



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – Oct. 27, 2017

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**Popular 1770s clothing lectures and workshops return in
“The Art of Period Dress Part 2,” November 17 & 18, 2017**

The Hunterdon County Cultural and Heritage Commission and the Crossroads of the American Revolution National Heritage Area together present the second program in the conference series, “The Art of Period Dress”. The November conference features two days of programming with a lecture each morning and hands-on workshops in the afternoons. It is designed to help prepare New Jersey historic sites staff and volunteers to become “visitor ready” for the 250th anniversary of the American Revolutionary war in 2026.

The conference includes two distinct days of programming; participants may register for one or both days. Friday morning’s speaker is Rebecca Fifield, Head of Collection Management for the Special Collections at The New York Public Library. Her research focuses on the study of indentured and enslaved female labor and their dress as studied through runaway advertisements 1750-90, for which she was awarded a Winterthur Museum fellowship in Summer 2013. She has written several articles on this topic, including for the Winterthur Museum and Library, Readex, and Pasold Research Fund’s journal Textile History, and has presented on this topic for Colonial Williamsburg, the American Antiquarian Society, the Costume Society of America, and other organizations.

On Saturday morning, Andrew Kirk, Hatter, will discuss felt hats and hatmaking. Kirk has been involved with American Revolutionary War living history since the age of 13. Serving as Hatter and Artificer for HM 17th Regiment of Foot in America, his interest in reproducing the 18th century material culture of the British Army led to creating reproductions of artifacts for television, film and museums. Trained as a fine artist and educator at Maryland Institute College of Art, he has been a secondary art teacher in Maryland for 7 years.

The afternoon hands-on workshops include several to help participants learn period sewing techniques and go home with a project. They will be hosted by Eliza West, Andrew Kirk, Carrie Fellows, Kirsten Hammerstrom, David Niescior and Asher Lurie. Afternoon workshops include making a bonnet, Fabric Identification 101, women’s hair and caps, men’s hats, making a market wallet, making an apron, and getting comfortable with getting dressed 18th century style for men and women. For more information and to register, visit: <http://revolutionarynj.org/crossroads-fall-conference-art-period-dress/>

“The Art of Period Dress Part 2” takes place from 10am – 5pm on November 17 & 18, 2017 at the historic Prallsville Mills in Stockton, NJ, an accessible location. If you need an accommodation, contact Carrie Fellows at 908.237.2010 or cultural@co.hunterdon.nj.us

The Hunterdon County Cultural and Heritage Commission supports and develops programs to promote interest and participation in and understanding of local arts, culture, history and historic events. The Hunterdon County Cultural & Heritage Commission received an operating support grant from the New Jersey Historical Commission, a division of the Department of State. To learn more about the Commission’s programs and activities, please visit www.co.hunterdon.nj.us/depts/c&h/c&h.htm or find us on Facebook.

HUNTERDON COUNTY CULTURAL & HERITAGE COMMISSION