



Hampton

CONVENTION & VISITOR BUREAU

Media Release

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Author Explores What Dreams Meant to Americans During the Civil War at Hampton History Museum October 1

Hampton, VA- Author Jonathan W. White, associate professor of American Studies at Christopher Newport University, explores “Dreams of War and Peace: The Remarkable Night Life of Civil War Americans” as part of the Hampton History Museum’s Port Hampton Lecture series on Monday, October 1, 7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

The Civil War placed new and unique strains on 19th Americans, and their nightly visions reflected those hardships. Sometimes the war intruded on people’s slumber, vividly bringing to life the horrors of the conflict. For others, nighttime was an escape from the hard realities of life and death in wartime.

In this talk, professor White will explore what dreams meant to Civil War-era Americans, and how their dreams reveal that generation’s deepest longings—their hopes and fears,

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Author Explores What Dreams Meant to Americans During the Civil War at Hampton History Museum October 1- Page 2

desires and struggles, and guilt and shame. When Americans recorded their dreams in their diaries, letters and memoirs, they sought to make sense of the changing world around them, and to cope with the confusion, despair, and loneliness of life amid the turmoil of a war the likes of which they had never imagined.

Jonathan W. White is the author of several books, including *Midnight in America: Darkness, Sleep and Dreams during the Civil War* (2017). After his talk, he will sign copies of his book which is available in the gift shop for \$34.95.

The talk is free for museum members, \$5.00 for non-members. The Hampton History Museum is located at 120 Old Hampton Lane in Downtown Hampton. There is free parking in the garage across the street from the museum. For more information, call 757/727-1102.

Partially bordered by the Hampton Roads harbor and Chesapeake Bay, Hampton, with the 344,000 sq. ft. Hampton Roads Convention Center, is located in the center of the Hampton Roads metropolitan area. Hampton is the site of America's first continuous English-speaking settlement and is home to such visitor attractions as the Virginia Air & Space Center and Riverside IMAX ® Theater, Hampton History Museum, harbor tours and cruises, Hampton University Museum, Fort Monroe, award-winning Hampton Coliseum, The American Theatre, among others.

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