June 10, 12
TOM Talk™
Topics on Monticello:
Diane Ehrenpreis, “Making a Home Together: Thomas and Martha Jefferson’s Early Life at Monticello”
Monticello’s South Pavilion was the first building on Monticello Mountain, where young Thomas and Martha Jefferson lived as a newly married couple in 1772. Diane Ehrenpreis, Monticello’s assistant curator of decorative arts, will share new research and speak on the decorative arts, social history and challenges faced by the young couple. Mostly indoors, some outdoor walking, 6 – 7:30 pm, dessert bar and discussion after site visit. $45 per person ($20 of your ticket represents a tax-deductible gift to Monticello). Offered on two different dates. Please register for one date only.

June 22-27
18th Annual Historic Landscape Institute
“Preserving Jefferson’s Gardens and Landscapes” is a one-week course that uses the gardens and landscapes of Monticello and the University of Virginia as outdoor classrooms for the study of historic landscape preservation. Lectures, workshops, field trips and practical working experiences provide an introduction to the fields of landscape history, garden restoration and historical horticulture. Tickets, registration and application required. Call (434) 984-9816 or visit monticello.org/hli.

July 4
Independence Day Celebration and Naturalization Ceremony
The 52nd annual naturalization ceremony — one of America’s most moving July 4 events — will include remarks by David Rubenstein and patriotic music by the Charlottesville Municipal Band. 9 AM, West Lawn, FREE. Visit monticello.org/july4.

July 12
Canning With a Jefferson Spin
Culinary historian Leni Sorensen will tantalize with stories of the cooks in Jefferson’s kitchen, who canned and preserved food for the Monticello household. Using a historical recipe from Mary Randolph’s The Virginia Housewife (1824) and green tomatoes from the Monticello garden, Sorensen will guide the class in creating a thick and spicy tomato marmalade of their own. 9:30 AM, $28.

July 19
Green Roofs, Rain Gardens and Landscaping With Native Virginia Flora
Monticello’s LEED Gold-certified visitor complex is landscaped with Virginia’s native trees, shrubs and wildflowers to blend the buildings into the Monticello woodlands. Join Peggy Cornett and Jerry Therrien for a two-hour stroll through these rich habitats, from the pavilions’ green roofs through the rain garden greenway to the African-American Cemetery. 9:30 AM, $18.

July 26
Mary Randolph Culinary Workshop
Curried chicken and rice was an international dish popular at elite 19th-century dining tables. Culinary historian Leni Sorensen will demonstrate how to make Mary Randolph’s curry powder just as Randolph’s cooks did in her 1824 Richmond kitchen. The class will then prepare and enjoy the curry dish and fresh Monticello vegetables. 9:30 AM, $28.

August 7
Let’s Go Cook
Join Eleanor Gould for a fun, hands-on, family-friendly cooking class. Young cooks and their favorite grown-ups will begin by harvesting fruits and vegetables from the Monticello gardens. The two-hour class will then help prepare both sweet and savory recipes that were favorites of the Jefferson family. Eat what’s been made and take home the recipes. 9:30 AM, adults, $24; kids 5-11, $8; kids under 5, FREE.

August 23
Summer Fruit Tasting
Enjoy the harvests of summer, what Jefferson described as “precious refreshment.” Gabriele Rausse and staff will entertain participants with the fruits of summer: early apples, peaches, figs, grapes, nectarines, apple cider, blackberries, pears and others. Short talks on the history of fruit growing in Virginia will vary the menu in this informal two-hour feast. 9:30 AM, $24.
September 12
8th Annual Heritage Harvest Festival Preview

Celebrate the legacy of revolutionary gardener Thomas Jefferson during a day of workshops to kick off the 8th annual Heritage Harvest Festival at Monticello. Paid workshops begin at 9 am.

September 13
8th Annual Heritage Harvest Festival

This daylong festival celebrates Thomas Jefferson, America’s “founding foodie,” who championed vegetable cuisine, plant experimentation and sustainable agriculture. Taste a bounty of heirloom fruits and vegetables and learn about organic gardening and seed-saving during this fun, family-friendly festival held in the gardens of Monticello. For detailed information and tickets, visit heritageharvestfestival.com.

October 7, 15
TOM Talk™
(Topics on Monticello):
Gabriele Rausse, “Thomas Jefferson and the Culture of the Earth”

Gabriele Rausse, Monticello’s director of Gardens and Grounds and a Virginia winemaker, will lead this program in Monticello’s newest vineyard on Montalto overlooking Jefferson’s mountaintop home. Rausse will share Jefferson’s ideas for an agrarian society and vision for a U.S. wine industry and also Monticello’s vision for a Montalto vineyard. Program ends with a casual, outdoor cheese and wine reception. Outdoors, some walking is involved. 6 – 7:30 pm. Event is ticketed and requires reservations. $55 per person ($25 of your ticket represents a tax-deductible gift to Monticello). Offered on two different dates. Please register for one date only.

October 18
Thomas Jefferson Center for Historic Plants Open House

Meadow Gardens and Fall Fruits

Learn to pair heirloom bulbs with native flowers and grasses in a meadow garden with local gardening teacher, consultant and writer Cathy Clary during her presentation “Spring and Fall in Virginia: Combining Bulbs and Meadows.” In celebration of fall, culinary historian Leni Sorensen will cook a traditional apple dish over an open fire with heirloom fruits and 19th-century utensils. The Monticello nursery will have a wide range of trees, shrubs and perennials for sale; overstock items will be discounted. Enjoy a guided garden tour and ask our knowledgeable nursery staff your gardening questions. Visit monticello.org for more details. 9 am – 3 pm, Jefferson’s Tufton Farm, FREE.

November 28, 29, 30 & December 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
Holiday Wreath Workshops

These ever-popular workshops, in their 28th year, produce a gratifying and tangible end product: a beautiful holiday wreath. All materials (straw wreath forms, pins, wire, etc.) will be provided, including a cornucopia of natural materials. Bring hand pruners. $75. Times vary, visit monticello.org.

Handmade for the Holidays

November 10
TOM Talk™
(Topics on Monticello):
Annette Gordon-Reed and Alan Taylor, “Slavery in America and at Monticello”

Join Pulitzer Prize-winning writers and historians Annette Gordon-Reed and Alan Taylor for an in-depth discussion on Thomas Jefferson, slavery in America and the enslaved families who called Monticello home. Annette Gordon-Reed is professor of law and history at Harvard University and the Carol K. Pforzheimer professor at the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study.

November 24
Home Educators’ Day

Roll hoops and play colonial games on the West Lawn, learn a craft, write with a quill and more. This event is rain or shine. 10 am – 3 pm, adults $15, students 5 and up $6.

September 27
Monticello Trailblazers Sunrise Hike

This early morning trek, led by Jason Stevens, begins at the Visitor Center and ends atop Montalto, Jefferson’s first land acquisition, which stands 410 feet above Monticello Mountain. Once there, you will enjoy the sunrise, breathtaking views, a light breakfast and a warm cup of coffee.

This event is an exclusive thank-you for Monticello Trailblazers! Reservations required. To become a Trailblazer, email trailblazers@monticello.org. 5:45 am.

November 7, 14, 21 & December 5
Toddler Time at Monticello

In this 45-minute program, enjoy story time, crafts, special activities and free play in the Griffin Discovery Room. Children ages 18 months to 4 years with an adult companion. 9:15 am. $40 for four-week series.
as you stroll through the first floor of the house at your own pace. Enjoy discovering unique holiday gifts at the Shop at Monticello. Visit monticello.org for more information.

December 6
Handmade for the Holidays
Handmade for the Holidays at the Shop at Monticello is your holiday destination for one-of-a-kind handcrafted gifts this season! Meet artisans, sample holiday treats, witness craft demonstrations and shop for gifts made in Virginia. 12 – 4 pm, FREE.

December 6
Monticello Holiday Classic 5K and Kids Dash
Join the festivities during the 4th annual Monticello Holiday Classic 5K and Deck the Hals Kids Dash! This 5K begins at Monticello’s East Front and ends at the Visitor Center. Kids 12 and under can enjoy the Deck the Halls Kids Dash, a quarter-mile loop around the flower garden walk on the West Lawn of Monticello. $35 for 5K and $10 for Kids Dash.

December 6, 7, 13, 14
Monticello Gingerbread House Family Workshop
In this two-hour workshop, sip hot cider as you decorate a handmade gingerbread house inspired by Jefferson’s architectural genius. 2 pm. Tickets required. Visit monticello.org.

December 12, 13, 19, 20, 21-23, 26-30
Holiday Evening Tours
Monticello’s small-group house tours, which include the Dome Room, offer guests an intimate look at how the holidays were celebrated in Jefferson’s time. 5:30 pm, 5:45 pm, 6 pm, $55.