

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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HISTORY MUSEUM OF MOBILE TO HOST MOBILE IN MOURNING EXHIBITION

MOBILE, ALABAMA – SEPTEMBER 16, 2025 - - THE HISTORY MUSEUM OF MOBILE is excited to announce the next exhibition, *Mobile in Mourning: Death Practices in the Victorian Era*, opening October 17, 2025 and on view through June 7, 2026.

Mobile in Mourning delves into the rich history of the elaborate death practices that occurred during the Victorian Era and how they continued and evolved into the twentieth century. Drawing from our collection, the History Museum of Mobile has curated an exhibition exploring how and why these customs came to be. Artifacts highlighted in the exhibition include mourning gowns, jewelry, memento moris, coffins, and hair art to provide a window into the lives of nineteenth and twentieth-century Mobilians during times of mourning.

"This exhibit teaches visitors about how Victorians processed their grief and the rich history behind these traditions, both historically and today," said Taylor Cox, Curator of Exhibits. "Additionally, it explores the science behind both the era's higher death rates and how pioneers in medicine developed new, life-saving medical knowledge and techniques."

"Everyone at some point or another will experience loss, making this exhibition relevant to all visitors," said Jon Sexton, Director of The History Museum of Mobile. "The objects on display reveal the values, beliefs, and evolving medical knowledge that Victorian era Mobilians used to confront death. This allows visitors to reflect on the ways in which we deal with death and loss today, and how many of those traditions are still with us from the Victorian period."

A series of programs will enrich the visitor experience and enhance the educational value of the exhibition. The planned programming is designed to support meaningful connections to exhibition themes and will include special workshops for children and adults.

The History Museum of Mobile is open $\underline{\text{Monday} - \text{Saturday}}$ from 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM and Sunday from 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM. Admission is free on the first Sunday of each month.

ABOUT THE HISTORY MUSEUM OF MOBILE: The History Museum of Mobile is where Mobile's story begins. Over 117,000 objects weave together the rich, diverse, and often turbulent histories of Mobile and the surrounding area, from the prehistoric past to the present. Located in the heart of downtown, the History Museum of Mobile operates four campuses: The primary exhibitions are located in the Old City Hall-Southern Market building at 111 South Royal Street; Colonial Fort Condé is at 150 South Royal Street; Africatown Heritage House is at 2465 Winbush Street; and the Phoenix Fire Museum is at 203 South Claiborne Street. For more information, please visit: www.historymuseumofmobile.com

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