What’s On
At Colchester Museums
July 2019 - February 2020

colchester.cimuseums.org.uk/events
Fri 2 Aug
14.00-16.00
RAZZLE DAZZLE CHILDREN’S LAUNCH
Our Adorn kids launch is a children’s party with style. With party games, face-painting and plenty of fun, explore our new exhibition with your little ones and share some of your favourite stories about the things you wear and why you wear them. Fancy Dress encouraged, the bling-er the better! Refreshments included.
PRICE: £5.00 per child, adults free after admission. Booking required.

27/28 Oct
COPPER BULLA WORKSHOPS
Using historic techniques craft a copper Bulla with jewellery designer/maker Nicky Wade. Given to a Roman boy at birth, these Bulla’s are a lasting symbol of good fortune and a long life. A special gift to pass on or to keep for yourself.
See website for times and further details, suitable for ages 12+

Fri 6 Sep
18.00-19.30
AN EVENING WITH ADORN
Unlock the hidden tales behind the objects in our Adorn exhibition. Enjoy a complimentary glass of Prosecco whilst hearing the fascinating human stories that have inspired Adorn.
PRICE: £7.50 per person

Fri 14 Dec
14.30-16.00
TEA AND TORCS - LECTURE SERIES
Taking place on every second Saturday of the month these lectures will be delivered by a series of curators, historians and experts. From the construction of the Adorn exhibition itself to the world of personal adorations, enjoy hot drinks and biscuits while you soak up the wonder of gold, beauty and how even the smallest items we wear - and why we wear them - have the most powerful stories.
PRICE: £7.50 per person or all 5 for £30.00.

ADULT EVENTS

16 Nov
12.00 plus talk and workshop
KNOT RINGS
Join Nicky Wade, designer of our reproduction Fenwick jewellery, for a ring making workshop. Using real historical techniques, craft a bespoke silver knot ring in this workshop inspired by our Adorn exhibition.
PRICE: £35.00 per person, suitable for ages 12+, limited availability.

6 Dec
19.00-21.00
BUBBLES AND BAUBLES
Be inspired by glamour from the past this Christmas. Entertaining tours, led by experts, will guide you through our Adorn exhibition. Let us pour you your favourite festive tipple while you create a unique decoration that will make your Christmas tree sparkle this year.
PRICE: £12.50 per person, adult only, bar available.
**SUMMER HOLIDAYS - START YOUR ADVENTURE HERE...**

**JULY**

**STORYTELLING**
History comes alive: Adorn Special. Meet characters from history, hear their stories and discover the secrets of treasure, jewellery and adventure. Why not get involved by getting your little ones to wear their favourite costume.

Included in Castle admission, no booking required.

**ADORN CRAFTS TREASURE CHESTS**
From pocket money to your favourite things, make a special box to keep your treasures safe.

**PRICE:** £5.00

**1 Aug**

**AMULET MAKING**
Summon the strength of Thor or the beauty of the Roman gods in this fun craft session. What will inspire you?

**PRICE:** £5.00

**8 Aug**

**KEYRINGS AND CHARMS**
Make an accessory to add some style to your pencil case, bag or even your clothes and impress your friends this summer.

**PRICE:** £5.00

**15 Aug**

**RECYCLED JEWELLERY**
From trash to treasure, these sessions let you explore the joys of recycling. Come along and see how you can transform waste to wow!

Free bookable sessions.

**22 Aug**

**T-SHIRT MAKING**
ADORN YOUR T-SHIRT
A messy craft to be kept out of the home. Make a shining statement this summer and design your own t-shirt with golden armour, fun designs or even just make your name stand out from the crowd.

**PRICE:** £5.00

**29 Aug**

**CROWN MAKING**
From flower crowns to royal adornments, make a crown to let everyone know you rule this summer. Little Princes and Princesses need only apply.

**PRICE:** £5.00

**31 July**

**ALL NATURAL: PAINT YOUR OWN FLOWER POTS**
Decorate a biodegradable flower pot and plant your very own seeds to take home. Even the littlest fingers can go green at the Natural History Museum.

**Suggested Materials Donation £3.00**

**GO LIVE!**
Our ever-popular Go Live! events return, letting you get up close and personal with amazing nature. Which fascinating animals will you see?

**PRICE:** £3 per person.

**12.00, 13.15, 14.30**

**NATURE’S BLING: FOSSILS AND MINERALS**
Fossils and Minerals are nature’s treasures. Learn more from experts and see the natural wonders that have inspired jewellers for thousands of years.

Free drop in sessions.

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**Check colchester.cimuseums.org.uk/events for event timings and further information**
Explore the hidden stories of personal adornment from Bronze Age beginnings to modern makers. Featuring artefacts loaned from the British Museum and the work of contemporary Essex jewellers.

Colchester Castle
27 July 2019 - 16 February 2020

ADORN
Jewellery: The Human Story
24/25 Aug
COLCHESTER CASTLE
This summer history invades the Castle
Museum. Let the re-enactors from
Historical Promotions take you back in
time and bring history to life during this
fun-filled weekend.
Included after admission.

Brand new for 2019!
Why not test your wits
against the Colchester
Castle Escape Room?
Work as a team to solve
the clues and survive
the museum curse.

ESCAPE ROOM

See website for dates, prices and further details: colchester.cimuseums.org.uk/events

CHILDREN’S EVENTS - OCTOBER HALF TERM

I CAME
I SAW
I SLEPT OVER
26 Oct
19:30 onwards
KNIGHTZZZ AT THE MUSEUM
Enjoy a most unusual family camping
experience! In this Roman themed
evening, visit the vaults with a costumed
guide, make a mosaic coaster and see if
you’ll be a winner at Roman Numeral
Bingo! Savour a cup of hot chocolate
and stay the night inside Colchester
Castle. A light breakfast is included.
PRICE: £35.00 per person. Booking
essential.

Colchester Castle
14 Sep
HERITAGE OPEN DAY
For one day only, Colchester
Castle will be opening our doors
and allowing free entry for all
visitors as part of Heritage Open
Weekends. Make sure you pick
up a leaflet and find out about
how you can access some of
Colchester’s most interesting
historical sites.

29 Oct
CRYSTAL SKULLS
This Halloween make a
decoration to spook up your
home. From ancient cultures
to modern artists, crystal
skulls have fascinated us for
thousands of years. Make
your very own miniature clay
skull and add some sparkle
to your scare.
PRICE: £5.00 per person

CHLDEHRENS EVENTS - OCTOBER HALF TERM

See website for dates, prices and further details: colchester.cimuseums.org.uk/events

26 Oct
19:30 onwards
KNIGHTZZZ AT THE MUSEUM
Enjoy a most unusual family camping
experience! In this Roman themed
evening, visit the vaults with a costumed
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PRICE: £5.00 per person

NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM
30 Oct
12.00, 13.15, 14.30
GO LIVE! CREEPY CRAWLIES
Things that go bump in the
night aren’t always that
scary. Meet some of nature’s
sometimes misunderstood
creatures. Who will you make
friends with?
PRICE: £5.00 per person

HYLITREES MUSEUM
31 Oct
10.30, 11.30, 12.30
CRYSTAL SKULLS
This Halloween make a
decoration to spook up your
home. From ancient cultures
to modern artists, crystal
skulls have fascinated us for
thousands of years. Make
your very own miniature clay
skull and add some sparkle
to your scare.
PRICE: £5.00 per person
31 Oct
18.30, 19.30, 20.30
**DARK TOURS**
Experience an after-hours tour of the Castle that doesn't hold back on the gory details. Colchester's history has got plenty of gruesome tales and our costumed guide will lead you through just a few of the most interesting. Tours last 45 minutes and offer an entertaining look at the stories behind the town.
PRICE: £7.50 per person, age 14 plus ONLY.

7, 8, 14, 15, 20, 21, 22, 23 Dec
**SANTA’S GROTTO**
The most magical grotto in Colchester returns this year. Step into an enchanted winter forest where Santa and his sleigh have arrived (until Christmas Eve at least). Meet Father Christmas and receive a gift, then whisper your festive wish into a local oyster shell and place it on our tree.
PRICE: £7.95 per person, advance booking required.

11 Dec
**CASTLE OPEN EVENING**
Our festive Open Evening returns to Colchester Castle. Come and soak up the Christmas atmosphere with carols, mince pies, entertainment and possibly even meet Santa before his big night!
PRICE: Castle Free Entry + Grotto £5.00

14 Feb
19.00-22.00
**ADORN WRAP PARTY**
**THE FINAL BLING**
Our Adorn exhibition is nearly at an end. Come and hear about the love stories connected with these beautiful and amazing historic objects. Enjoy a glamourous night out with an Adorn designer cocktail in Colchester’s magnificent historic keep.
PRICE: £15.00 per person

16 Feb
**ADORN; JEWELLERY, THE HUMAN STORY EXHIBITION CLOSES 16 FEB INCLUDING LOANS FROM THE BRITISH MUSEUM AND OTHER MAJOR LENDING PARTNERS.**
Make sure you don’t miss this unique opportunity to see these beautiful objects, never before seen together and the fascinating stories behind them.
Make a visit today!

For further information about Colchester Castle, Hollytrees Museum and the Natural History Museum opening times and details of Castle entrance fees, please visit: colchester.cimuseums.org.uk

Colchester Museums run a series of exciting and engaging special activities and exhibitions throughout the year. To find out more about what’s on visit: colchester.cimuseums.org.uk

Colchester Castle
Castle Park, High Street, Colchester, CO1 1TJ

Hollytrees Museum
Castle Road, Colchester, CO1 1UG

Natural History Museum
66 High Street, Colchester CO1 1DN

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