

**NEWS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**For More Information:
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Hawk Talk at Charlotte Nature Museum
Featuring Special Visitors from Carolina Raptor Center
Saturday, July 17, 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Charlotte, NC – Meet some feathered friends including hawks, owls and more as **Charlotte Nature Museum** hosts its July *Creature Feature: Hawk Talk* on **Saturday, July 17**, from 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. with special feathered guests from **Carolina Raptor Center** and **Steve Hughes Wildlife Lectures**.

Soar with the powerful eagle owl as you learn all about its shallow wing beats and long, fast glides. Keep your eagle eye open for the Barred Owl [*Strix varia*], which nest throughout Freedom Park and Charlotte Nature Museum's Paw Paw Nature Trail. Also go beak-to-beak with the Eastern screech owl [*Otus asio*], the Eurasian eagle owl [*Bubo bubo*] and Harris' hawk [*Parabuteo unicinctus*].

Did you know raptors perch near the top of the food chain and therefore their survival depends on the health of the many creatures that they feed upon? Learn about the delicate balance of ecosystems, raptor habitats and how important the food chain and environmental stewardship are to their survival.

Flock to The Naturalist Lab, where you can paint rocks to look like some of a raptor's favorite snacks including mice and rats. Join Grandpa Tree, Charlotte's only talking tree, by the "nighttime campfire" for a very special program featuring three owls at 10:30, 11:30 and 12:30. Story time will include "Challenger: America's Favorite Eagle" by Margot Raven, "Owl Babies" by Martin Waddell, "Barn Owl" by Phyllis Flower", "Goodnight Owl" by Pat Hutchins and more. Special gift items featured in Trails End Gift Shop include Audubon plush birds and owls, and unique kid-friendly books about raptors.

Admission to Charlotte Nature Museum is \$6 for ages two and older; younger than two and Members are free. Charlotte Nature Museum is located at 1658 Sterling Road, Charlotte. Hours are: Tuesday-Friday 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.; Saturday 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.; Sunday noon – 5:00 p.m.; and closed on Monday.

Charlotte Nature Museum offers visitors the chance to get close to wildlife and walk among free-flying butterflies in *Butterfly Pavilion*, observe live animals in *Creature Cavern*, buzz by *Insect Alley* or just hang out in *Our Big Backyard*. Visitors can learn together during workshops, summer camps and more. Daily programming including hands-on activities provide the opportunity for structured learning and informal play for kids of all ages. Charlotte Nature Museum is operated by Discovery Place, Inc.

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