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## NH Folk Art Exhibition Opens April 5

[Kicker]

One person's pastime is another's treasure.

PORTSMOUTH: “New Hampshire Folk Art: By the People, For the People” opens April 5 and runs through September 29 in Discover Portsmouth’s historic Academy Gallery at 10 Middle Street. The objects in this new 2019 exhibition span a range of media – from wood carving to weaving and painting to needlework. Curated by Gerald W.R. Ward of the Portsmouth Historical Society, this diverse loan exhibition includes rarely seen items from many public and private collections from across the state.

The term “folk art” means different things to different people. According to famous folk art collector Maxim Karolik, folk artists all possess a wonderful “ability to express” even if they did not go to art school or train in a craft tradition.

“The Portsmouth Historical Society is pleased to showcase the creations of people who chose to embellish and enhance the stuff of everyday life, both past and present,” says Ellen Fineberg, Interim Executive Director. “These works are sure to amaze and delight you.”

The painters represented in “New Hampshire Folk Art” include Joseph H. Davis, Ruth and Samuel Shute, Joseph Stone, Zedekiah Belknap, and Maria Emes Joslin, as well as many individuals whose identity is unknown. Other crafters included are members of the Dunlap school of cabinetmakers, decoy carver George Boyd, and Edward Adams, and more.

This year visitors to balcony gallery at Discover Portsmouth will find a companion exhibition of contemporary “folk art” presented by the League of NH Craftsmen, one of the oldest and most recognized craft organizations in the country. This bonus presentation allows visitors to explore and purchase exceptional work from a selection of the League’s more than 750 juried craftspeople.

An opening preview and reception for members of the Historical Society will be held on Thursday, April 4 from 5:30 to 7:30pm. This event has been generously underwritten by Skinner, Inc., and includes appetizers by Atlantic Grill and The River House, beverages from Liar’s Bench Beer and South Street & Vine and music by Curt Bessette and Jenn Kurtz. Tickets cost \$35.00 and will go on sale on Monday, March 11. Anyone interested in becoming a member and/or buying tickets should visit [www.PortsmouthHistory.org](http://www.PortsmouthHistory.org).

The 2019 season at Discover Portsmouth is generously sponsored by:

New Hampshire Charitable Foundation  
Rotary Club of Portsmouth, NH

The exhibition, “New Hampshire Folk Art: By the People, For the People,” is graciously sponsored by:

Mr. & Mrs. Craig Jewett, and the Jewett Family  
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Discover Portsmouth is open daily, April 1 - December 22, 2019 from 9:30 am to 5 pm. All exhibitions are free and open to the public.

**Portsmouth Historical Society**, is a tax-exempt 501(c)3 nonprofit that operates Discover Portsmouth, a facility housing exhibition galleries, a welcome center and museum shop, and the John Paul Jones House Museum and Garden, both in downtown Portsmouth. Both locations are open seasonally, seven days a week. Discover Portsmouth is located at 10 Middle Street; the John Paul Jones House Museum and Garden is located across the street at 43 Middle Street, Portsmouth, NH 03801. For more information, call 603-436-8433 or visit [www.portsmouthhistory.org](http://www.portsmouthhistory.org)