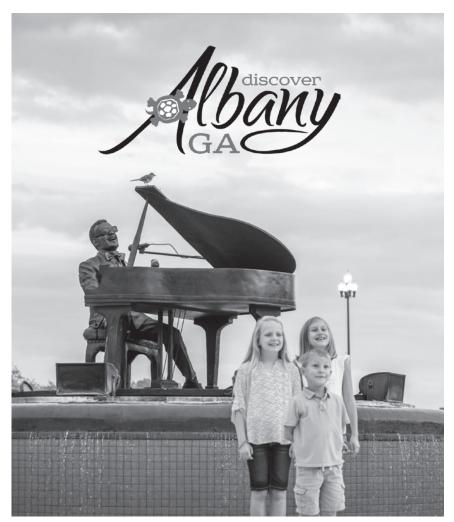
2023 Fall/Winter

# HOMESCHOOLERS GUIDE Field Trips & Family Vacations

FREE!

- SOUTHERN EDITION -



Ray Charles Plaza, Albany, GA



# Chart your courses

The North Carolina Maritime Museum in Beaufort offers free and low-cost programs on a variety of topics in and outside the museum for all levels!

PROGRAMS Preschool Turtles Shark Tales Dolphins

Dolphins Beach Finds Pirates!

Kindergarten-2nd Grade Sea Hunt Pirate Hooks & Peg Legs Hatteras Jack Boats that Float Tidal Flat Beach Exploration

**3rd-5th Grade** Sea Hunt Mariner's Map Pirate's Life Barrier Island Ecology Boats that Float Tidal Flat Beach Exploration

6th-12th Grade Mariner's Map One Whale, Many Lessons Barrier Island Ecology Underwater Discovery Cookie Archaeology

ncmaritimemuseums.com



2023 Fall/Winter

# HOMESCHOOLERS GUIDE

Field Trips & Family Vacations

Visit Albany, Georgia, (Ray Charles Plaza) is featured on the Front Cover

Outside Back Cover: Florida Museum of Natural History, Florida

Inside Front Cover: NC Maritime Museum Beaufort, North Carolina

Inside Back Cover: Vero Beach Museum of Art, Florida

Centerspread: Bellingrath Gardens & Home, Alabama

p. 2-3: Featured Ad: Visit Albany, Georgia

States with sites in the Guide:

p. <b>4-11, 24, 46</b>	Alabama
p. <b>12-17, 46</b>	Florida
p. <b>18-21, 47</b>	Georgia
p. <b>22-29</b>	Mississippi
p. <b>30-33</b>	North Carolina
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р. <b>36-43</b>	. Tennessee
p. <b>44-45</b>	West Virginia

Visit our website at www.homeschoolersguides.com. or email us at homeschoolersguide@yahoo.com. Articles and Ads that appear in the Homeschoolers Guide do not necessarily reflect the position or opinion of the publishers, nor does publication of said articles and ads constitute an endorsement of the sites or programs. Accuracy of all claims, offers, programs, and materials represented herein is the sole responsibility of the advertisers. Also, **please call ahead and check on operating dates and times as these do have the tendency to change.** Many of the sites offer virtual programs so check them all out.

#### FEATURED SITE - GEORGIA



Albany integrates education into every part of your experience- from history and hospitality to art and culture.

- Flint RiverQuarium
- Chehaw Park & Zoo
- Thronateeska Heritage Center & Wetherbee Planetarium
- Albany Museum of Art
- Albany Civil Rights Institute

We've got something to see, do and taste for every educational group.



www.visitalbanyga.com



Walk on the wild side. Create masterpiece. Hear Ray Charles play in the Plaza. Get an eyeful of the universe. Come face to face with creatures of the deep. Travel back in time.

Conveniently located off I-75 and I-10 in southwest Georgia, easily accessed Albany, has adventure that is out of this world: Chehaw Park and Zoo; Thronateeska Heritage Center with Wetherbee Planetarium and Museum of History; Flint RiverQuarium; Radium Springs Gardens; Albany Museum of Art, Historic Bridge House/Albany Welcome Center; and the Albany Civil Rights Institute—home of the Freedom Singers. Albany has more than two dozen hotels and fun eateries and malls, boutiques, and specialty gift shops – and is an affordable home base for day trips to regional attractions like the Jimmy Carter National Historic Site.

Albany's attractions provide an array of fun and informative programs for children, teachers, families, and groups of all kinds. Their programs are designed to help people of all ages and abilities learn through experience, involvement, and discovery. Each attraction offers customized programing based on subject matter, grade level and the Georgia Performance Standards covered by the Georgia Department of Education. Whether it's a homeschool field trip or a week-long camp adventure, our attractions are here to make your visit fun and educational. Visit Albany can assist with planning an itinerary, accommodation, and dining recommendations for your trip.

For more information, visit www.VisitAlbanyGA.com



Camp McDowell 105 Delong Road Nauvoo, AL 35578 205.387.1806

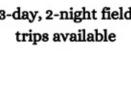


3-day, 2-night field trips available













The McDowell Environmental Center (MEC) and The McDowell Farm School (MFS) share the mission to connect people to the environment, teach respect for the Earth and its beings, and to promote a commitment to lifelong learning.

At the MEC, students are taught by seeing nature up close; wading into a stream to catch macroinvertebrates, touching sandstone canyons on hikes, identifying trees using a dichotomous key, and solving group challenges with their teammates.

At the MFS, students learn on a 40-acre farm-based education program focused on food, sustainability, and the surrounding ecosystem. The land is our classroom, providing students with the opportunity to discover how their food grows and the resources it takes to provide sustainable food options.

Each program offers a 3-day, 2-night field trip which includes 12 daytime class hours, 2 nighttime programs, meals, lodging, and 2 snacks a day at \$165 per person.

For homeschool groups, we cater to students from second grade through high school and only require a minimum of 10 participants, including chaperones. If you have a smaller group, please contact our Conference Center for assistance with booking.

For more information visit campmcdowell.org or follow us on social media @mcdowellenvironmentalcenter and @mcdowellfarmschool or email our directors mecdirector@campmcdowell.org and farmschooldirector@campmcdowell.org



#### Field Classes available for all grades.

102 Bienville Blvd. Dauphin Island, Alabama 36528 251-861-2141 www.disl.edu



In today's rapidly evolving world, homeschooling is a flexible alternative. The Dauphin Island Sea Lab offers a variety of handson learning opportunities that can enhance any lesson. These experiences are a great way to bring a lesson to life, especially for homeschool groups.

Homeschool groups can explore and enhance their lessons with the K-12 classes offered by Discovery Hall Programs (DHP) at the Dauphin Island Sea Lab. In 2022, DHP shared their experience and knowledge with 25 homeschool groups.

"Visiting homeschool students see coastal habitats and their plants and animals firsthand with a short walk or ride to the beach, maritime forest or salt marsh or even a kayak tour or boat ride," DHP Chair Dr. Tina Miller-Way explained. "They can learn to use the instruments and practice the skills that scientists use, conducting research, collecting and analyzing data and they learn collaboratively through exploring specific ocean topics."

Along with DHP classes, the Alabama Aquarium at DISL offers a clear view of coastal Alabama's water resources from the top of the Alabama watershed to Mobile Bay and the northern Gulf of Mexico. The Aquarium also highlights current DISL research led by University Programs faculty and students.

The DISL also offers excursions led by the Alabama Aquarium educator, Science Fridays, and Family Camp developed by DHP.

Discover your next lesson at the Dauphin Island Sea Lab at disl.edu.



#### Some Educational Opportunities Provided By McWane Science Center Include:

- Field Trips: Discover four floors of exhibits related to physics, life science, paleontology, environmental science, chemistry, robotics, earth/space science, and math.
- STEM Kits: Check out kits from our Education Team that can support science instruction at home.
- McWane on the Web: Register for our virtual STEM classes that provide live stream lessons on topics such as dissection or surgical systems.
- Homeschool Labs: Register for our Fall & Winter Homeschool Labs that are designed to supplement at-home-learning!



Scan the QR code to explore instructions for booking your group experience or to learn about available programs. You can also contact our reservations team directly at reservations@mcwane.org or (205) 714-8414 for additional information.

foydo







# McWane Science CenTer

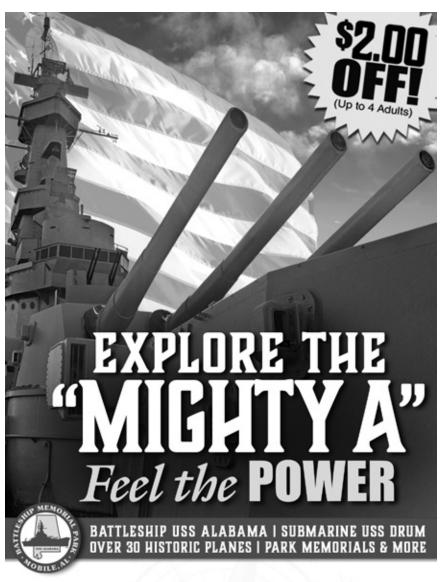
McWane Science Center is a hands-on science museum in the heart of downtown Birmingham, Alabama. This immersive, science learning environment sparks wonder and curiosity while also supporting the educational and developmental needs of students and families. Through exhibits, science shows, directed educational programs, and IMAX documentary movies, McWane Science Center is the perfect complement to the homeschool classroom. In fact, you might say, "we have this relationship down to a science."

Since our opening 25 years ago, educators, including homeschool groups and families, have incorporated the programs and experiences of McWane Science Center into their lesson plans for students--PreK through 12<sup>th</sup> grades. Our exhibits, experiences, and directed educational programs support Alabama Course of Study Standards and help youth explore science, technology, engineering, and math through application— allowing them to understand the learning concept more fully.

#### HOMESCHOOL LABS:

Our homeschool labs are designed to supplement what children are learning at home, giving them the opportunity to safely engage with scientific equipment, experiments, and principles in ways that aren't easily executed in the home classroom. Classrooms are divided into age groups and available to students in 1st through 12th grades. Lab semesters occur in the fall and winter semesters, and registration is now open. Contact our Vice President of Education, Peggy Chowning at pchowning@mcwane.org for questions or additional information regarding homeschool specific services and opportunities.

Learn about all of McWane Science Center's programs and create your own plan for using this invaluable resource to excite your student about science. To learn more, scan the QR code in this advertisement or go to mcwane.org/learning. When booking your program or activity—by phone or online, please use **ENGAGE23** so that we can keep you up to date on all programs and services available now and in the future.



## OPEN DAILY BAM USS ALABAMA Battleship Memorial Park

2703 Battleship Parkway \ Mobile, AL \ 1-800-GANGWAY \ **F**O**S** 



#### Explore the "Mighty A"

Step back in time as you explore a WWII battleship USS ALABAMA and submarine USS DRUM, both national historic landmarks. On the USS ALABAMA, you will explore 12 decks, from the bridge all the way down to the engine room. On the USS DRUM, walk inside a real submarine and see how 72 crewmen lived while on patrol. Discover over 30 historic planes, military vehicles and more in the Medal of Honor Aircraft Pavilion, including a B-25 Mitchell Bomber and A-12 spy plane.

The self-guided tour allows everyone to spend time exploring and learning at their own pace. When it's time for lunch, enjoy a meal from our Galley or picnic on the grounds. As you walk the grounds, you will see several memorials honoring our veterans. Be sure to walk down our bird observation deck and view the ecosystem surrounding the park. We recommend planning on two and half hours to tour.

After its decommissioning in 1947, the USS ALABAMA was going to be scrapped. Fortunately, several Alabamians pictured a bright future for the WWII battleship and wanted to bring her to her new home in Mobile Bay. Money had to be raised to tow the USS ALABAMA from Bremerton, WA to Mobile, AL. Locals including school children donated money to bring her into Mobile Bay in 1964. USS ALABAMA Battleship Memorial Park first opened its doors to the public January 9, 1965. Today, the park welcomes hundreds of thousands of visitors from around the world each year. These guests come to tour the park and learn about the men who served aboard the USS ALABAMA and USS DRUM, our nation's military history, and the price paid for freedom.

SCHOOL FIELD TRIP RATE: Admission Only = \$5/student TO BOOK YOUR RESERVATION, PLEASE VISIT:

https://www.ussalabama.com/education/

ALABAMA

# Beverly & Jon Thompson DISCOVERY Zone



Explore, observe, study, pretend and play at the Florida Museum of Natural History's Discovery Zone! Learn about the natural world with stunning collections, touchable objects and activity stations designed for children 8 and under.

3215 Hull Road · www.floridamuseum.ufl.edu



FLORIDA





# 

#### Hands-on adventures at the Florida Museum

#### By Aleidys Lopez Romero

The Florida Museum of Natural History is dedicated to understanding, preserving and interpreting biological diversity and cultural heritage, inviting visitors of all ages to experience the natural world like never before. Featuring hundreds of exotic, live butterflies in the award-winning "Butterfly Rainforest" exhibit and more than 500 fossils, including a mammoth and mastodon skeleton from the last ice age, the museum encourages children and their caregivers to explore nature together.

The "Discovery Zone" exhibit is free and ideal for families with children 8 and under. Using touchable objects and activity stations, the exhibition sparks curiosity about science. Get creative at the digital drawing station, participate in an archaeological excavation, navigate a small fishing boat and more in this immersive exhibit.

Our most iconic exhibit, the "Butterfly Rainforest," displays more than 50 butterfly species from around the world at any given time. See hundreds of free-flying butterflies and moths in this lush landscape featuring tropical trees and colorful flowering plants amid waterfalls and a walking path. Experience the final stages of the butterfly life cycle by peeking inside our rearing lab as butterflies emerge from their chrysalides. View the live butterfly spotlight Monday through Friday at 2 p.m., weather permitting, to see museum staff release butterflies into the exhibit and educate visitors on each species' exciting characteristics.

For visitors that prefer an online experience, the museum offers informational blogs, YouTube playlists and activity guides. These resources are available online at www.floridamuseum.ufl.edu/museum-blog/florida-museumsgreatest-hits and for educator-specific resources, visit www.floridamuseum. ufl.edu/educators/resources.

General admission to the museum is free, although donations are gladly accepted. There is a cover charge for special exhibits and the "Butterfly Rainforest."

Complete ticket pricing is available online at www.floridamuseum.ufl.edu/visit/plan. Plan a visit today!



## FREE ADMISSION SATURDAYS

LAST SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH

# MUSEUM STUDIOS



LAST SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH FROM 10 AM - 1 PM

Themed, docent-led mini tours of the VBMA's exhibitions and a connected art project in the Museum Art School studios.

#### ART ZONE

Interactive Art Space See our website for current open hours

# SUMMER ART CAMP 2024

REGISTRATION OPENS MARCH 18, 2024



vbmuseum.org 772.231.0707







The Vero Beach Museum of Art showcases dynamic collections and temporary exhibitions by international artists and is the largest accredited art facility on Florida's Treasure Coast. The Museum will present M.C. *Escher: Infinite Variations* this year from September 30 – December 30, 2023. This is the world's most extensive private traveling Escher collection, including woodcuts, lithographs, drawings, and all eight mezzotints from his career. Art After Dark on December 15 and 16 is a FREE outdoor digital art exhibition, where eighteen global artworks from illustration, experimental film, motion graphics, and large-scale digital video projection with sound will be projected onto the exterior of the building. In the winter, Ancient Egypt & the Napoleonic Era: Masterworks from the Dahesh Museum of Art will be on view from January 27 – April 28, 2024. To celebrate the centennial of archaeologist Howard Carter's discovery of the tomb of King Tutankhamun, the VBMA will present this extraordinary exhibition from the Dahesh Museum in New York. The show will explore artistic visions of the cultures and peoples from when Napoleon entered Egypt, taking with him dozens of draftsmen and engineers to create renderings of this country's rich cultural phenomena. The exhibition will feature paintings, sculptures, and illustrated books by a diverse group of artists, many of whom were academically trained, having learned to draw and paint from life and sketch directly from nature.

The Museum is open year-round and offers daily 2 pm docent tours. In addition to its galleries, the Museum has two sculpture parks and a thriving art school. Families have plenty of activities to keep them entertained in the Art Zone with its 25ft interactive sketch space and creative play areas.

The last Saturday of each month is FREE admission. Admission fees apply. Children 17 years and under are FREE. Visit the website **vbmuseum.org** 

**FLORIDA** 



## **K-12 STUDENT EXPERIENCES**

Learn more and book online at Vizcaya.org/k12





#### Discover Art, History and the Environment at Vizcaya

Explore the Gilded Age at James Deering's 1916 winter estate, Vizcaya Museum and Gardens! With Mediterranean-style architecture and collections from the 20<sup>th</sup> century all the way back to Pompeii, this National Historic Landmark encourages students to immerse themselves in European design adapted to early 20<sup>th</sup> century Miami. Students can also explore Vizcaya's European-inspired gardens which includes the Secret Garden, Maze Garden, Fountain Garden, and Theater Garden. While Vizcaya has elaborate formal gardens, the estate is also known for its preserved natural areas, such as the Rockland Hammock and Mangrove forest.

Vizcaya Museum and Gardens offers five thematic, age-appropriate experiences for grades 2<sup>nd</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>. These guided experiences are designed to engage students in learning and exploration through inquiry-based, object-based, peer-to-peer discussions, and hands-on activities. These experiences include a visit to the Main House, Gardens, and a lunch picnic near the shady native forest and Orchidarium.

#### TOUR OPTIONS:

**Design & Engineering** – Discuss Vizcaya's unique design and engage in concepts of architecture, engineering and geometry through hands-on activities and exploration. Explore how 18<sup>th</sup> century Italian design traditions converged with an enthusiastic embrace of technology, modernity, and comfort.

**A Day in the Life of Vizcaya** – Visit the Main House and Gardens to understand how Vizcaya was enjoyed and experienced by guests as well as staff. Visit the public rooms and guest bedrooms for a sense of how the well-to-do lived in that era, as well as the (for its time) modern kitchen.

**Visual Vizcaya** – Vizcaya was built a time when America was emerging as an international economic and cultural force. James Deering filled the house and garden with antiquities and works by prominent artists of the time. Discover Vizcaya's indoor and outdoor collection and artistic traditions through exploration and art making.

**Geography & Exploration** – Learn about geography, discovery, and the Age of Exploration, a time when Europeans began exploring the world by sea in search of new trading routes, wealth, and knowledge, in this guided tour of Vizcaya and its collection from around the world.

**Environmental Exploration** – Discuss preservation and adaptations while learning about South Florida's native habitats through this tour of Vizcaya's models of native ecosystems.

Vizcaya can also create a custom program for your group upon request.

During their visit at Vizcaya, students will be able to learn about history, art, architecture, and the various natural communities that exist here. Vizcaya offers programs for groups, Wednesday through Friday.

For more information on student and teacher programs at Vizcaya, please visit our website: www.vizcaya.org/k12.



Offer is for Delta Classical (non-Premium) and Family Concerts. All programs, dates and artists are subject to change.



The Atlanta Symphony Orchestra is proud to announce its 79th season. Music Director Nathalie Stutzmann and the ASO have curated a 2023/24 season that will illuminate classical traditions in new ways, bringing a wide range of talent to the stage and showcasing the full expressive power of symphonic art. We hope you'll join us.

The ASO unites, educates and enriches our community through the engaging and transformative power of orchestral music experiences. The core of our passion is the rich history of symphonic repertoire spanning centuries. We honor this body of work by holding ourselves to the highest artistic aspirations, bringing it to life in new and exciting ways. While we pay homage to the great masters, we also seek out new voices that speak to our contemporary landscape. As we perform, we engage the diverse international community of our city, bringing people together in harmony—including our youngest citizens, with extensive opportunities for youth and families to fall in love with music.

The Atlanta Symphony is pleased to offer homeschool students and their families \$5 tickets to Classical and Family performances throughout the 2023/24 season. To purchase, simply visit our webpage, **www.aso.org/homeschool**, to find all the available concerts. There you will also find additional resources for families and students such as UpTempo Teen Nights, Student Chamber Performances + Tours, and Family Chamber Concerts, coming this spring.

www.aso.org/homeschool



#### MASSIE HERITAGE CENTER Savannabis Museum for History &- Architecture

Savannah, Georgia, was a city of great growth in the Antebellum Period. Between 1830 to 1860 the city's population doubled peaking at 22 thousand in 1860. Civic projects such as the Central of Georgia Railroad, and the Savannah-Ogeechee Canal Project brought a lot of outsiders to Savannah in search of opportunity and many of them were very poor Irish and German immigrants having large families. With both parents often away at work, and public education not being mandatory at the time, many children had little to do but roam the streets during the day.

In the 1830s, a businessman named Peter Massie frequented Savannah to visit his bank. He took pity on all Savannah's poor children and bequeathed 5 thousand dollars in his will to the city of Savannah to build a "school for Savannah's poor children." Receiving the donation in the 1840s, the city invested the "Massie fund" well over the years and by 1855 it was worth around 15 thousand dollars.

School opened in 1856 with principal Bernard Mallon in charge of operations. His talented leadership and curriculum development led Massie into greatness. The school briefly converted to a Union hospital in 1865 during Sherman's occupation of Savannah. In 1865, it was re-opened as a Freedman's School. In 1866, when the city mandated public education for all, Massie opened back up permanently as a public school and remained so until it closed in 1974.

In 1978, the school system re-opened Massie as a "museum school," designed to provide heritage education programs for the local school children. Over the years, the center's educators have used place-based education programs to teach curriculum-based themes. Today our educators still use the city's cultural resources, and the center's amazing exhibits to teach young people local and state history.

# Book your guided tour experience now to explore all MMA has to offer!



Tours can be customized for any grade or curriculum area, and can include hands-on activities. Make reservations online or by phone and be sure to take advantage of free admission for school groups on Tuesdays and Thursdays!





The Mississippi Museum of Art connects Mississippi to the world, and the power of art to the power of community.

The Mississippi Museum of Art (MMA) is the largest art museum in the state and offers a vibrant roster of exhibitions, public programs, educational initiatives, and opportunities for exchange year-round. With nearly 6,000 works, the Museum's permanent collection includes paintings, photography, multimedia works, and sculpture by Mississippi, American, and international artists.

# Our hope is to inspire a sense of wonder, awe, and excitement in visitors of all ages.

At MMA, we believe that experiences with original works of art can be transformative for all visitors, particularly for K-12 students. The Museum, therefore, makes these opportunities accessible through a variety of guided and self-guided tours and experiences.

Guided Tours at MMA involve looking closely at works of art and engaging in a facilitated conversation with a trained gallery educator, which encourages participants to make discoveries about the art and to connect with ideas learned in the classroom.

We offer a list of thematic tours to choose from and can customize any tour to meet your group's age range and curriculum needs. We also offer studio activity add-ons if you are looking to include an art-making component in your visit.

Group visits to the Museum's permanent collection are FREE. For special exhibitions, the Museum offers free admission for K-12 students on Tuesdays and Thursdays thanks to the Field Co-Operative Association and Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Mississippi.

In addition to our offerings for students, the Museum also offers K-12 Educators free CEU workshops and access to a complimentary membership, which offers the cardholder free admission to all Museum exhibitions and programs.

Visit www.msmuseumart.org/educators for more information on these offerings and more!



## Join Us for HOMESCHOOL DAYS in 2023-2024

2023: September 21, October 19, November 16
 2024: February 15, March 21, April 18 2024

 — 9:00 am - 12:00 pm —

In 1931, Walter Bellingrath and his wife, Bessie, opened their riverfront estate to the public. What began as a humble fishing camp has become one of the nation's pre-eminent gardens. Nestled among live oaks and Spanish moss, the 65-acre property overlooks the Fowl River and boasts blooms year-round. The Ecological Bayou Boardwalk allows you to escape to an unspoiled Southern Bayou where wildlife abounds. Birds, fish, turtles, deer and even the occasional alligator can be seen on this natural preserve.

Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the Bellingrath Home is one of the few museum homes in the world to feature the complete furnishings once enjoyed by its original occupants.

To honor the Bellingraths' love for the Christmas season, the Gardens are annually transformed into a winter wonderland. Magic Christmas in Lights has become a Mobile tradition for the children and adults of all ages as they discover this magical event.

Experience Bellingrath Gardens & Home and learn about the fantastic educational opportunities that exist right in your backyard. Gaze out at the Fowl River from the boardwalk and stroll through the Gardens while learning more about the environment along the Gulf Coast with hands-on engaging educational opportunities that encourage your students' drive to learn.

We have designed our curriculum to help meet state and local Common Core Standards, and our Scout Programs fulfill several requirements for badges.



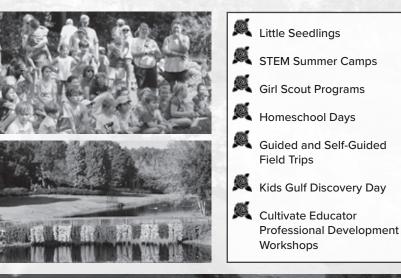




Supplement your life science, botanical, and environmental studies curriculum with a visit to Bellingrath Gardens & Home. Grade-specific educational materials will be available in the Admissions Building, and dropin tours of the Gardens will be available to a limited number of attendees on a first-come, firstserve basis.

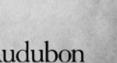
CONTACT: Education@bellingrath.org | 251-973-2217

Bellingrath Gardens & Home offers educational programming, exhibits, and special events that relate to environmental education, biological plant sciences, and STEM.





#### or go to https://forms.gle/bcy9883KJv2KEBZCA



5107 Arthur Street Moss Point, MS 39563

pascagoula.audubon.org

Pascagoula River Audubon Center

## PASCAGOULA RIVER AUDUBON sets schedule for Homeschool Programs

Join us, monthly, for PRAC's in-person Audubon Academy Home School program as we explore natural history through science, literacy, art, and more! Come delve into the natural world and learn how our local environment functions and how human beings can manage behavior and ecosystems to live

sustainably.

Audubon Academy can help students become in-tune with their surroundings and gain an appreciation for the natural world while contributing to their personal and social development. We offer different sessions for grades K-2 and 3-5. Each month focuses on a different science topic and allows time for learning, outdoor play,

## AUDUBON ACADEMY 2023-24

Educational programming for homeschooled students.

	Kindergarten-2nd Ages 5 - 8 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.	3rd – 5th Ages 8 - 11 12:30 to 2:30 p.m.
September 13	All About Hummingbirds	All About Hummingbirds
October 11	Composting 101	Composting 101
November 15	Insect Inspections	Incredible Invertebrates
December 13	Reptiles & Amphibians	Biodiversity on the Bayou
January 10	Water, Water Everywhere	What's in a Watershed
February 21	Life Cycles of Birds: Nests & Eggs	Life Cycles of Birds: Nests & Eggs
March 13	Life Cycles: Birds Growing Up	Life Cycles: Birds Growing Up
April 10	Growth & Change in the Native Plant World	Survival in the Native Plant Work
May 8	The Buzz About Bees	It's Tough to be a Pollinator
	COULA.AUDUBON.ORG	Audubon
PARENT/CAREO	IPANT PER SESSION BIVER IS NOT REQUIRED TO STAY STRATION REQUIRED	Pascagoula River Audubon Center

exercise, and socializing. All sessions meet the Mississippi College and Career Readiness Standards for Science and the Next Generation Science Standards and include a lesson, outdoor exploration, experiments, nature walks, games, stories, or crafts.

# **DON'T LEARN HISTORY.**

History is more than a timeline—it is a thread woven through all of our lives. Pick up that thread at the Museum of Mississippi History and the Mississippi Civil Rights Museum in Jackson, MS. Explore and experience the moments, movements, and milestones that continue to shape our world. Plan your visit today at **twomississippimuseums.com.** 

#### TWO MISSISSIPPI MUSEUMS

AUSEUM OF MISSISSIPPI KISSISSIPPI CIVIL RIGHTS HISTORY MUSEUM

## **TWO MISSISSIPPI MUSEUMS**

#### Empowering people through Mississippi's many stories.



The Two Mississippi Museums— Museum of Mississippi History and Mississippi Civil Rights Museum—take visitors through the sweep of Mississippi history and the state's role as ground zero in the Civil Rights Movement.

The Museum of Mississippi History showcases interactive

exhibits and hundreds of artifacts that challenge students to take a closer look at over 15,000 years of Mississippi history, and the voices from our past that bring history to life.

At the Mississippi Civil Rights Museum, students can learn the names of everyday heroes and hear the stories of those who took a courageous stand for justice and equality.

Discover all the ways the Mississippi Department of Archives and History's (MDAH) educational team brings Mississippi stories to teachers and students across the state and beyond—in person or virtually—through museum-based education.

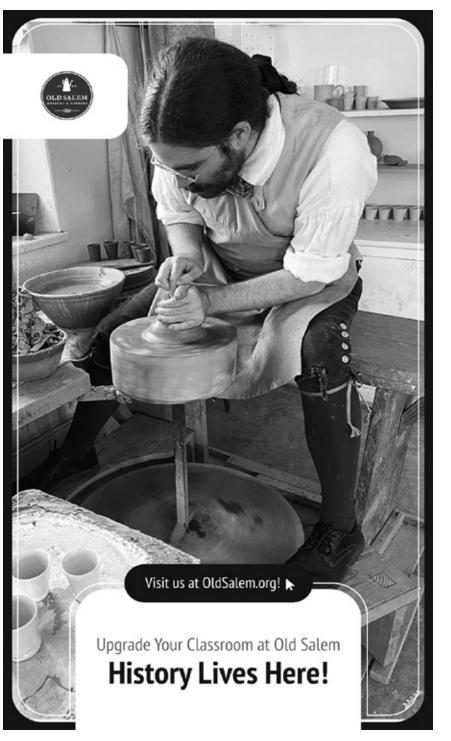
Tools include Learning Lagniappes, brief to help students navigate many

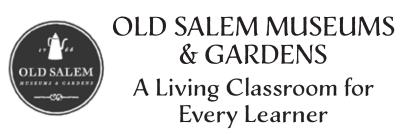
collections in the MDAH Digital Archives. Topics range from the 1927 Flood to the Thomas Foner Freedom Summer Papers.

Virtual field trips are also available for students. These are aligned to Mississippi College and Career Readiness Standards for Social Studies, with skills and concepts covered in grades 4–12. The thirty-minute participatory lessons explore stories, primary documents, and artifacts from the galleries, followed by question-and-answer sessions.

For more information, visit our website at www.mdah.ms.gov/teachers-students or call 601-576-6850.







Every homeschooling parent knows the invaluable role that real-world experiences play in their child's learning.

Whether it's a simple stroll in the park or a visit to a museum, each moment presents unique learning opportunities. In North Carolina, Old Salem Museums and Gardens stands as a notable hub of education, history, and discovery that begs to be explored.

Old Salem isn't merely a collection of buildings or artifacts—it's a thriving, tangible testament to our past, laden with historical charm and carefully preserved heritage.

Every room tells a story, every object speaks volumes about the craftsmanship of early America, and every garden blooms with lessons about the cycles of life and the environment.

Walking into an Old Salem building, you're not just stepping into a structure – you're stepping into history. You're immersed in the intricacies of life, work, and society from centuries past, interpreted by a dedicated team of experts and craftsmen and women.

You'll find a trove of insight into Moravian culture, early American history, craftsmanship, music, gardening, and more.

At its core, Old Salem prioritizes education. The visitor, be it an inquisitive child delving into history through interactive experiences or a PhD candidate seeking enrichment or advancing their research, takes center stage. With a dedication to engaging educational approaches, the team always works to ensure each guest departs with expanded knowledge, a widened viewpoint, and an enhanced curiosity.

A visit to Old Salem Museums and Gardens is more than a field trip – history lives here.

As homeschool parents, our primary goal is to instill lifelong learning in our children. Old Salem, with its extraordinary blend of history, culture, and education, does precisely that, making it an essential destination on the homeschool journey.



# Homeschoolers invited to explore the maritime world at Beaufort, NC, museum



The North Carolina Maritime Museum in Beaufort welcomes countless students into the museum to explore coastal North Carolina through creative, hands-on experiences. These group educational programs provide an additional means for students in public, private or homeschool classrooms to learn about the state's natural and maritime history.

"Our programs give students a chance to explore and develop a deeper appreciation and understanding of the maritime environment," Courtney Felton, school & group coordinator for the North Carolina Maritime Museum in Beaufort, said. "It is awesome to watch the children's passion and curiosity blossom as they encounter new experiences."

Programs are offered year-round, with some limited to specific ocean tides or days of the week. All grade levels from pre-K to 12th are covered. But no matter the age group, Felton said the programs are all designed around one principle: Children learn better when they're having fun.

"These are very interactive programs," she said.





The most popular program is the free scavenger hunts, which come in two levels: Sea Hunt for grades K-4th and Mariner's Map for grades 5-12. There are also specialty scavenger hunts available with at least two weeks' notice on fishing, boating, navigation, pirates and marine life. The scavenger hunts can take up to 30 minutes to complete.

Preschool programs run for 30 to 45 minutes and include an age-appropriate craft, interactive items, free exploration, and a guided song or story time. These programs are \$3 per child with the craft or free without one. Topics include turtles, sharks, dolphins, beach finds or pirates.

Topics for kindergarten to fifth grade age groups overlap, with age group dictating the specific material presented. "Boats that Float" is \$3 per participating child and includes their own toy blow boats they'll make from kits crafted at the museum's Harvey W. Smith Watercraft Center. Tidal Flat Beach Exploration is \$30 per group and takes up to 90 minutes as the students investigate a sand flat and adjacent salt marsh. There is also a free program on pirates.

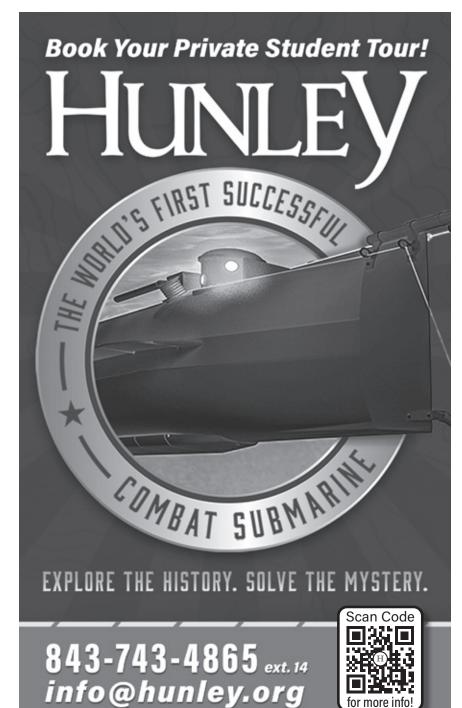
For grades k through two, there is a free dolphin program. Grades three to five have the additional choice of the free barrier island ecology program.

For students in the 6th to 12th grade age ranges, there are free programs on underwater archaeology, whales and barrier island ecology. The "Cookie Archaeology" program lets students try to excavate "artifacts" (chocolate chips) from a "concretion" (the cookie), connecting this exercise to the work being done by conservators. The fee for Cookie Archaeology is \$1 per student.

All of the programs require pre-registration. For information or to register, call 252-504-7759, email courtney.felton@dncr.nc.gov or complete the form online at ncmaritimemuseumbeaufort.com/group-tours.

"We want to expose these children to the maritime history, culture and environment of North Carolina that they may not get exposed to in their everyday lessons," Felton said.







# See History Unfolding

#### PRIVATE GROUP TOURS AVAILABLE IN CHARLESTON

Described as a remarkable experience, a visit to the Hunley is a must for history and science lovers. During the Civil War, eight men entered an experimental vessel that was to become the first submarine in world history to successfully sink an enemy ship. On the night of February 17th, 1864, the Hunley rammed her spar torpedo into the hull of the USS Housatonic causing the ship to sink within minutes. According to historical accounts, the Hunley's Captain then signaled to shore that she had completed the attack and was on the way home. Instead, the submarine and all hands onboard mysteriously vanished into the sea without a trace.

That night, history was made. At the same moment, a mystery was born. The Hunley became the first submarine ever to sink an enemy ship. But why had she suddenly disappeared? What caused her to sink? And would she ever be found?

After being lost at sea for over 130 years, the Hunley was located in 1995 and raised on August 8, 2000. The submarine was brought to a specialized lab in Charleston, South Carolina where scientists continue to work to unlock the secrets of the Hunley. During excavation, the submarine proved to also be a time capsule, holding a wide array of artifacts from the nineteenth century.

Come visit the Hunley and be part of this historic event! We offer an exciting opportunity for students to learn about a wide array of academic fields, including history, archaeology, forensics, and preservation science. Enjoy this unique educational experience during our weekday, private tours for school groups. Tours can be geared toward each student group's particular area of focus.

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION: WWW.HUNLEY.ORG or INFO@HUNLEY.ORG



Affordable. Accessible. Awe-inspiring.

Participants in the program have access to teachers guides, sheet music, audio clips, and supplemental videos for use in the classroom, free of charge!



#### Students: \$7 Teachers/Chaperones: \$10 ChattSymphony.org

The Orchestra Sings is a part of Link Up–a program of Carnegie Hall's Weill Music Institute





# Link Up with The Chattanooga Symphony at The Orchestra Sings, a Young People's Concert!

For over 30 years, Link Up—a program of Carnegie Hall's Weill Music Institute—has paired orchestras with students in grades 3–5 and beyond to explore orchestral repertoire and fundamental musical skills, including creative work and composition, through a hands-on music curriculum. The Chattanooga Symphony & Opera has brought this pioneering program from the Big Apple right to the Scenic City for students across Southeast Tennessee and Northwest Georgia to enjoy. This year's program is The Orchestra Sings – a wondrous adventure that will teach your students all about melody. Melody is one of the universal elements of music and defines the music we know and love. A great melody can express ideas and emotions, help tell a story, and bring people together through song. Composers create melodies through a combination of rhythmic patterns, sweeping contours, and expressive qualities. Through the Link Up repertoire, hands-on activities, and a culminating interactive performance with a full symphony orchestra (Chattanooga Symphony & Opera), your students have the opportunity to explore what makes a melody great! Participants in the program have access to teachers guides, sheet music, audio clips, and supplemental videos for use in the classroom, free of charge! Multiple performances are available for you and your students to attend between February 7, 2024 and February 8, 2024. The CSO is even teaming up with the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga's Music Therapy Department for a special All-Accessible concert!

Tickets are affordable and available now at ChattSymphony.org! Student Ticket: \$7 Teacher/Chaperone Ticket: \$10

> If you have any further questions, please contact: Susan Caminez, Director of Education & Community Impact caminez@chattanoogasymphony.org 423.267.8583 x2100.



#### WORLD'S GREATEST WAX MUSEUM





## EXPERIENCE FAME LIKE NEVER BEFORE

Images shown depict wax figures owned and created by Madame Tussauds



#### SCAN TO PLAN YOUR VISIT

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON DISCOUNTED GROUP RESERVATIONS

Opry Mills • 515 Opry Mills Drive • Nashville, TN 37214 Located in Opry Mills, adjacent to the Grand Ole Opry and the Gaylord Opryland Resort & Convention Center.



Madame Tussauds is "The World's Greatest Wax Museum". Our attraction allows guests to meet their favorite A-List celebrities in an interactive experience that reflect the unique spirit of Nashville, TN – Music City. The incredible artistry of our wax figures, celebrity endorsement and the latest music culture trends makes Madame Tussauds a must-see destination.

Our attraction is the one and only Madame Tussauds world-wide solely dedicated to "A Celebration of Music", featuring nearly 60+ celebrity wax figures from all genres of music within 16 themed rooms throughout the 15,000 sq. ft. attraction. Built to honor Nashville and its deep roots in musical history; Madame Tussauds Nashville will take you on a musical journey through time alongside a memorable cast of icons from the worlds of country, pop, gospel, soul, rock, jazz and blues.

Madame Tussauds has unique direct access to A-List celebrities who are intimately involved in the wax figure making process. Celebrities help choose the perfect pose and costume, working with Madame Tussauds studio artists to capture exact measurements of height, hair color, eye color, skin tone down to detailed tattoos, freckles, and the tiniest of moles.

Guests can rock out, take pictures and selfies, record a song and interact with their favorite musical icons like Beyoncé, Blake Shelton, Bruno Mars, Carrie Underwood, Darius Rucker, Elvis Presley, Justin Timberlake, Katy Perry, Keith Urban, Rihanna, Taylor Swift, Whitney Houston and many more.

#### WHAT'S INSIDE?

- Experience a soul lounge from the 1970's, a swanky jazz bar, "In Concert" VIP backstage, a replica of the infamous Bluebird Cafe or party like a rockstar in our very own TV Pop room.
- Studio Tour of Figure Making behind the scenes process of creating a wax figure pioneered by Marie Tussaud herself over 250 years ago.

#### THIS IS HOW WE DO IT !!

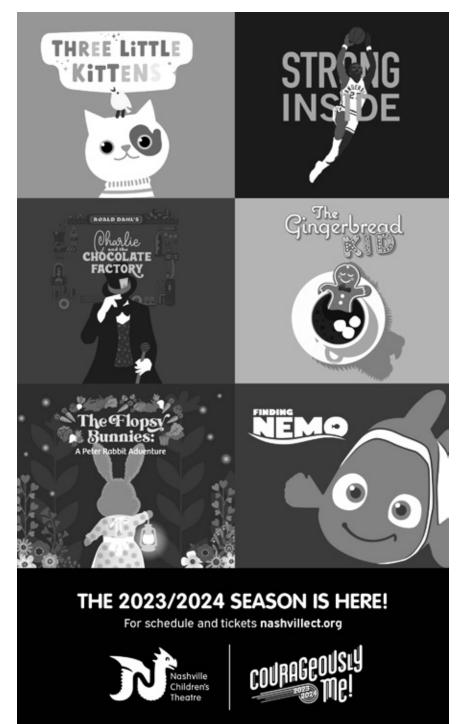
Capturing the likeness of world-famous musicians is a Labor of Love. Over 800 hours of molding, measuring, painting and sculpting goes into making each wax figure. We have a small army of highly trained wax sculptures and artisans who can replicate iconic entertainers and influencers. Our figures are so life-like that you and your friends will believe you're face to face with the actual celebrity.

#### HOW TO GET HERE

Location: 515 Opry Mills Drive, Nashville, TN 37214 (Opry Mills)

Walking distance and adjacent to the Grand Ole Opry, Gaylord Opryland Resort & Convention Center, Paula Deen's Family Kitchen, and the General Jackson Show Boat. Conveniently located (8) miles from Downtown Nashville and (6) miles from Nashville International Airport (BNA). Free Parking.

For more information: 615-485-4867 Group Bookings: nashville@merlinentertainments.biz





For more than 90 years, NCT has provided transformational theatrical experiences to millions of audience members ranging in age from a few months old up to adult. Continuing a legacy of community service and education that started out of The Great Depression by The Junior League, our work reflects our evolving community, instills profound empathy, and fosters personal discovery. Nationally and internationally recognized for our artistic leadership, excellence, and contributions to the field of theatre for young audiences, NCT has been and will continue to be, a safe and inclusive haven for the young people of Middle Tennessee.

Nashville Children's Theatre acknowledges EVERY young person's creative and personal potential and aims to be recognized as an accessible and inclusive haven empowering all young people in Middle Tennessee through cultural literacy and creative exploration. NCT's goal has always been to provide arts education to Middle Tennessee students, but now more than ever we are focused on improving students' social and emotional health. Theatre is a vital tool to help children who've experienced an educational gap as playing and watching a play helps students develop problem-solving skills and language skills, and encourages active involvement. Studies show that one in four children are reporting depression and one in five children are reporting anxiety. The arts can be a key tool in not only helping to make participants feel resilient, but theatre can provide a sense of community to audience members.

The 2023/24 season lineup, is comprised of 6 productions, 5 of which are world premieres for family audiences. Whether playing on the basketball court or swimming in the deep blue sea, our heroes this season celebrate and embrace their unique qualities and personalities. They face the worlds they live in and announce, I AM COURAGEOUSLY ME!



These exciting programs will complement your curriculum with handson activities and Garden exploration all led by trained nature facilitators. Your children will connect with the natural world as they participate in outdoor learning at the Garden.

#### HOMESCHOOL DAYS

#### FESTIVALS & SEASONAL PROGRAMS

Join us each fall and spring for these four-session semester programs.

A variety of topics are offered year round.

PLUS THE GARDEN OFFERS MANY MORE GROUP PROGRAMS ON A VARIETY OF TOPICS BOTH AT THE GARDEN OR AS AN OUTREACH AT YOUR HOMESCHOOL MEETING PLACE.



SEE ALL OF OUR PROGRAMS & LEARN MORE Memphis Botanic Garden 750 Cherry Road Memphis, TN 38117 **membg.org/for-educators** 901-636-4126 education@membg.org





Nature is your classroom at the Memphis Botanic Garden! Your students will connect with the natural world as they participate in hands-on, outdoor learning at the Garden or in an outreach program in your homeschool group meeting place.

Homeschool groups can sign up for any of our field trips, festivals, or programs. From an Arboretum Adventure to Incredible Insects, your students will learn about the world around them from trained nature facilitators. Sessions are offered on a diverse range of topics and are scheduled to fit your calendar. These 90-minute group classes for 15 or more students can be geared from preschool to high school.

Not in a homeschool group? The Garden also offers fall and spring semester-based opportunities. These two-hour programs take place once a month from September through December & February through May. These fun & interactive classes for children aged 6-12 help bring lessons to life by complementing your curriculum and enhancing your outdoor education for your homeschool students.

Another option for individual homeschool students is to join one of our school year festivals or seasonal programs. Harvest Festival is a fall highlight while Spring Festival of Flowers and World of Plants make spring bloom!

The Education Department at Memphis Botanic Garden has taken great care to incorporate your teaching objectives into all their tours and special programs. In addition to plant science, the Garden offers hands-on programs on world ecosystems, multicultural studies, historical uses of plants, art in nature, environmental issues, and more. All classes include exciting and educational activities that make your students' visit one they won't soon forget.

Check out the Memphis Botanic Garden website to register or for more information at **membg.org**.

#### ABOUT THE MEMPHIS BOTANIC GARDEN:

The Memphis Botanic Garden is a not-for-profit 501(c) (3) organization dedicated to being an exemplary center for horticulture and environmental enrichment. Serving over 40,000 school-aged children annually, and hosting over 260,000 visitors each year, Memphis Botanic Garden strives to enhance lives by connecting people with nature, increasing awareness and appreciation of our environment. Our 96-acre property includes 30 specialty gardens and a Level 4 Arboretum, which provide the ability to interact with various families of plants, flowers, and trees.





#### Get the Kids Outside & Stay Active This Winter with Ski & Snowboard Lessons at Winterplace Ski Resort

The resort's new four-week lesson programs make it easy and affordable to get the whole family on the slopes in no time!

Keeping the kids engaged in outdoor recreation during the winter months can be a challenge, but it doesn't have to be. With snow-capped mountain peaks and pristine powdered trails, winter is a great time to explore. And there's no better place to take in the season than Wild & Wonderful West Virginia and Winterplace Ski Resort.

Located in Ghent WV, Winterplace Ski Resort is the most accessible and affordable ski resort in the Southeast. Just in time for the 2023/24 season, the resort has introduced a four-week learning program, available for ages eight and up.

The program meets once per week for four consecutive weeks and includes lift tickets, rental equipment and up to three beginner lessons with each session. There are (2) four-week sessions available. Session one begins the week of Jan.1 and Session two the week of Jan. 22. Simply choose the day of the week and session that works best. As a bonus, upon completion of the program, you will receive a "Wild Wonderful" discount pass (\$79 value), which allows you to save \$25 off any lift ticket for the rest of the season.

So, instead of hibernating inside this winter and binge-watching the latest Netflix series, challenge the family to get outdoors, learn something new and create some lasting memories.

#### IF YOU GO:

**Location:** Winterplace is located off Interstate 77, exit 28, Flat Too, WV. It is halfway between Bluefield and Beckley, WV.

Hours: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

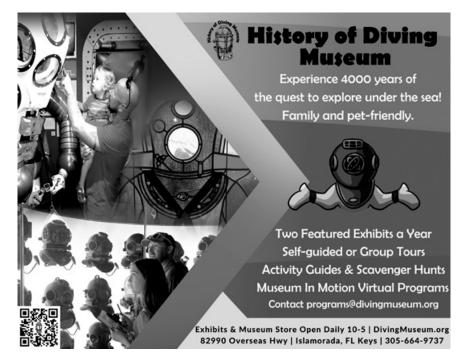
Cost: \$170 (Sunday through Friday Classes) \$190 (Saturdays)

**Registration:** Sign up deadline for Session One is Dec. 28 and Session Two on Jan. 12

For more information and to make reservations, call **800-607-SNOW** or visit, **www.winterplace.com**.



#### Huntsville Botanical Garden





State Botanical Garden of Georgia UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA



#### Saturday, Sept. 30

9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Fee: \$5 per person, \$20 per family Join garden staff and partners

as we celebrate our beloved sixlegged neighbors. Insectival is sponsored by the State Botanical Garden of Georgia, UGA Lund Club, UGA Department of Entomology and Georgia Museum of Natural History.

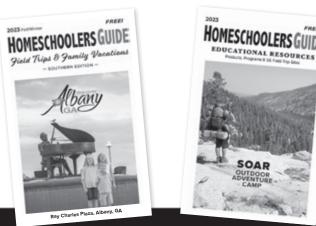
botgarden.uga.edu

# HOMESCHOOLING IN YOUR PARKS



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- Field Trips, & Family Vacations

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## www.homeschoolersguides.com

Also on the website: CALENDAR OF EVENTS Check the calendar often, as it is continually updated!

homeschoolersguide@yahoo.com



# 23-24 VERO BEACH MUSEUM OF ART EXHIBITION SEASON



M.C. Escher, Sky and Water I, (detail), 1938. Woodcut, 43.5 x 43.9 cm. Private Collection, Image copyright of the M.C. Escher Co.

9/30/23 - 12/30/23	M.C. Escher: Infinite Variations
12/15/23 - 12/16/23	Art After Dark
1/27/24 - 4/28/24	Ancient Egypt & the Napoleonic Era: Masterworks from the Dahesh Museum





# Florida Museum Butterfly Rainforest

Wander through a tranquil and ever-changing living ecosystem showcasing LIVE butterflies, birds, turtles, fish and hundreds of vibrant flowering plants.

FLORIDA MUSEUM.





Open year-round in Gainesville on UF's campus www.floridamuseum.ufl.edu