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News Release: Inside and Outside, Nash County Welcomes Events for the Whole Family.

At the Children's Museum and Science Centre, you'll discover a once-in-a-lifetime chance to visit Africa – without leaving NC. *Inside Africa* is a national traveling exhibition exploring the many facets of Africa – people, lands, rich cultural history and it's stories. Look through binoculars to see a group of Mountain Gorillas, play traditional African instruments like the kora and calabash, see how a Tuareg family lives on the Sahara and walk through the dark interior of a slave ship – spotlighting four enslaved Africans as they each tell their story. *Inside Africa* is an adventure you do not want to miss. For information call 252 972 1167 or go on-line at theimperialcentre.gov/museum. Exhibit open everyday except Monday through December 2009.

Additional exhibits include the expanded Live Animal Gallery now exhibiting *Save Our Planet*, *Elements of Life*, and *Diversity in the Carolina's*. A museum permanent resident is an adopted American Alligator that can be seen daily.

The Cummins digital Planetarium has daily shows (except Monday) with Laser light shows celebrating *Laser Motown* and *Colors of the World* combining music and laser to illustrate cultures throughout the world. The planetarium is also showing *Stars of the Pharaohs*, a study of the special connection ancient Egyptians had with the night sky.

The Theatre at the Imperial Centre offers *BLOOM!*, a modern day fairytale set in the enchanted world of Eternal Spring, where Mother Nature reigns supreme and Flowers are revered—and the Lilys' and the Roses' are setting out to upset the 576th Miss Bloom Princess Pageant. Set in the competitive world of pageantry, *BLOOM!* explores the poignant issues facing our world today from stereotypes to equality, from honoring our past to fulfilling your own destiny-- but at it's heart, *BLOOM!* is about falling in love. March 27, 28, April 3, 4 at 8pm; April 5 at 2pm. Call 252 972 1266 for tickets.

Exhibits through May in the Art Center's ten galleries include Jewelry and Objects by Robert Ebendorf, Wood Sculptures by Andrew Fullwood, Multimedia Works by Bob Ray, Handmade Paper and Prints by Lisa Beth Robinson and the Permanent Collecton.

The Dunn Center at North Carolina Wesleyan March 6, 8pm is hosting *Leahy*, a Canadian powerhouse of eight musical brothers and sisters who have been playing together their entire lives. The band's three acclaimed CDs—*Leahy*, *Lakefield*, and *In All Things*—have world-wide sales of over half a million copies. On March 21st everyone can tap to the the Carolina Shagging style of *The Embers Beach Party*. *Rhonda Vincent & The Rage* is one of the few entertainers who can generate instant audience anticipation from a crowd of bluegrass aficionados. On April 18th the talented Rhonda Vincent will be at the Dunn Center with her band *The Rage*. On April 24th the renowned tenor Ronan Tynan

will perform – a performance you must see and hear. For tickets go to www.ncwc.edu/Arts/DunnCenter/ or call 800-303-5097.

May 1st through May 3rd brings the PBA Southern Region Pro-Am Tournament to Rocky Mount at the Rocky Mount Bowling Center, 252-446-7707. A family atmosphere, bowling weekend, you can bowl with the pros on Friday and be a fan on Saturday and Sunday cheering on your favorite Regional Pro during top notch competition.

It's easy to see that Nash County is the place to be in late March & April. Visit and enjoy the events as well as good old "Southern Hospitality." For more information visit www.rockymounttravel.com or call the Nash County Visitors Bureau at 1-800-849-6825.