Performances:

**Métis Step Dancing**
by
**Danielle Enblom**
of
The Step Collective
11:00 am

Of Red River Métis / Quebecois ancestry herself, Danielle is a master dancer, fiddler, and ethnochoreologist (dance anthropologist). We are excited to have her with us to share her Métis voice and perspective, her expertise on the cultural context of Métis dance, and her dynamic step dancing.

**French - Métis Fiddling**
by
**Pierre Jacques Pleau**
2:00 pm

A Minnesota native with French-Canadian roots, Pierre is a singer, songwriter, musician, playwright, performer, teaching artist, and Artistic Director of the North Star Theater Company. You will enjoy his lively tunes!

**Demonstrations/Exhibitions**

**Interact with author Mary Ellen Weller-Smith**
(In visitor center) Learn about the fascinating lives of French Voyageurs through the paintings of Frances Anne Hopkins (1838-1919) and others. Mary Ellen is a scholar on the topic, having recently published the book, *Frances Anne Hopkins: Hudson’s Bay Company Wife, Voyageurs’ Artist*.

**French Fur Trade in the Upper Midwest**
Gregory Cash is a descendant of Médard Chouart de Groseilliers, an early voyageur and fur trader. Learn about the history of the fur trade; coureurs de bois, voyageurs, hivernants, and bourgeois; the significance behind voyageurs’ dress; fur trader diet, daily activities, and routines; why the fur trade came to an end.

**Canadien / Métis Cultural Clothing & Adornment**
Learn about traditional styles, adaptation, and blending of European and Native clothing, as well as the meaning behind the cultural art of adornment with Isaac Walters. Being demonstrated and shown will be moccasin making, beading, quillwork, ribbon applique, and more. Enjoy fascinating demonstrations of this adornment and the clothing that exemplified Métis life and culture in Wisconsin.

**A Close Look at a French Fur Trade Post**
Mark Labine, a board member of the French American Heritage Foundation and descendant of early fur traders and voyageurs, is eager to share with you what he has discovered in his research on the 18th and 19th century Little Rapids fur trade post near a Dakota village on the Minnesota River.

**Try It Yourself!**

**Birchbark Canoe Travel & Maintenance**
A unique native technology, the birchbark canoe made travel and trade possible across the myriad of streams, ponds, portages, and lakes of the frontier. Learn how the French Canadians adapted and implemented the canoe as you also experience hands-on preparation of cordage and gumming. Discover the enduring and superior qualities of an authentic birchbark canoe on site with Joel Barthel.

**Métis Finger Weaving**
Try your own hand at Métis finger weaving—an art with deep Indigenous roots amalgamated with French-Canadian materials and traditions. Jenny Novey shows you how.

**French Canadian Fiddle Workshop for Beginners**
**12:00 - 12:30** (fiddles provided)  |  **12:30 - 1:00** (bring own fiddle)
Spaces limited / pre-registration strongly suggested

*1:00-1:30: Try Playing a Fiddle: Drop-In Station: *
Stop in at Pierre Pleau’s station for a 2-5 minute-per-person lesson on how to play a fiddle. Student size fiddles will be provided.
Free admission made possible by…
The Chipstone Foundation
The Kohler Foundation
William O’Connor & Krista Roys

Season Theme:
“Cultivating Perspective: The Creative Arts of Converging Cultures”
Creative arts are powerful tools of expression within cultures, offering insights into the hearts and minds of people groups. Unique styles of music, fine and decorative arts, storytelling, and dance flowed into the Fox-Wisconsin portage in 1832 as people from widely dissimilar backgrounds endeavored to live their daily lives in close quarters: Indigenous families, French Voyageurs, Métis, Euro-American and Black settlers, and others with distinctive ethnicities of their own. In the midst of a history which is otherwise saturated with conflict and turmoil, cultural creative arts formed a rich tapestry of creative traditions which tied all people together through shared human experience.

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Upcoming Events:
- July 29-30: Enduring Skills Weekend (Cultural Arts Edition)
- August 5-6: Archaeological dig; blacksmithing demonstrations
- August 12-13: Archaeological dig; blacksmithing demonstrations
- August 22, 6:30 pm (Tues): Speaker - Sumpter Priddy III - American Fancy
- September 1, 5-7 pm (Fri): Fire-wrought dugout canoe workshop #1
- September 8, 5-7 pm (Fri): Fire-wrought dugout canoe workshop #2
- September 8-10: Scouts BSA Historic Trails Weekend
- Sep 12, 6:30 pm (Tues): Speaker - Mary Antoine - French-Canadian Architecture in WI
- September 16: Living History tours: “Everyday Elegance in 1832”
- September 22, 5-7 pm (Fri): Fire-wrought dugout canoe workshop #3
- September 23: This Mysterious Old House fundraising tours (in-person)
- September 30, 6 pm: This Mysterious Old House (virtual)
- December 9, 1-3 pm: 17th Annual Kiddie Christmas
- December 9, 1-3 pm: Holiday shopping in gift shop