and the newly renovated historic hotel rooms.

The Museum is free and open to the public Tuesday through Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Saturday from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. For more information, visit our website at www.gastoncountymuseum.org