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Patterns of Fashion History of Hats Explored at the Museum

May 10, 2010, Athens- Explore *Patterns of Fashion: Vintage Hats* exhibit at the McMinn County Living Heritage Museum in Athens, Tennessee May 7 and runs through June 25. We'll explore the question "*Is a hat a frivolous accessory or a necessity?*" When looking into its history it quickly becomes apparent that it has been both. No well-dressed woman appeared in public without a hat, and fashionable women took great care to ensure that their hats were one-of-a-kind. *Patterns of Fashion* tells the story of how women's hats have gone from large and heavily ornamented to sleeker and more closely fitting styles. And although men didn't have much choice, fashion gave women some amazing styles to choose from.

Kids can get into the action May 19 and 20 for Toddler Time. Kids will spend a few minutes making a paper hat and as much time as they like decorating it while learning about the different styles and purposes of hats. This hour long program is for toddlers and a parent, grandparent or friend to play and explore at the Living Heritage Museum using the Museum's artifacts and a craft project to stimulate their natural curiosity, imagination and creativity.

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