

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Ocracoke School Offers Workshops October 21-26, 2007**  
**on Ocracoke Island**

*The new “Ocracoke School” will focus on arts, culture, history, and ecology, and welcome participants into the community of artisans in historic Ocracoke Village.*

**Ocracoke, NC** (September 6, 2007) The Ocracoke School will hold its grand opening session October 21-26, 2007, inviting participants to join week-long workshops in arts, crafts, cooking, music, local history, and sailing, in a relaxed island setting.

Local and regional instructors will welcome adult students of all skill levels to participate in hands-on learning experiences. Courses offered are “Jewelry Making” with Kathleen O’Neal; “Basketry: Materials and Techniques” with Judith Saunders; “Island Cooking” with Debbie Wells; “Music and Stories of the Sea” with Bob Zentz; “Island Photography” with Ann Ehringhaus, “Model Boat Building” with Jimmy Amspacher; and “An Ocracoke Sampler: Ocracoke’s History, Seafaring Traditions and Island Ecology” with Philip Howard, Rob Temple, and David Senseney. In addition to the courses offered, each day will include group meals, music, stories, walkabouts, and more.

The Ocracoke School’s mission includes preserving local culture, promoting appreciation of Ocracoke’s natural resources, and bringing creative people into the community. The Ocracoke School will offer workshops during Ocracoke’s shoulder season every fall.

Director Gary Mitchell and the volunteer Ocracoke School board have decided to focus on one week of classes in their first year of operation. Classes that were originally scheduled for October 28- November 2, 2007 have been canceled or moved to October 21-26th. Local historian Philip Howard, schooner captain Rob Temple and retired biology teacher David Senseney have combined their classes into one “Ocracoke Sampler” workshop. The class will combine Ocracoke history, local seafaring traditions, and island ecology. Participants will hear Ocracoke ghost stories, sail on a traditional gaff-rigged schooner, take a walk on Ocracoke’s wild side from the beach to the marsh, and learn to appreciate Ocracoke as more than a tourist destination.

Classes are limited to 6-10 students; **the registration deadline is October1, 2007.**

For information about the Ocrافolk School, please visit the Web site at [www.ocrافolkschool.org](http://www.ocrافolkschool.org) , email [gary@ocrافolkschool.org](mailto:gary@ocrافolkschool.org), or call 252- 928-1541. The workshops cost \$495 per week including group meals and evening activities. Housing is the responsibility of the students, but contact the Ocrافolk School for recommendations. Some classes will have additional fees for materials. A discount of 50% off tuition will be offered to Ocracoke's permanent residents after the registration deadline of Oct. 1.

For more information about Ocracoke Island, please visit [www.ocracokevillage.com](http://www.ocracokevillage.com)

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