

Media Alert  
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## Virginia Museum of History & Culture Unveils The Official Virginia History 2020 Holiday Ornament

Richmond, VA — The Virginia Museum of History & Culture (VMHC) is pleased to present its official holiday ornament of 2020. In conjunction with its recent exhibition, “A Landscape Saved: The Garden Club of Virginia at 100,” on display through November 1, 2020, this ornament celebrates and illustrates the Garden Club’s efforts in preservation and horticulture throughout the Commonwealth.

The official state history ornament features a stunning landscape painting from the museum’s collection, “Afternoon, Hawks Bill Rivet, Blue Ridge Mountains” by John Ross Key about 1903 and purchased with funds provided by Lora. M Robins. It showcases the towering heights of the Blue Ridge mountains and land that would one day become Shenandoah National Park. The beauty of the landscape captured here was not preserved by accident. The Garden Club of Virginia, currently celebrating the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its creation, led an education campaign that helped win public support for the creation of this treasured national park. Created between the years 1929-1935, Shenandoah National Park saved and safeguarded 79,000 acres of wilderness.



At its founding in 1920, the Garden Club established a mission to celebrate and conserve the natural beauty of Virginia, and to challenge the public and future generations to join its preservation efforts. Today, when environmental issues have risen to new levels of concern, GCV’s leadership role in preservation efforts remains as relevant as ever. The VMHC has been proud to support GCV in these efforts, as it expands its outreach to the community to preserve the history of the Commonwealth and all Virginians.

The ornament is available for purchase at <https://www.shopvirginiahistory.org/2020ornament>. Through the month of October, the ornament will be 20% off by using the code 20OFF at purchase. VMHC members receive an additional 10% off. This is the third in a new series of collectible ornaments the museum has offered featuring the history and culture of Virginia. The 2018 and 2019 ornaments are still available in limited supply. Purchase of the ornament supports the mission of the museum including funding educational programs for students across the commonwealth.

The Virginia Museum of History & Culture is owned and operated by the Virginia Historical Society — a private, non-profit organization established in 1831. The historical society is the oldest cultural organization in Virginia, and one of the oldest and most distinguished history organizations in the nation. For use in its state history museum and its renowned research library, the historical society cares for a collection of nearly nine million items representing the ever-evolving story of Virginia.

The Virginia Museum of History & Culture is located at 428 N Arthur Ashe Boulevard in Richmond’s Museum District. Hours are Monday – Sunday 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. for the galleries and museum shop, Monday – Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. for the research library. For more information call 804.340.1800, visit [VirginiaHistory.org](http://VirginiaHistory.org), or connect on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

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### Virginia Museum of History & Culture

Owned and operated by the Virginia Historical Society

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