



Hampton

CONVENTION & VISITOR BUREAU

Media Release

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Contact: Elizabeth Severs, 757/728-5326
elizabeth.severs@hamptoncvb.com
Seamus McGrann, 757/727-6841
mmcgrann@hampton.gov

Divergence: Native and Colonial Histories Symposium Scheduled for May 11 at Hampton History Museum Canceled

Hampton, VA- Due to circumstances beyond the control of the museum and staff, it is with great regret that we must cancel the *Divergence: Native and Colonial Histories Symposium* that was scheduled for Saturday, May 11. This was not an easy decision to make, given the amount of time and consideration put forth to give voice to a diverse range of speakers. These individuals would have explored the world of the Indigenous people who lived in this land before the arrival of the English, the experiences and perceptions of both cultures at first contact, and the subsequent First Anglo-Powhatan War. These issues are central to understanding Hampton, and our nation's early history. They are as integral to our story as that of the first Africans brought to these shores in 1619.

Sponsored by the Hampton 2019 Commemorative Commission and the National Park Service as a lead-up to the Hampton Heritage Day 2019 festival taking to following Saturday, The Hampton History Museum presents **Divergence: Native and Colonial**

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Histories, a symposium exploring the region's early history from Indigenous and

European perspectives on Saturday, May 11, 2:00-6:00 p.m. This event is free and open to the public.

Hampton Heritage Day

Saturday, May 18, 2019, 10:00 am-6:00 p.m.

Mill Point Park, 100 Eaton St, Hampton, Free and open to the public

Join in commemorating the Native American, European and African cultures that shaped Hampton's early history. This family friendly festival presents a colorful and lively array of traditional music, dance and storytelling and other performances and presentations that will take place throughout the day, along with hands-on activities, cultural displays and demonstrations, glassblowing, blacksmithing, heritage arts & crafts, artisan vendors, food and more.

Hampton Heritage Day is sponsored by the Hampton 2019 Commemorative Commission, Hampton Convention and Visitors Bureau, National Park Service, Downtown Hampton Development Partnership, City of Hampton and the Hampton History Museum Association.

2019 Commemorative Commission

The mission of the 2019 Commemorative Commission is to promote the history of the first Africans in the new world and to plan events leading up to a yearlong remembrance-commemoration program in 2019. In 2019, join the global commemoration of the 400th anniversary of four pivotal happenings in English North America's Virginia colony: the arrival of the first Africans, the arrival of women, convening of the first General Assembly, and celebration of the first Thanksgiving. The First African Arrival occurred at Point Comfort in 1619, present site of national monument Fort Monroe in present-day Hampton, Virginia.

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Hampton History Museum

The symposium is free and open to the public. The Hampton History Museum is located at 120 Old Hampton Lane in Downtown Hampton. There is free parking in the garage across the street from the museum. For more information call 757-727-1102 or visit www.hamptonhistorymuseum.org.

Partially bordered by the Hampton Roads harbor and Chesapeake Bay, Hampton, with the 344,000 sq. ft. Hampton Roads Convention Center and the award-winning Hampton Coliseum, is located in the center of Coastal Virginia and the Hampton Roads metropolitan area. Hampton is the site of America's first continuous English-speaking settlement, the site of the first arrival of Africans in English North America, and is home to such visitor attractions as the Virginia Air & Space Center, Fort Monroe National Monument, Hampton History Museum, harbor tours and cruises, Hampton University Museum, The American Theatre, among others.

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