39th Annual
CANDLELIGHT STROLL
Anchoring “Vintage Christmas in Portsmouth”

A Place to Gather

DECEMBER 2018: 1–2, 8–9, 15–16, 22
SATURDAYS, 5–9 PM • SUNDAYS, 4–8 PM

Adult $25, Child (5–17) $12.50, Family $60
Under 5 and military families, free
Members, half-price

TICKETS AND MORE INFORMATION:
StrawberyBanke.org/Tickets.cfm
President’s Letter

On a recent Saturday, Strawbery Banke hosted two workshops, an original history theatre play and a specialized garden tour. This in addition to the daily program featuring costumed roleplayers in Pitt Tavern, Abbott Store and the Shapiro House and guided tours of the “Thomas Bailey Aldrich Memorial.” In the Boatshop, Master Builder Nate Piper was leading a hands-on exploration of the technical details of planking a Piscataqua River wherry. The NH Preservation Alliance was hosting a workshop on “Wet Basements including a tour of Strawbery Banke’s ‘problem basements’ and solutions led by Rodney Rowland. In the evening Kent Stephens presented the fourth of six sold-out performances of “Three Pours, Two Tales & A Fraud” and the horticulture department was assembling materials in preparation for the making of 3000 decorations for Stroll while also presenting the daily garden tour.

Oh, and there was a wedding planned for later in the Goodwin Garden.

Those are just the highlights of one October day at Strawbery Banke. Demonstrations of not just what’s possible, but what brings the Puddle Dock neighborhood to life by appealing to a wide range of interests and audiences.

Two additional new collaborations accented Fall Festival: a Strawbery Banke quilt, and a hands-on Concord coach, both inspired by ongoing partnerships with groups passionate about preserving historic artifacts and skills. Both also fitted perfectly with the theme of the day, which is to showcase artisans who practice the skills of traditional crafts, from canvas riggers to blacksmiths, as education for all ages.

Judging from just these few examples, it is clear that Strawbery Banke considers its vision statement — a place to learn, a place to gather, a sustainable resource for the community — not just an aspirational goal but a blueprint for action.

November signals the weekend tours, Stroll preparations and the building of the seasonal ice rink. It gives us time to pause and be thankful for the accomplishments which would not be possible without the support of members, sponsors, volunteers, staff and all who contribute to the Annual Fund.

It’s a time to look in the months ahead to the holidays and a new year with more programs, partners and collaborations to come.

And with holiday greetings from Strawbery Banke may these be the first of many bright moments ahead.

Lawrence J. Yerdon
President & CEO

Visit strawberrybanke.org for updated schedules and event details
Due to popular demand, the seasonal ice skating rink at Strawbery Banke will remain open throughout the weekend hours of Candlelight Stroll (Saturdays, 5-9 pm and Sundays 4-8 pm). In prior years, a combination Stroll-Skate ticket was required; but this year those who ‘just want to skate’ are welcome on the ice surrounded by the seasonal lights and holiday spirit of Candlelight Stroll. Peak ticket prices apply, as they do on all weekend nights: adult $11 and child (5-17) $8. Skate rentals $5. And should skaters be enticed to experience all the scents, sounds and spirit of Candlelight Stroll, add-on tickets are available at the door.

Strawbery Banke named a National Trust Distinctive Destination

The National Trust for Historic Preservation has designated Strawbery Banke Museum as a Distinctive Destination, one of 130 historic sites around the country to earn inclusion in a new National Trust web portal: SavingPlaces.org/distinctive-destinations.

Strawbery Banke is one of the first to participate in the pilot phase of the new Distinctive Destinations program, just as the museum was central to Portsmouth’s being named a National Trust Distinctive Destination in 2008. The new program introduces heritage travelers to sites “worth a visit” by geographic location and through a series of themed collections. The program currently features six themed collections of sites, including Winter Holidays, Women’s History, and Historic Artists’ Homes and Studios.

Labrie Family Skate at Puddle Dock Pond open throughout Candlelight Stroll

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Labrie Family Skate Hosts Winter Ice Show at Puddle Dock Pond on February 9

Ice Dance International presents “Seacoast Skating with the Stars”
Saturday, February 9, 2019 at 3pm

Introducing the contestants for the Seacoast Skating with the Stars event for the 5th Annual professional ice dance show. These “brave” amateur skaters will be paired with professional partners to compete in a special twist on the annual ice show (Dancing with the Stars-style) to celebrate the 5th anniversary season of skating at Strawbery Banke! Save the date — February 9th — and stay tuned for news of their progress!


Among Doug’s many international accomplishments in skating and choreography, he choreographed Skating with the Stars for ABC-TV. He starts rehearsals in December.
Horse-drawn Carriage Rides

One of the most popular elements of Candlelight Stroll, the horse-drawn carriage rides, return this year thanks to sponsorship from Amica Insurance. “Doc” the horse makes the rounds of the snowy lanes as Michael Labrie captured with this evocative photo.