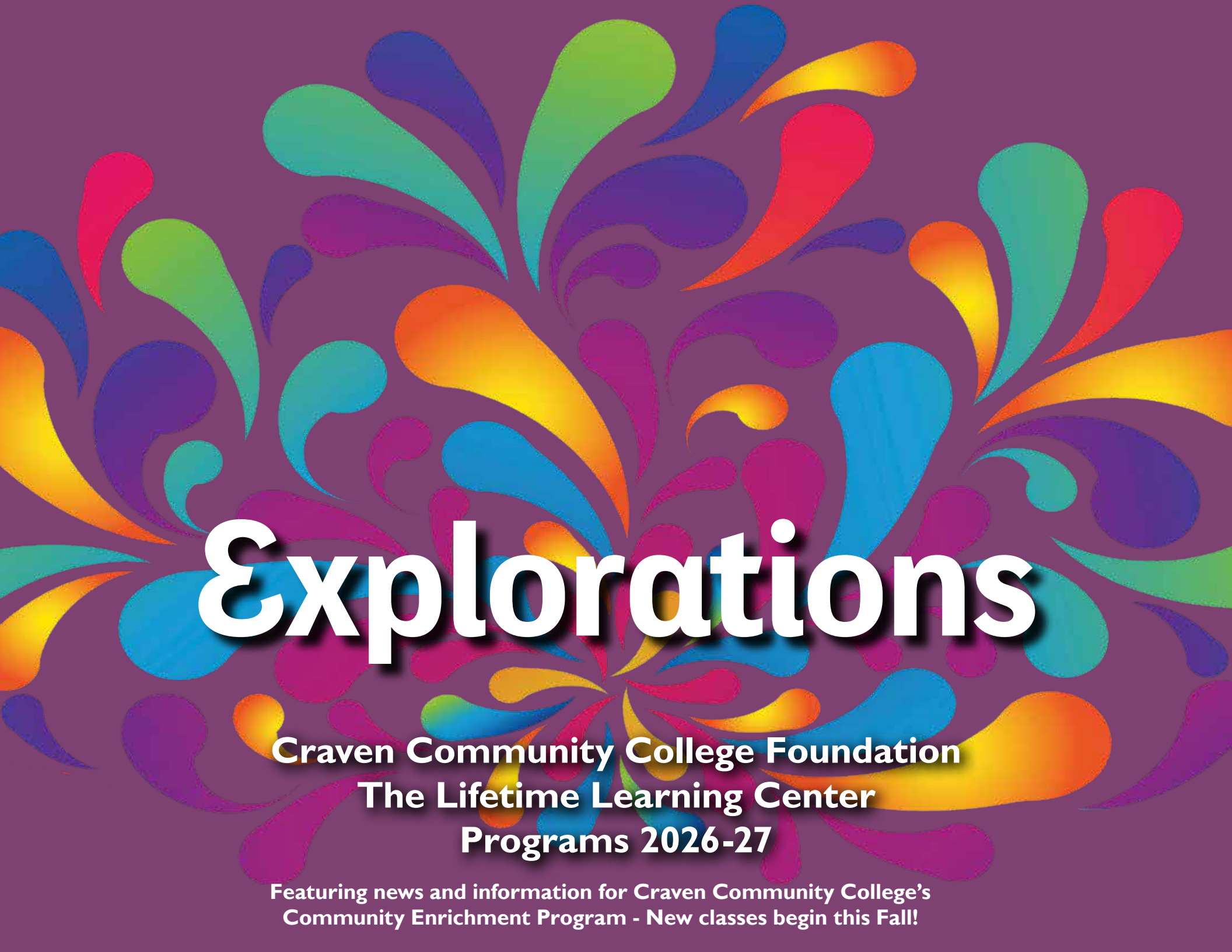




Explorations

**Craven Community College Foundation
The Lifetime Learning Center
Programs 2026-27**

**Featuring news and information for Craven Community College's
Community Enrichment Program - New classes begin this Fall!**



About the Lifetime Learning Center

We hope you'll join us for adventures near and far.

This brochure is your invitation to join Craven Community College Foundation's **Lifetime Learning Center (LLC)** for a wide variety of programs and activities.

Whether it's a film that intrigues, a performance that inspires, a Broadway production that excites, or a regional or international tour that delights, we hope you will find the LLC to be a resource that enhances your quality of life and satisfies your quest for adventures both near and far.

The LLC is a concept-based program that embraces accomplished adults who are seeking multiple and diverse opportunities in learning for the pure pleasure of it. We are keenly aware that our community is brimming with individuals, both natives and newcomers, who have completed their formal education but are still active and hungry for interesting and diverse learning experiences. We hope you'll join us for all we have to offer.

On pages 16 and 17 of this publication, you will also find information about the College's Community Engagement Program (CEP). The wide variety of classes offered by the CEP allows students of all ages and interests to experience the joy of taking up a new hobby or special interest just for the fun of it.

We also welcome three corporate sponsors, **Brice Pointe: A ThriveMore Community**, **Duke Energy** and **Signature Wealth Strategies**. Their generous support of LLC programming allows us to offer many of our community outreach programs free of charge, including the International Film Series. Our concert and performance events are, in turn, offered at a reduced ticket price. Many thanks to our 2026-27 Corporate Sponsors!

Explorations programming is brought to you by



Media Sponsor



Corporate Sponsors:



New Bern's First Life Plan Community

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An International Travel and Learn Adventure Sunny Portugal & Madeira Island

June 6 - 19, 2027 - 14 Days



Join the Lifetime Learning Center
for an International Travel and
Learn Adventure!

From the Portuguese capital
of Lisbon, to the sunny cliffs of the
Algarve and Portuguese Riviera, venture along
Portugal's stunning shoreline. In Evora, step inside a medieval
city with Roman ruins. Enjoy a leisurely 3-night stay in the Algarve
region. Explore soft, sandy beaches and classic fishing villages. Take
advantage of a free day to soak in the Portuguese sunshine and
savor local flavors. Encounter picturesque resort towns, winding
cobblestone streets, oceanfront promenades, and quaint villages.
This itinerary also includes a 3-night stay on Madeira Island.

Join us for a free information and registration session.

Wednesday, September 30, 2026 - 3:00 p.m.
Bosch AMC - Room #102 - New Bern Campus



Featuring:

- Lisbon including Belem Tower
and Jeronimos Monastery – **UNESCO**
- Medieval walled city of Evora – **UNESCO**
- Coast of the Algarve
- Town of Lagos
- Mountain village of Monchique
- Coastal towns of Setubal and Azeitao
- Portuguese Riviera
- Cities of Óbidos and Sintra – **UNESCO**
- National Palace of Sintra
- Madeira Island
- Old Downtown Funchal
- Botanical Gardens of Madeira
- Camara de Lobos
- Porto Moniz

Includes:

- Round trip college to airport transfer
- Round trip airfare from RDU
- 6 hand-picked accommodations - 12 nights
- Services of a professional tour manager
- All transportation, admissions, and fees
- 18 Meals:
12 Breakfasts - 2 Lunches - 4 Dinners
- Hotel-to-hotel baggage handling
- Travel insurance

We have an initial block booking of 44 reserved seats, with availability on a first-come, first-serve basis. Registrations will be secured from the date deposits are received by AAA. **The registration deadline is 12/7/2026.**

For a complete brochure, including tour pricing, day-by-day itinerary, and registration forms visit our website at **www.CravencCC.edu/LLC**.



CLB Travel, LLC
Corri L. Besier, AAA Travel Planner
252-622-9505
cbesier2002@yahoo.com

This tour is sponsored by
Craven Community College
Lifetime Learning Center
Jennifer Baer, Director
(252) 633-2618
baerj@cravencc.edu



Explorations: The International Film Series

Friday, September 11

The Ballad of Wallis Island

2025 - United Kingdom - English
Comedy / Drama / Music - PG-13

Charles, an eccentric lottery winner, lives alone on remote Wallis Island and decides to fulfill a lifelong dream by hiring his favorite musician, Herb McGwyer, for a private concert. Herb is surprised to discover that Charles has also invited his former band-mate—and former girlfriend—Nell, who arrives with her husband.

Combining gentle humor with heartfelt drama, the film is a warm and thoughtful story about friendship, lost love, second chances, and the lasting power of music. Critics praised its understated charm and strong performances. (100 minutes)

Friday, October 2

Rule Breakers

2025 - Morocco/Afghanistan - English
Drama - PG-13

Inspired by a remarkable true story, **Rule Breakers** follows a determined woman who challenges tradition by creating opportunities for girls to receive an education in Afghanistan, where doing so is considered an act of defiance. As she mentors a group of talented young women, they face growing opposition from those who want to preserve the status quo.

Through perseverance, teamwork, and courage, they discover that education has the power to change not only individual lives, but the future of an entire nation.

This film celebrates the importance of education, opportunity, and standing up for what is right. (120 minutes)

Friday, November 6

Jane Austen Wrecked My Life

2025 - France - French/English
Comedy/Romance/Drama - PG-13

Agathe is a charming but accident-prone bookseller at the famous Shakespeare and Company bookstore in Paris. A devoted admirer of Jane Austen, she dreams of finding a romance worthy of an Austen novel, while secretly hoping to become a successful writer herself. When she is unexpectedly invited to a prestigious Jane Austen writers' residency in England, Agathe must overcome her self-doubt, face the gap between fantasy and reality, and discover that real life—and real love—rarely follows the script of a classic novel.

Filled with wit, literary references, and gentle humor, this film is a romantic comedy about finding confidence and embracing life's imperfections. (98 minutes)

Friday, January 8

Rental Family

2025 - Japan/USA - Japanese/English
Comedy/Drama - PG-13

Set in modern-day Tokyo, **Rental Family** stars Brendan Fraser as Phillip, an American actor whose career has stalled and whose life seems to have lost direction. Desperate for work, he accepts a job with a unique Japanese agency that provides actors to play family members, friends, and companions for people in need. As Phillip steps into the lives of his clients, the boundaries between performance and genuine emotion begin to blur, leading him to discover unexpected friendships, renewed purpose, and a deeper understanding of what it truly means to belong.

Inspired by the real-life concept of Japan's rental family services, the film balances gentle humor with heartfelt drama while exploring the importance of human connection. (109 minutes)





Friday, February 5 **Hamnet**

2025 - UK - English
Biography/Drama/History - PG-13

Set in 16th-century England, *Hamnet* tells the moving story of William Shakespeare and his wife, Agnes, as they struggle to cope with the devastating death of their only son, Hamnet, at the age of eleven. While Shakespeare leaves home for London to pursue his career, Agnes is left to navigate the family's grief. Both must find a way to carry on after loss.

Inspired by Maggie O'Farrell's bestselling novel, the film explores the emotional experiences that may have influenced Shakespeare's writing of *Hamlet*, one of his greatest tragedies. (125 minutes)



Friday, March 5 **How to Make Millions Before Grandma Dies**

2024 - Thailand - Thai/Teochew
Comedy/Drama/Family - PG-13

When his grandmother is diagnosed with a terminal illness, M, a young man with few ambitions, sees an opportunity to earn her favor — and perhaps inherit her valuable home. He moves in to care for her, but quickly discovers that genuine love, trust, and family loyalty cannot be won with simple acts of kindness.

As other relatives also hope to benefit from Grandma's estate, M begins to see his grandmother as more than just an inheritance, and their relationship changes both of their lives. (126 minutes)



Friday, April 2 **Yellow Rose**

2019 - Philippines/USA - English
Music/Drama - PG-13

Rose is a 17-year-old undocumented Filipina living in a small Texas town, where she dreams of becoming a country music singer. Her life is turned upside down when her mother is detained by Immigration and Customs Enforcement, leaving Rose to fend for herself. Forced to leave behind the only home she has ever known, she travels to Austin, where she pursues her musical ambitions while confronting difficult choices about identity, family, and belonging.

Blending heartfelt drama with an authentic country music soundtrack, *Yellow Rose* is a coming-of-age story about resilience, hope, and following one's dreams despite overwhelming obstacles. (94 minutes)

**Orringer Auditorium
New Bern Campus**

**Two Screenings
Friday at 2:30 & 7:30 p.m.**

Admission is FREE

**Your donations
support the series**

Each year, members of the International Film Selection Committee watch more than 25 films, take notes, share their perspectives, and thoughtfully evaluate each one. Their passion, insight, and dedication help shape our diverse and engaging series.

We are grateful for the time, energy, and enthusiasm they bring to the process. Please join us in recognizing our hardworking Film Selection Committee:



Due to the variety of languages and accents represented, as well as accommodation for the hearing impaired, all films are shown with English subtitles.



Best of Broadway Day Trips

With each registration for a Lifetime Learning Center **Best of Broadway** day trip, participants will receive a continental breakfast at check-in, comfortable motor coach transportation, a three-course gourmet meal at a fabulous restaurant, and premier seating. In addition to performances at the Durham Performing Arts Center (DPAC), we will also see one show at the Wilson Center at Cape Fear Community College, Wilmington.

We invite you to leave the driving and planning to us and we'll pick you up and drop you off at the front door. Snacks are served on the return trip! We meet on the New Bern campus, in the Orringer Auditorium Lobby, to gather for each departure. All participants will receive a letter and/or email message with complete instructions two weeks prior to departure. To register, visit the website at CravenCC.edu/LLC or call (252) 633-2618.



Buena Vista Social Club

Saturday, September 26, 2026

It's been years since legendary singer Omara Portuondo last entered a recording studio. Once known as the "Queen of Feeling," her voice was celebrated throughout Cuba – until she vanished from the spotlight. But when an ambitious young record producer brings her a rare opportunity, the elusive diva must finally reckon with her past.

Hailed as a "jaw-dropping, soul-stirring must see" (The Washington Post), the Tony® and Grammy® Award-winning **BUENA VISTA SOCIAL CLUB** is a journey through music and memory into the beating heart of Havana. A world-class company brings the story to life in this tale of big dreams and second chances.

Fee - \$269 (DPAC)

Water for Elephants

Wednesday, February 24, 2027

After losing what matters most, a young man jumps a moving train, unsure of where the road will take him, and finds a new home with the remarkable crew of a traveling circus, and a life — and love — beyond his wildest dreams. Seen through the eyes of his older self, his adventure becomes a poignant reminder that if you choose the ride, life can begin again at any age.

Many wonders await audiences in this gorgeously imaginative Broadway musical. The critically acclaimed bestselling novel comes to "thrilling, dazzling" life (Time Out New York) in a unique, spectacle-filled new musical! Hailed as a Critic's Pick, the New York Times calls it "stunning, emotional, heart-filled, and gorgeously imaginative."

So, step right up to spellbinding entertainment!

Fee - \$239
(Wilson Center)

CravenCC.edu/LLC



HadesTown

Saturday, March 6, 2027

Welcome to **HADESTOWN**, where a song can change your fate. Winner of eight 2019 Tony Awards® including Best Musical and the 2020 Grammy® Award for Best Musical Theater Album, this acclaimed show from celebrated singer-songwriter Anais Mitchell and original director Rachel Chavkin is a love story for today... and always.

HADESTOWN intertwines two mythic tales — that of young dreamers Orpheus and Eurydice, and that of King Hades and his wife Persephone — as it invites you on a hell-raising journey to the underworld and back. Mitchell's beguiling melodies and Chavkin's poetic imagination pit industry against nature, doubt against faith, and fear against love. Performed by a vibrant ensemble of actors, dancers and singers, this performance is a haunting and hopeful theatrical experience that grabs you and never lets go.

Fee - \$249 (DPAC)

252-633-2618



WICKED

Saturday, April 10, 2027

Welcome to the wonderful Land of Oz...

Where there is a young woman, born with emerald-green skin — smart, fiery, misunderstood, and possessing an extraordinary talent. When she meets a bubbly blonde who is exceptionally popular, their initial rivalry turns into the unlikeliest of friendships...until the world decides to call one good and the other one wicked.

With a thrilling score that includes the hits "Defying Gravity," "Popular" and "For Good," **WICKED** has been called "A magical Broadway musical with brains, heart and courage" (Time Magazine).



Fee - \$259
(DPAC)



Phantom of the Opera

Saturday, May 29, 2027

The Phantom is back to thrill audiences once again!

Widely considered one of the most beautiful and spectacular productions in history, **THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA** has played to over 160 million people in 47 territories and 195 cities in 21 languages.

It tells the tale of a disfigured musical genius known only as 'The Phantom' who haunts the depths of the Paris Opera House. Mesmerized by the talents and beauty of a young soprano, Christine, The Phantom lures her as his protégé and falls fiercely in love with her. Unaware of Christine's love for Raoul, The Phantom's obsession sets the scene for a dramatic turn of events where jealousy, madness, and passions collide.

Andrew Lloyd Webber's romantic, haunting, and soaring score includes "The Music of the Night," "All I Ask of You," "Wishing You Were Somehow Here Again," and the iconic title song, "The Phantom of the Opera."

Fee - \$259 (DPAC)



History Lecture

St. Eustatius & The First Salute

Presented by archaeologists Dr. Ruud Stelten & Alex Hinton

Saturday, September 26, 2026

Orringer Auditorium - 2:00 p.m. - **FREE**

Through archaeological discoveries and newly uncovered archival evidence, Stelten and Hinton will explore the crucial role the Caribbean island of St. Eustatius played during the American Revolution. Often called the “Golden Rock,” this tiny Dutch island served as a major hub for international trade, supplying desperately needed gunpowder, arms, and other goods to the American colonies. The presentation will examine how St. Eustatius connected to North Carolina ports, including New Bern, and how maritime archaeology is helping researchers reconstruct these forgotten connections. The lecture will also share the story of the famous “First Salute” of November 16, 1776, when the Dutch governor of St. Eustatius returned a cannon salute to the American brig Andrew Doria, an act widely regarded as the first formal foreign recognition of the United States.

In partnership with



COLONIAL NC
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Georgiana Bowman, CFP®, CEPA®, Financial Advisor



This project is supported by Dutch Culture USA, a program of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in the United States, to mark America 250.



North Carolina Opera

CARMEN

Conducted by Joseph Mechavich; Directed by Denyce Graves

Sunday, October 18, 2026 - Day Trip

Martin Marietta Center, Memorial Auditorium, Raleigh

A passion that burns with desire and ignites a dangerous flame in Bizet's **CARMEN**. When a fiercely independent woman pulls a soldier into her orbit, obsession spirals into jealousy, betrayal, and tragedy. Packed with bold melodies and irresistible rhythms, this fiery story of seduction and destruction blazes all the way to its unforgettable final moment. Performed in French with English translations projected above the stage.

North Carolina Opera day trip participants will enjoy a continental breakfast at check-in, comfortable motorcoach transportation, premier seating, an amazing three-course meal at a Raleigh area restaurant, and a snack served on the return trip.

Fee - \$229



CravenCC.edu/LLC / 252-633-2618

Mysteries, Myths, and Monsters

A WICKED WEEKEND

Celebrating Halloween in Raleigh - 2-day trip

Friday and Saturday, October 30 - 31, 2026

Featuring Mummies, Ghosts, Trolls, and Vampires

North Carolina Museum of Art

ANCIENT NUBIA: Excavating Treasures of the Nile

from the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston



Ancient Nubia has a long and glorious past, but it is frequently eclipsed in the public imagination by its northern neighbor, Egypt. The exhibition brings into the limelight the Kingdom of Kush, an important civilization in the Middle Nile Valley. An introduction to powerful kings and royal women of Nubia and the materials excavated from their tombs and pyramids by the MFA Boston more than 100 years ago.



Ghost Tour - HAUNTED FOOTSTEPS



Prepare to be enthralled on a ghost tour that offers more than just a glimpse into the paranormal; it's a captivating blend of history, mystery, and the supernatural. From haunted landmarks to forgotten graveyards, every stop along the way is steeped in legend and lore, offering a unique glimpse into Raleigh's darker side.

Dorothea Dix Park - TROLLS AT THE PARK by sculptor Thomas Dambo



Search for the five gigantic and magical trolls at Dorothea Dix Park. Each troll carries symbols connected to a secret quest involving the mysterious "Grandmother Tree". Visitors are encouraged to piece together clues as they explore, making this experience feel part scavenger hunt, part storybook journey.



Carolina Ballet - DRACULA - World Premiere by artistic director Zalman Raffael



This two-act world premiere delves into the man who came before the legend. Once a loyal servant of the church, he leaves his new bride to fight in its name. When false news of his death reaches home, her longing of reunification comes at the cost of her life. Returning home only to find his beloved gone, he renounces his faith. At the crossroads of ruin, Dracula is born. This world premiere ballet blends the Gothic with a deeply human depiction of adoration, piety, and deception. Dracula will feature both the power and nuance of the full company alongside a novel score.

Fine Dining

The trip will feature two fine dining experiences at Coquette Brasserie and 10th & Terrace.

2-day trip includes:

- Motorcoach Transportation
- One night stay - Residence Inn by Marriott, Raleigh
- 3 Meals - lunch and dinner on Friday, breakfast on Saturday
- Tours, admissions, and tickets as listed

Registration (per person, double) **\$589**

Registration (per person, single) **\$699**

Registration Deadline - October 1, 2026



Dear MariBella and the PigKickers

Saturday, November 21, 2026 - 7:30 PM

Orringer Auditorium

Tickets: Adults \$15/Students \$10

With music rooted deep in the Blue Ridge Mountains and their feet planted firmly in the Carolina sand, **Dear MariBella and the PigKickers** offer more than just a distinctive Bluegrass sound—they invite audiences on a journey through tradition and heartfelt storytelling.

In 2022, the four siblings decided to form a Bluegrass band and together they have a growing list of accomplishments, including a second place in the Blue Highway Fest “Rising Stars” 2025 Band Competition. They have opened for Sam Bush, and have performed at regional festivals, including the Tony Rice Memorial Festival, Ocracoke Festival, MerleFest, and the North Carolina Folk Festival.

Join us for the New Bern debut of **Dear MariBella and the PigKickers** and hear music from their latest album, **Red Goes With Everything**.



Photo Credit: Matt Kesterson

Black Box Dance Theatre

Saturday, March 20, 2027 - 7:30 PM

Grover C. Fields Performing Arts Center

Tickets: Adults \$25/Students \$15



Black Box Dance Theatre returns to New Bern for a weeklong residency, culminating in a performance of **PATRIOT**, a powerful series of choreographed works combining contemporary dance, storytelling, and community engagement to explore identity, military service, resilience, and shared human experiences.

Founded by choreographer and educator Michelle Pearson, **Black Box Dance Theatre** uses movement, writing, and storytelling to foster connection and healing. Last year, audiences were introduced to the Raleigh-based company through **We Lift Each Other**, a documentary film highlighting its work with veterans in recovery. This year, we are pleased to welcome the full company for a week of engagement.

During the residency, the company will offer workshops for veterans, active-duty service members, their families, and area dance students. The company will also lead dance education programs at Grover C. Fields and Havelock Middle Schools through our partnership with Atlantic Dance Theatre.

Black Box creates engaging performances that invite audiences to connect, reflect, and experience stories in a new way.

To express interest in participating in the workshops, please send an email to baerj@cravencc.edu.



Steep Canyon Rangers

Sunday, April 4, 2027 - 2:30 PM

Grover C. Fields Performing Arts Center

Tickets: VIP \$75*/ Adults \$45/Students \$30

The **Steep Canyon Rangers** are one of the most respected contemporary Bluegrass and Americana bands in the United States. Formed in 2000 by students at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, the band is rooted in North Carolina and is closely associated with Asheville and Brevard.

They are known for blending traditional Bluegrass with original songwriting, folk, country, and Americana influences. While they honor classic bluegrass traditions, they are equally recognized for pushing the genre forward with thoughtful lyrics, rich vocal harmonies, and inventive arrangements.

The **Steep Canyon Rangers** gained national attention through their long-running collaboration with Steve Martin. Beginning in 2009, they toured extensively together and recorded two acclaimed albums, introducing bluegrass to many new listeners. Their partnership continues with occasional tours alongside Steve Martin and Martin Short.

The band won the Grammy Award for Best Bluegrass Album in 2013 for ***Nobody Knows You*** after receiving an earlier Grammy nomination for ***Rare Bird Alert***, their collaboration with Steve Martin. They have also earned multiple honors from the International Bluegrass Music Association, including Emerging Artist of the Year and Entertainer of the Year.

Their live performances are especially well regarded. Fans often praise the band's exceptional musicianship, energetic stage presence, and ability to balance traditional bluegrass with modern songwriting.

Band members: Aaron Burdett – lead vocals and guitar; Graham Sharp – banjo, harmonica, and vocals; Mike Guggino – mandolin and vocals; Nicky Sanders – fiddle and vocals; Mike Ashworth – percussion and “box kit”; Barrett Smith – upright bass and vocals.

***Reserved VIP** seating will be available in the first six rows at the Performing Arts Center with a \$75 ticket purchase. The remainder of the seating will be designated as general admission.

CravenCC.edu/LLC / 252-633-2618





CHRISTMAS in Charleston

5-Day Tour

Nov. 28 - Dec. 2, 2026

On this five-day adventure, participants will travel to South Carolina to celebrate the holiday season. The tour features memorable sights, sounds, and flavors, including tours of historic homes, spectacular holiday light displays in beautifully decorated gardens, and exceptional dining experiences..

We depart on Saturday, November 28, with our first stop in Murrells Inlet, SC, for a delicious dinner before visiting Brookgreen Gardens to experience the renowned **Nights of a Thousand Candles**. The gardens come to life amid the soft glow of more than 2,700 hand-lit candles and millions of sparkling lights.

Following breakfast the next day, we travel to Charleston for a three-night stay at the historic **Meeting Street Inn**, ideally located in the heart of the city's Historic District.

While in Charleston, enjoy a full schedule of sightseeing that includes visits to the **American Gardens, City Market, Drayton Hall, Charleston Museum, and Joseph Manigault House**.

In addition to historic sites, gardens, and holiday lights displays, this tour includes several unique gourmet dining experiences, including a **Flavors of Charleston Food Tour** and exclusive dining experiences at **High Cotton Charleston** and the **James Island Crab House**.

On Wednesday, December 2, we journey home, with a number of surprises awaiting us along the way.



Tour Highlights

- Brookgreen Gardens
- Nights of a Thousand Candles
- American Gardens Christmas Lights
- Charleston Place Decorations
- Charleston City Tour
- Flavors of Charleston Food Tour
- Charleston City Market
- Dinner and Jazz at High Cotton
- Drayton Hall
- Charleston Museum
- Joseph Manigault House
- Dinner at James Island Crab House
- James Island Festival of Lights
- 9 Meals - Breakfast (5), Lunch (2), Dinner (2)
- Motorcoach Transportation
- 4 nights hotel accommodations
 - 1-night - Hampton Inn, Murrells Inlet
 - 3-nights - Meeting Street Inn, Charleston

Registration (double) \$1,679

Registration (single) \$2,139

Registration Deadline - October 21, 2026

Space is limited to 40 participants

To learn about the complete itinerary, pricing and inclusions, please join us for an information session.

Wednesday, September 23, 2026 - 3:00 p.m.
Naumann Community Room #115
Ward Hall - New Bern Campus

www.CravenCC.edu/LLC

FREEDOM RIDE

Celebrating Civil Rights History 5-Day Tour

March 7 - 11, 2027

The Lifetime Learning Center invites you to join a five-day tour exploring the history of the Civil Rights Movement, and African American arts and heritage in Augusta, Georgia, and Montgomery, Selma, and Tuskegee, Alabama.

Planned in partnership with the African American Heritage & Culture Center, Craven Arts Council & Gallery, James City Historical Society, and the NAACP of Craven County, this tour offers a meaningful opportunity to honor the courage, resilience, and lasting legacy of the civil rights movement in the American South.

Departing Sunday, March 7, 2027, the journey begins in Augusta with a city tour, a visit to the Lucy Craft Laney Museum of Black History, and stories of the Black caddies connected to the Masters Golf Tournament.

In Montgomery, participants will visit The Legacy Museum, the National Memorial for Peace & Justice, and the Freedom Monument Sculpture Park. The tour will also include the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts, and a performance of **ONE VOICE: The Marian Anderson Musical** at the Alabama Shakespeare Festival.

We travel to Selma to visit the Edmund Pettus Bridge and Old Depot Museum, and to Tuskegee to tour the Tuskegee Airmen National Historic Site. Please join us for an information meeting on November 11 to learn more.

www.CravenCC.edu/LLC



Tour Highlights

- Augusta City Tour
- Lucy Craft Laney Museum of Black History
- Black Caddies Experience - *Men on the Bag*
- The Legacy Sites, Montgomery
 - The Legacy Museum
 - National Memorial for Peace & Justice
 - Freedom Monument Sculpture Park
- Selma City Tour
 - Edmund Pettus Bridge
 - Old Depot Museum
- Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts
- Tuskegee Airmen National Historic Site
- Alabama Shakespeare Festival
 - ONE VOICE: The Marian Anderson Musical*
- 8 meals - Breakfasts (5), Lunch (1), Dinners (2)
- Motorcoach Transportation
- 4 nights hotel accommodations
 - 1-night - Hampton Inn, Augusta, GA
 - 2-nights - Hampton Inn, Montgomery, AL
 - 1-night - Hampton Inn, Atlanta, GA

To learn about the complete itinerary, pricing and inclusions, please join us for an information session.

Wednesday, November 11, 2026 - 3:30 p.m.
Naumann Community Room #115
Ward Hall - New Bern Campus

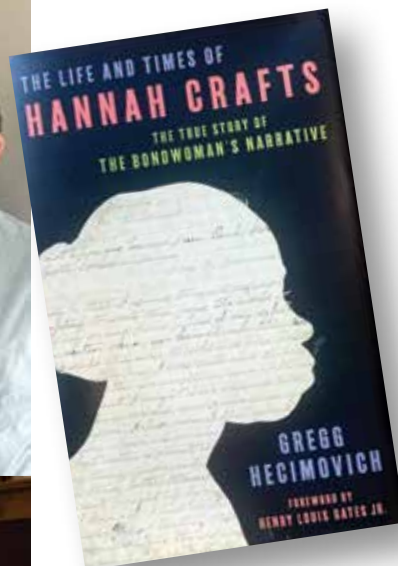


Registration (double) \$1,139

Registration (single) \$1,499

Registration Deadline - January 29, 2027

Space is limited to 48 participants



North Carolina History Series

A Lecture and Discussion Series

**Cullman Performance Hall, North Carolina History Center
Tryon Palace - Sundays at 2:00 p.m.**

3-Event series pass \$25 - Tickets per event: Adults \$10/Students \$5

The North Carolina History lecture series continues with the goal to engage the broader community and expand the understanding of, and engagement in, the fascinating history of New Bern, Craven County and the state. We are pleased to welcome a very diverse group of four historians for this year's series.

The series is presented by the Lifetime Learning Center and Tryon Palace, in partnership with the Richard Dobbs Spaight Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution and the New Bern Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution.

2027 Schedule of Events

Sunday, February 7

The Life and Times of Hannah Crafts: The True Story of The Bondwoman's Narrative

Speaker: Dr. Gregg Hecimovich, author of the award-winning book *The Life and Times of Hannah Crafts*, will share the fascinating story of Hannah Crafts and her remarkable novel, *The Bondwoman's Narrative* — generally regarded as the earliest known novel written by an African American woman who had herself been enslaved. Hecimovich's research identifies Crafts as Hannah Bond, an enslaved woman held by John H. Wheeler and his wife, Ellen, in Murfreesboro, North Carolina. Discover the extraordinary life behind this literary mystery.

Sunday, February 28

Documenting the World of Outlander: Fact, Fiction, and Colonial North Carolina

Speakers: Josh Hager and Alison Thurman of the State Archives of North Carolina will explore the history behind the novels and television series *Outlander* by highlighting the people, places, and events that Jamie and Claire Fraser would have encountered in colonial North Carolina. Drawing from the State Archives' blogpost series, *Documenting the World of Outlander*, they will showcase land grants, court records, military records, and other documents from the archives that bring the world of *Outlander* to life.

Sunday, March 14

Beyond the Recipe: Learning History from American Cookbooks

Speaker: Dr. Jamie R.C. Kirby, Research Historian at Tryon Palace, brings a unique perspective to this topic. A Virginia native who grew up in Salisbury, NC, Dr. Kirby has long been interested in Southern food and its place in American history. In this engaging lecture, they will look beyond the recipes to explore historic Southern cookbooks as windows into history, culture, identity, power, and place to discover what these everyday cookbooks can reveal about the America of their times.

Presented by the Lifetime Learning Center and



In Partnership with



Richard Dobbs
Spaight Chapter



www.CravenCC.edu/LLC

Nova Scotia & the Canadian Maritimes

9-Day tour

July 12 - 20, 2027

For summer 2027, we have planned a Canadian adventure to discover the beauty and charm of Atlantic Canada on a scenic journey through Nova Scotia, Cape Breton Island, Prince Edward Island, and New Brunswick.

We begin in Halifax before traveling to Baddeck and the stunning Cabot Trail, with a visit to the Alexander Graham Bell National Historic Site and Cape Breton Highlands National Park.

Continue by ferry to Prince Edward Island, where you'll explore charming Charlottetown, the Anne of Green Gables Museum, Green Gables Farmhouse, and Prince Edward Island National Park, followed by a traditional lobster dinner.

We will tour New Brunswick to experience the spectacular Bay of Fundy and Hopewell Rocks, then visit the colorful seaside town of Lunenburg, known for its picturesque waterfront and historic streets.

This unforgettable journey showcases the region's breathtaking scenery, maritime heritage, charming communities, and renowned Atlantic hospitality.

To learn about the complete itinerary, pricing and inclusions, please join us for this **FREE** information session.

Wednesday, October 28, 2026 - 3:30 p.m.
Naumann Community Room #115
Ward Hall - New Bern Campus



Highlights

- Halifax City Tour
- Peggy's Cove
- Alexander Graham Bell Museum
- Baddeck
- Cabot Trail
- Cape Breton National Park
- Prince Edward Island Tour
- Charlottetown (PEI)
- Lobster Dinner
- Prince Edward Island National Park
- Anne of Green Gables Museum
- Green Gables Farmhouse
- Hopewell Rocks
- Bay of Fundy
- Lunenburg Walking Tour
- Multi-Night Stays in Baddeck, Charlottetown & Halifax

Inclusions

- Roundtrip Airfare - RDU
- 12 Meals:
 - 8 -Breakfasts & 4 -Dinners
- Professional Tour Director
- Motorcoach Transportation
- Hotel Transfers
- Admissions per Itinerary
- Sightseeing per Itinerary
- Baggage Handling at Hotels

For a complete brochure, including tour pricing, day-by-day itinerary, and registration forms visit our website at **www.CravencCC.edu/LLC**.



Community Enrichment Program



About CEP

Have you ever wanted to learn a new skill, participate in new and exciting experiences, or meet new people who share your interests? The Community Enrichment Program (CEP) at Craven Community College may have exactly what you're looking for!

Our affordable, short-term, non-degree classes are taught by community members who are experts in their fields: Arts and Crafts, Recreation and Wellness, Special Interests, Kitchen and Cuisine, and Language. Classes offered are for beginners to advanced and range from one 2-hour session to a course of several weeks. Join us for a class held at our New Bern campus, VOLT center, and various community locations. The schedule included here lists classes scheduled through December 2027. Classes are added to the schedule throughout the year, and you are invited to check the most current offerings on our CEP website, cravencc.edu/cep.

Community members are encouraged to suggest new class topics and are welcome to speak to us about offering their own class in an area in which they excel.

Please note that CEP classes are not for credit toward degree programs. All sessions are weekly unless described as "one session."

Register Today!

Arts and Crafts *(sessions are weekly unless noted)*

Watercolor for Beginners	9/25/26 – 10/30/26
Painting with Acrylics	10/6/26 – 11/10/26
Landscape Oil Painting	10/7/26 – 11/4/26
Make Your Own Holiday Wreath <i>(one session)</i>	11/19/26
Watercolor for Beginners	2/26/27 – 4/2/27
Painting with Acrylics	3/2/27 – 4/6/27
Make Your Own Seasonal Wreath <i>(one session)</i>	3/18/27
Inspirational Painting	6/7/27 – 6/28/27
Painting with Acrylics	7/6/27 – 8/10/27

Kitchen and Cuisine *(one session unless noted)*

Tiramisu Masterclass	9/14/26
Easy as Pie	10/5/26
Contemporary Italian Cuisine <i>(weekly)</i>	10/7/26 – 10/28/26
An Afternoon in Old Vienna	1/18/27
Timeless Classic Cakes	2/8/27 – 10 AM or 6 PM
Crepes 101	2/22/27
French Cookies	3/15/27 – 10 AM or 6 PM
Classic French Lemon Tarts	4/5/27 – 10 AM or 6 PM
Light and Easy Fruit Mousse	5/10/27 – 10 AM or 6 PM
Traditional French Pastries	6/14/27 – 10 AM or 6 PM
How to Use Puff Pastries	7/12/27 – 10 AM or 6 PM
Delicious Custards and Cakes	8/16/27 – 10 AM or 6 PM

www.CravenCC.edu/CEP



Language *(sessions are weekly)*

Conversational French	9/2/26 – 11/4/26
Absolute Beginner Spanish	9/15/26 – 10/15/26
Intro to American Sign Language	9/22/26 – 10/27/26
French Made Easy	2/3/27 – 4/7/27
Intro to American Sign Language	2/16/27 – 3/23/27
Conversational French	6/9/27 – 8/11/27

Recreation and Wellness *(sessions are weekly)*

Mah Jongg: A Game of Skill	9/2/26 – 9/23/26
Meditation	9/14/26 – 10/5/26
Basic Self Defense Training	9/22/26 – 10/15/26
Move Your Body Dance Fusion	9/25/26 – 10/30/26
Financial Basics for Real Life	10/20/26 – 11/10/26
Mastering Your Retirement Years	10/22/26 – 11/12/26
America's Boating Course I	11/7/26 – 11/14/26

Special Interest *(sessions are weekly unless noted)*

The Bible: Basics and Beyond (2 weekly)	9/15/26 – 11/5/26
Maritime History: Shackleton	10/5/26 – 11/9/26
Exploring Classical Music	10/5/26 – 12/7/26

Questions about classes?



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 New Bern, NC 28562
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Give where you live!



Dear Friends of the College,

Once again, the Lifetime Learning Center (LLC) has planned an exciting year of events and travel. Whether you're attending WICKED at the Durham Performing Arts Center, enjoying a film in the International Film Series, or joining an international adventure to Portugal, every experience offers opportunities to learn, explore, and connect. Best of all, your participation helps others, as net proceeds from LLC events directly support the mission of the Craven Community College Foundation.

This year's annual campaign, **Give Where You Live**, celebrates the power of investing in our own community. Every gift to the Foundation helps educate the people who keep our region strong—nurses, CNAs, phlebotomists, physical therapy assistants, firefighters, welders, mechanics, construction workers, educators, business professionals, and many others whose skills touch our lives every day.

Your generosity makes a lasting impact close to home by helping local students achieve their educational goals. I hope you'll join me in supporting the **Give Where You Live** campaign.

For your convenience, a gift return envelope is included in this publication or you can scan the QR code below to make a secure online donation.

With heartfelt gratitude,

Charles Wethington
 Executive Director of Institutional Advancement
 Craven Community College Foundation



Program participation & registration



Day and Regional Trip Registration

Enrollment space for LLC day trips and regional travel programs is limited to the capacity of our motor coach, the availability of tickets, and other booking factors associated with group admissions. To reserve a place on any of these trips, ALL fees must be paid at the time of registration. Early registration is highly recommended as the trips tend to sell out very quickly.

To register and pay fees online, visit our website at www.CravenCC.edu/LLC. From the left column select “Registration and Tickets,” then scroll down the page until you find the event that interests you. Follow the instructions to enter your payment information.

If you have questions about the online process or would prefer to register by telephone or send a payment by check, please call us at (252) 638-7351 for assistance. Our office hours are Monday to Thursday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Friday, 8 a.m. to Noon.

USA Adventures and International Travel

Registration deposits, fees, and final payments for out-of-state or out-of-country travel, where the LLC contracts with a tour company, will follow a payment schedule specific to each trip. Payments for these trips are paid directly to one of our group travel partners. Rules for refunds, travel insurance requirements, and the specific details for each trip will be printed in separate tour brochures.

Please note that Craven Community College requires that each person participating in an extended trip must sign a liability waiver and purchase cancellation and post-departure emergency insurance. We offer a reasonably priced option with each trip that we sponsor. Participants who have other travel insurance coverage may decline our offer, but they are required to provide Craven Community College with proof of insurance that specifically documents insurance coverage equivalent to our minimum standards.



Refund Policy

Tickets purchased for Explorations in the Arts events or our Performance Day Trips are NOT refundable. However, tickets and registrations are transferable. If you are unable to attend an event that you have registered and paid for, you are welcome to share your ticket(s) or transfer the registration to another person.

There are no refunds offered after an event has occurred. A **refund of fees to a registered participant will only occur** when a cancellation is made in advance of the event **AND** a replacement from the waiting list registers for the open spot. We understand that “life happens,” so **please contact us as soon as possible if last-minute circumstances arise.** We often have an extensive waiting list for each trip and we will attempt to fill a spot if we are notified.

One-to-Five-day trip registration fees are NOT refundable. These are the exceptions: 1) the predetermined minimum enrollment is not met and the trip is cancelled due to low enrollment; or 2) the college or the performance/exhibit venue determines that due to threatening weather or unsafe conditions we must cancel. **No refunds will be offered if a new date is selected and the program is completed as advertised.**

Online registration, tickets and additional information are available through our website:

www.CravenCC.edu/LLC



Questions about the Lifetime Learning Center?

Jennifer Baer
Director of the Lifetime Learning Center
and Community Outreach
Craven Community College
Brock Administration Building #109
New Bern, NC 28562
(252) 633-2618 | baerj@cravencc.edu

Calendar of Events

2026

SEPTEMBER

- 11 - **Friday** - International Film Series - **Ballad of Wallis Island** (2025) - UK - English - Comedy/Music - Orringer Auditorium - 2:30 and 7:30 p.m. (Free)
- 23 - **Wednesday** - Travel Information Session - **Christmas in Charleston** Ward Hall - Naumann Community Room #115 - 3:00 p.m. (Free)
- 26 - **Saturday** - **St. Eustatius & The First Salute**- **Speakers: Dr. Ruud Stelten and Alex Hinton** - History Lecture in partnership with the English - Speaking Union, Colonial NC Branch - Orringer Auditorium - 2:00 p.m. (Free)
- 26 - **Saturday** - Best of Broadway Day Trip - **Buena Vista Social Club** (\$269)
- 30 - **Wednesday** - International Travel Meeting - **Sunny Portugal & Madeira Island** AAA Members Choice - Bosch AMC - Room #102 - 3:00 p.m. (Free)

OCTOBER

- 2 - **Friday** - International Film Series - **Rule Breakers** (2025) - Afghanistan/Morocco - English - Drama - Orringer Auditorium - 2:30 and 7:30 p.m. (Free)
- 18 - **Sunday** - North Carolina Opera Day Trip - **Bizet's CARMEN** (\$229)
- 28 - **Wednesday** - Travel Information Session - **Nova Scotia & The Canadian Maritimes** - Premier World Discovery - Naumann Community Room #115 Ward Hall 3:30 p.m. (Free)
- 30 - 31 - **Friday - Saturday** - Regional Trip - **A Wicked Weekend** (\$589/\$699)

NOVEMBER

- 6 - **Friday** - International Film Series - **Jane Austin Wrecked My Life** (2025) France/French - Comedy/Romance/Drama - Orringer Auditorium 2:30 and 7:30 p.m. (Free)
- 11 - **Wednesday** - Travel Information Session - **Freedom Ride: Celebrating Civil Rights History** - Ward Hall - Naumann Community Room #115 - 3:30 p.m. (Free)
- 21 - **Saturday** - Explorations in the Arts - **Dear MariBella and the PigKickers** Bluegrass - Orringer Auditorium - 7:30 p.m. (\$15/\$10)
- 28 - **Dec. 2 - Saturday to Wednesday** - Regional Tour - **Christmas in Charleston** 5-day tour (\$1,679/\$2,139)

DECEMBER

- 11-15 - **Friday to Tuesday** - USA Adventure - **New York City Holiday** (Call for availability - 252-633-2618)

2027

JANUARY

- 8 - **Friday** - International Film Series - **Rental Family** (2025) - Japan - Japanese/English - Comedy/Drama - Orringer Auditorium - 2:30 and 7:30 p.m. (Free)

FEBRUARY

- 5 - **Friday** - International Film Series - **Hamnet** (2025) – UK- English Drama/History/Biography - Orringer Auditorium - 2:30 and 7:30 p.m. (Free)
- 7 - **Sunday** - North Carolina History Series in partnership with Tryon Palace **The Life and Times of Hannah Crafts** - **Speaker: Dr. Gregg Hecimovich** NC History Center, Cullman Auditorium - 2:00 p.m. (\$25 Series pass/\$10/\$5)
- 24 - **Wednesday** - Best of Broadway Day Trip - **Water for Elephants** (\$239)
- 28 - **Sunday** - North Carolina History Series in partnership with Tryon Palace **Documenting the World of Outlander** - **Speakers: Josh Hager and Alison Thurman** - NC History Center, Cullman Auditorium 2:00 p.m. (\$10/\$5)

MARCH

- 5 - **Friday** - International Film Series - **How to Make Millions Before Grandma Dies** (2024) - Thailand - Thai/Teochew - Comedy/Drama - Orringer Auditorium - 2:30 and 7:30 p.m. (Free)
- 6 - **Saturday** - Best of Broadway Day Trip - **HadesTown** (\$249)
- 7 - 11 - **Saturday-Wednesday** - Regional Tour - **Freedom Ride: Celebrating Civil Rights History** - Augusta, GA and Montgomery, Selma, and Tuskegee, AL 5-day tour (\$1,139/\$1,499)
- 14 - **Sunday** - North Carolina History Series in partnership with Tryon Palace **Beyond the Recipe: American Cookbooks** - **Speaker: Dr. Jamie Kirby** NC History Center, Cullman Auditorium - 2:00 p.m. (\$10/\$5)
- 20 - **Saturday** - Explorations in the Arts - **Black Box Dance Theatre - PATRIOT** Modern Dance - Grover C. Fields Performing Arts Center - 7:30 p.m. (\$25/\$15)

APRIL

- 2 - **Friday** - International Film Series - **Yellow Rose (2019)** – Philippines/USA English - Music/Drama - Orringer Auditorium - 2:30 and 7:30 p.m. (Free)
- 4 - **Sunday** - Explorations in the Arts - **Steep Canyon Rangers** - Bluegrass Grover C. Fields Performing Arts Center - 2:30 p.m. (\$75/\$45/\$30)
- 10 - **Saturday** - Best of Broadway Day Trip - **WICKED** (\$259)

MAY

- 29 - **Saturday** - Best of Broadway Day Trip - **Phantom of the Opera** (\$259)

JUNE

- 6-19 - **Sunday to Saturday** - International Travel and Learn - **Sunny Portugal & Madeira Island** - 14-day tour (Information - see page 3)

JULY

- 12-20 - **Monday to Tuesday** - North America Travel and Learn - **Nova Scotia and The Canadian Maritimes** - 9-day tour - (Information - see page 14)



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Explorations

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