



# Discovering Heritage Arts in New Hampshire

Heritage is what we inherit from those who come before us. We can inherit customs and precious objects from our family, like recipes, books, and jewelry. We also can inherit important things from our community-- ways of making things and doing things, like crafts, playing music, and dancing.

These traditional arts emerge in communities of all types. They often grow out of every day need and bring beauty into our every day lives. Because traditional crafts, music, and dance are gifts from the past and carried on by people today, they are a living part of our heritage.

All around New Hampshire there are people who are busy keeping heritage arts alive and well. This exhibit will introduce you to some of the traditions they are proud to preserve.

Each tradition in the exhibit is illustrated by an original work of art created by a New Hampshire artist. You can explore the panels under each picture to discover tools, processes, shapes, and words that are special to each tradition.

We hope this exhibit will inspire you to learn more about traditions and heritage arts in your family and in your community. Get involved and support them so that they can continue for future generations to enjoy!

This exhibit is based on *Heritage Arts Build-A-Picture Activities*, an interactive educational resource on the New Hampshire Folklife website. The activities are designed especially for kids in third grade and up to help build connections between our history and our heritage arts.

Visit [www.nh.gov/folklife](http://www.nh.gov/folklife) to learn more!

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