



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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“MUM’S THE WORD!”

TRYON PALACE OPENS GARDENS FREE DURING MUMFEST

NEW BERN, NC---North Carolina’s first capitol will put on its annual spectacular display of fall color on October 10-12 as Tryon Palace Historic Sites & Gardens celebrates ‘Mum’s the Word!’ Tryon Palace’s many gardens will be wildly colorful with over 2,500 chrysanthemums showing off their autumn colors.

Visitors will enjoy strolling through some of Tryon Palace’s most beautiful and most beloved gardens. The formal parterres of the Maude Moore Latham Garden and the Gertrude Carraway Garden will each have elaborate displays of mums. The Kellenberger Garden reflects the Colonial era with an arrangement of other fall flowers popular in the 18th century, and cool-season crops will be ready for winter in the Kitchen Garden.

Tryon Palace Historic Sites & Gardens will open all gardens free to the public from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Oct. 10-11, and on Sunday, Oct. 12 hours are 11:00 a.m. until 6 p.m.

In addition to the autumnal beauty of thousands of mums, visitors to Tryon Palace Historic Sites & Gardens will enjoy the following activities.

Friday and Saturday - October 10-11

The Great Heritage Plant Sale - 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The fall Heritage Plant Sale offers visitors the opportunity to purchase unique, rare and historic plants for their home gardens. Fig bushes, flowering apricot trees, Confederate roses, hydrangeas - all grown on site - will be available for purchase. Tryon Palace's gardeners will be on hand throughout the sale to answer your planting questions. Free garden tours will be ongoing throughout the weekend.

Saturday and Sunday, October 11-12

The **Tryon Palace Fife & Drum Corps** will be on the grounds and performing throughout the day on Saturday and Sunday.

Interior tours of Tryon Palace and its other historic buildings will be offered at the regular price of \$15 for adults and \$6 for students (Grades 1-12) from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday. Active duty military families always receive a \$3 discount on the price of adult tickets (\$12) and \$1 off the price of student tickets (\$5). Families with more than two children, pay for the first two children only.

For further information about activities at Tryon Palace Historic Sites & Gardens, please telephone (800) 767-1560 or (252) 514-4900 or go to www.tryonpalace.org.

MumFest weekend is co-sponsored by Swiss Bear Inc. and the City of New Bern. This is a citywide celebration that includes crafts, food, live entertainment, rides, and family games spread across several blocks of New Bern's historic downtown. Details on the entire festival are available at www.mumfest.com. # # #