

BELMONT MANSION

Seeds of Heritage: The Moravian Roots of Old Salem's Gardens

A Garden Event to Benefit Belmont Mansion with
Eric Jackson, Director of Horticulture,
Old Salem Museums & Gardens, Winston-Salem, North Carolina

Nashville, May 6, 2025 –

On June 7, Belmont Mansion will present, “Seeds of Heritage: The Moravian Roots of Old Salem’s Gardens” a garden event in celebration of the 170 plus years of the Belmont gardens. The featured speaker, Eric Jackson, Director of Horticulture at Old Salem Museums & Gardens, Winston-Salem, North Carolina, will explore how education, natural history, and land stewardship shaped the gardens, landscapes, and forests of Old Salem.

The afternoon begins with Mr. Jackson’s talk on the horticultural history of Old Salem Museum and Gardens, followed by a tour of the Belmont Gardens and reception in the Grand Salon of Belmont Mansion. The program serves as a fundraiser for the continued restoration and interpretation of Belmont Mansion.

The Moravian settlers of Old Salem were renowned for their emphasis on education, natural history, and land stewardship and used those principals to shape the gardens, landscapes, and forests of Old Salem. Mr. Jackson will trace their global network of botanists and plant collectors, their arrival in North Carolina, and their enduring legacy in the restored gardens, landscapes, and tree canopy of Old Salem today. Special attention will be given to the role of forestry and land management in early Salem, highlighting how these historic practices reflect a deep ethic of stewardship and sustainability.

“Belmont Mansion is especially pleased to be able to offer an event that shares the history of such a significant early American garden”, said Myers Brown, Executive Director of Belmont Mansion. Old Salem Museums & Gardens honors their heritage through historic plant preservation, seed saving, and horticulture education, bridging the past and present in meaningful and inspiring ways.

Details

When: Saturday, June 7, 2025, at 3:30 p.m.

Where: The Leu Center for the Visual Arts and Belmont Mansion

Tickets: \$60/person; \$110/couple. www.belmontmansion.com/events. All proceeds benefit the Belmont Mansion Association, a non-profit that operates Belmont Mansion as a museum.

Belmont Mansion is the 1853 home of Adelia and Joseph Acklen, known throughout 19th century Tennessee for its stunning architecture and gardens. The museum, open to visitors seven days a week, is one of the top 20 museum attractions in Nashville.

###

Press Contact

Name: Lauren Batte

Phone: 615-460-5459

Email: lauren.batte@belmont.edu

Address: Belmont Mansion, 1900 Belmont Blvd., Nashville, TN 37212, www.belmontmansion.com

About Belmont Mansion

Belmont Mansion, a historic house museum in Tennessee, is one of the few nineteenth century homes whose history revolves around the life of a woman, Adelia Hayes Franklin Acklen Cheatham. Born on March 15, 1817, into a prominent Nashville family, she wed three times, had 10 children and became one of the country's wealthiest women. Today the Belmont Mansion Association operates the museum which shares the story of all who lived there and continues to restore the house.



The Association's work is funded by admissions, memberships, fundraising events, corporate and private donations, and venue rental services.

About Old Salem Museums & Gardens

Old Salem Museums & Gardens is a historic site telling the stories of people, including Moravian, Black, and Indigenous peoples, in the American South. As one of America's most comprehensive history attractions, the museums – the Historic Town of Salem, the galleries of Frank L. Horton Museum Center, including the Museum of Early Southern Decorative Arts (MESDA), and the Gardens at Old Salem – engage visitors in an educational and memorable historical experience.



On the left: Eric Jackson, Director of Horticulture, Old Salem Museum & Gardens.

On the right: The Miksch Garden, Old Salem Museums & Gardens.

Old Salem's Horticulture program is focused on re-creating a landscape reflecting early Salem where utility, practicality and beauty unite.