

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

THURSDAY, APRIL 12

3:00 p.m. - Trolley Tour of Historic Aiken
Aiken Visitors Center & Train Museum
406 Park Avenue SE. *Reservations required.*

7:30 p.m. - Gala Opening Event & Reception
A Salute to Aiken and Her Italian Partner City, Orvieto
Etherredge Center Main Stage, USC Aiken
471 University Parkway

The evening starts with a free hour-long multimedia presentation, *Livio Drazio Valentini: An Artist's Spiritual Odyssey* by Robert Alexander and John Elliott. The presentation is followed by a reception and book signing with the authors. Valentini prints will be on sale. A **Special Valentini Exhibition** is on view in the *Etherredge Center lobby* from March 26 through April 20. Curated by Jeremy Culler, Ph.D.

FRIDAY, APRIL 13

9:00 a.m. - Downtown Walking Tour Led by Marty Bailey
Departs from the statue of William Aiken, Sr. on Newberry Street at The Alley. A transplant from Texas, Marty fell in love with the city's people, spirit, and history when she began learning about Aiken through her volunteering at the city's visitors center and the historical museum. Let Marty share her love of Aiken and its fascinating history. *Reservations required.*

11 a.m. - Free Presentation: "Hammond and Simms: The Worst of Friends" with author Todd Hagstette. *Aiken County Museum, 433 Newberry St. SW*
Dr. Hagstette, an authority on nineteenth-century novelist William Gilmore Simms, will focus on the correspondence between Simms and James Henry Hammond, who was both a leading politician in our state and the master of Redcliffe Plantation. A book signing follows.

1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Self-Guided Tour: Among the Oldest Churches in the Aiken Area.
Various locations (see separate tour brochure for additional information)

- St. Thaddeus Episcopal Church (Aiken)
- St. Mary's Help of Christians Roman Catholic Church (Aiken)
- All Saints Anglican Church (Aiken)
- Cumberland AME Church (Aiken)
- St. John's Methodist Church (Graniteville)
- St. Paul's Episcopal Church (Graniteville)

1:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. - Redcliffe Tours
Redcliffe Plantation State Historic Site
181 Redcliffe Rd., Beech Island
Historic plantation with house and museum detailing 19th-century Southern culture. *Reservations required.*

3:00 p.m. - Presentation and Book Signing: "In Their Own Words: Aiken Area Veterans Remember World War II" with Douglas Higbee, James Garvey, and Hubert Van Tuyl
Aiken Train Museum
This event is free and includes a book signing and reception.

7:00 p.m. "All Aboard for Poetry"
Aiken Center for the Arts, 122 Laurens St SW
The evening begins with a Student Award Ceremony hosted by USC Aiken professor and author Vicki Collins. At 7:30 p.m. poets Amanda Warren, Roy Seeger, Erin Mullikin, Mike Lythgoe will read selections from their work. A book signing and free reception follows at 8:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, APRIL 14

10:00 a.m. - Trolley Tour of Historic Aiken
Aiken Visitors Center & Train Museum
Reservations required.

10:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m. - Free Grants Writing Workshop
Aiken County Library, 314 Chesterfield St S
Led by SC Humanities staff, this free workshop will introduce participants to the range of grants available to institutions (museums, libraries, colleges, and other cultural centers) planning to host public programs in the humanities. The grants writing process will be covered; samples of successful grants in a variety of categories will be offered. *Reservations are required and space is limited. Call (803) 642-2020, ext. 1131.*

10:00 a.m.- Noon - SRS Heritage Museum Open House
224 Laurens St SW, Aiken, SC 29801
Museum dedicated to the Savannah River Site's scientific & technological role in the Cold War.

1:00 p.m. - The Tree of Forgetfulness with Pam Durban
Center for African American History, Art, and Culture
120 York St NE
This mesmerizing and disquieting novel recovers the largely untold story of a brutal Jim Crow-era triple lynching in Aiken County. Through the interweaving of several characters' voices, Durban produces a complex narrative in which each section reveals a different facet of the event. This free event includes a presentation by the author, book signing and reception.

2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Thoroughbred Hall of Fame Open House
135 Dupree Place
The Aiken Thoroughbred Racing Hall of Fame and Museum was established in 1977 as a tribute to the famous flat racing and steeplechase thoroughbred horses that trained in Aiken.

AN AFTERNOON AT USC AIKEN

471 University Parkway

3 p.m. - Edgewood: Stage of Southern History
Free Screening with commentary by Deidre Martin
106 Auditorium. Penland Building

4:15 p.m. - 4:45 p.m. Reception & Open House
Gregg-Graniteville Library
Special **open house of the Gregg-Graniteville Archives** containing documents and memorabilia of the Graniteville Company, a major Southern textile manufacturing firm founded in 1845 by William Gregg. The archive represents the only collection in existence devoted to William Gregg and the Graniteville Company.

5:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. - The Historic Pickens-Salley House
(Free Tour)

"AIKEN IN FICTION"

Municipal Building, 214 Park Avenue SW
7:30 p.m.- Free Readings: Aiken-Based Stories by authors Pam Durban and Andrew Geyer. This event includes a reception and book signing.