History Museum of Mobile 111 South Royal Street

Phoenix Fire Museum 203 South Claiborne Street

Historic Site at Fort Condé 150 South Royal Street



David Alsobrook, Director Post Office Box 1827 Mobile, Alabama 36633 Phone: (251) 208-7508 Fax: (251) 208-7686

historymuseumofmobile.com

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## MORE THAN 2,000 ATTEND HISTORY MUSEUM SPECIAL EVENTS LAST WEEK

Special events held in the space of four days attracted more than 2,000 visitors to the History Museum of Mobile and Fort Condé last week. These numbers add to an already impressive month of March for the museum under its new free admission policy.

On Thursday, March 19, the museum hosted the University of Mobile & tenth annual Hinson Lecture, which featured noted Civil War historian Elizabeth Varon, Ph.D.

Friday, March 20 was the annual Colonial Day at Fort Condé. More than 1,000 students from throughout the region attended the event, which featured demonstrations of Colonial cooking, weaponry, and living history educators dressed in period clothing.

On Saturday, March 21, the History Museum of Mobile, in partnership with the Indian Student Association of the University of South Alabama, hosted the first city-wide celebration of Holi, the festival of colors. More than 600 people attended the festival, which filled the corner of South Royal and Church streets with Indian music, dancing, and the traditional õthrowingö of colors to celebrate the arrival of spring and the triumph of good over evil.

On Sunday, March 22, the History Museum held an opening reception for *What's at Stake?* the newest exhibition in its Community Gallery. Designed as a commemoration of the upcoming fifth anniversary of the Gulf Oil Spill, this exhibition features works by two dozen local artists in a visual representation of the uniqueness and beauty of the Gulf region. Local artists were asked to loan the History Museum pieces of their work that best represented what was at stake during those fateful months when oil flowed freely into the Gulf of Mexico. The exhibit runs through the summer.

"The overwhelming number of visitors attending the History Museum is as much a testament to its diverse series of exhibits and activities as it is to its new, free admission policy," said Mayor Stimpson. "The secret is out about this world class attraction, and I am confident that citizens and tourists alike will continue to take advantage of all the History Museum has to offer."

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All of these events were free and open to the public.

ŏI¢m thrilled with the community¢s robust response to this wide variety of offerings,ö said David E. Alsobrook, Ph.D, Director of the History Museum of Mobile. ŏI feel that it is our responsibility to continue to provide exciting, diverse, and free programs to the citizens and visitors of the region, and to expand the traditional definition of a local history museum. Events like those held over the past week certainly demonstrate the diversity of the area, and the History Museum¢s commitment to reflect the community that supports us.ö

Located in the Old City Hall/ Southern Market at 111 S. Royal Street in downtown Mobile, the History Museum of Mobile documents the 300-year history of Mobile and the surrounding region. The museum is open Tuesday through Saturday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. and Sunday from 1 p.m. ó 5 p.m. Admission to the museum is now FREE.

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