

*Kristin S. Conrad Lace Center &*  
**Raleigh Lace Museum**

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The quarterly newsletter of the Foundation  
and the activities at the Museum



L-R: Diane Makgill, Artistic Manager – Elaine Marshall, NC Secretary of State–  
Mary-Ann Baldwin, Raleigh Mayor – Dr. Hugo Uyttenhove, Museum Director.

## In This Issue

### **Grand Opening Gala Event**

The museum opened on Saturday July 13<sup>th</sup> with a Mayor and the Secretary of State ribbon cutting.

### **Unique display of edgings**

One of the display tables shows over 400 years of edge pieces with mostly Belgian lace.

### **Education and on-going events**

The center has started its adult education classes for new lacers. Preparations are made for new thematic walls.

## Grand Opening Gala Event

By Prabha Ramakrishnan

The opening event featured both the Mayor of Raleigh, Mary-Ann Baldwin and the NC Secretary of State Elaine Marshall as ribbon cutters and speakers. The event was attended by family members and friends of Kristin Conrad and Hugo Uyttenhove, and by lacemakers from near and far: from Raleigh and surrounding areas as well as from California, Arizona, and the Chesapeake region. It was heartening to see the enthusiasm among the attendees.

The exhibits are very tastefully displayed on the walls as well as on display cases carefully spaced in the middle of the museum. The free-standing display cases on casters can be moved out of the way for events and receptions. Each exhibit sign has a short-typed description of the lace and a QR code. Visitors can scan this on a phone to access more information in text or audio form in English, Dutch, French, or Spanish. The Museum has a study library (this is not a borrowing library) and two lace classrooms for lace instruction.



## Unique display of edgings

One of the display tables features lace edges that range from 1610, a Bruges Flower lace creation by an unknown lacemaker, to a modern sample piece by Mr. Michael Guisiana. The latter's estate donated over three hundred lace samples from his international collection to the museum.

Almost all edgings displayed were meant to be added to formal civilian or military wear, priestly vestments, altar cloths and tablecloths. The types of lace shown are Mechlin, Bruges, Russian tape lace, Neufchatel, Lille Point and Valenciennes.

This unique collection is a showcase of not only different types, but also the evolution of lacemaking throughout the centuries and what its purpose was.

## Museum video

To take a quick tour of the museum, click on the link below. You will be introduced to the location, the museum space, its classrooms, and library in the center, as it provides a great view of this gem of an event space!

**The Raleigh Lace Museum**  
([youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com))

## Education

Since the opening of the museum, interest in lace making has increased in our community. Just in the first month we have welcomed four new lace makers. We hope they join the local Sir Walter's Lacers. We are also readying all the **material needed** to teach up to six young students per semester in an after-school project. This should start in January of 2025. You can help in this youth project by making a donation on [www.ksclcfoundation.org/donate](http://www.ksclcfoundation.org/donate)



## On-going

The museum is welcoming visitors five days a week. We currently rely on volunteers to keep the doors open, so we suggest you call the front desk at 919-594-1861 to check any change in opening hours. We are closed Sunday and Monday. If you need a docent to give you a tour, there will be a fee of \$50 for groups up to 15 persons for one hour. This is in addition to the regular entry fee of \$5.00 for adults 18 years and over. Members can come in any time at no cost. To become a member, go to [www.raleighlacemuseum.org/members](http://www.raleighlacemuseum.org/members)

## Event space

We are now open for events! Schedule your personal or company events on [www.raleighlacemuseum.org/events](http://www.raleighlacemuseum.org/events)