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Get Ready to Ramble: Junior Ranger Ramble Connects Kids and Families Digital Event Begins Oct. 5th

STONECREST, Ga. – Beginning October 5th, kids, families and even adults can embark on a six-week Junior Ranger journey, exploring the nature and history of the Arabia Mountain National Heritage Area (AMNHA) to <u>earn a Junior Ranger Badge</u>. The Junior Ranger Ramble has been reimagined to feature an online, weekly series of videos and activities that bring kids and their families out of the house and into the natural world. A virtual swearing-in will be held in mid-November.

The Arabia Mountain National Heritage Area's <u>Junior Ranger program</u> introduces kids of all ages to the historic and natural significance of the AMNHA, a 40,000-acre landscape located just outside Atlanta. Featuring the massive granite outcrops of Arabia and Panola Mountains, historic Flat Rock community and downtown Lithonia, the Monastery of the Holy Spirit, the Atlanta Wild Animal Rescue Effort, the running waters of the South River and more, the NHA offers dozens of opportunities for discovery and outdoor exploration. Each week of the Junior Ranger Ramble will focus on a different facet of this landscape, engaging participants with the rich natural world and powerful history of the NHA in the process.

Participation in the 2020 Junior Ranger Ramble is free; <u>participants can register here</u>. The Arabia Mountain Heritage Area Alliance, the nonprofit management entity of the NHA, is also offering special <u>Discovery Kits</u> for \$15 (the cost of shipping). Discovery Kits offer kids several tools and supplies to further their outdoor exploration far beyond the completion of the Junior Ranger program. The Kits are not essential to complete the Junior Ranger Ramble.

"Getting outside, experiencing nature and discovering history are more important than ever, and we hope that people of all ages across metro-Atlanta get the opportunity to participate in this exciting program," said Sarah Lisle, Director of Interpretation for the Arabia Alliance. "Even if you can't make it out to Arabia or Panola Mountains, the Junior Ranger Ramble highlights the ways you can experience nature in your own backyard, or even in a parking lot. There are wonderful natural and historic resources all around us that can enrich our lives."

To sign up for the Junior Ranger Ramble, visit here. You can order your own Discovery Kit here.



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<u>The 2020 Junior Ranger Ramble</u> will be a digital program that begins on Oct. 5th. Participants will be able to enjoy a series of videos and outdoor activities over the course of six weeks, culminating with a virtual swearing-in ceremony for the new Junior Rangers.

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Ranger Robby Astrove talks with kids at the 2017 Junior Ranger Day. <u>This year's event</u> will be a digital event to allow for social distancing.

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About Arabia Alliance

The Arabia Mountain Heritage Area Alliance is dedicated to protecting, connecting and sharing the powerful history, rich culture and engaging landscapes of the Arabia Mountain National Heritage Area (AMNHA) for the benefit and enjoyment of all. The staff and volunteer board of the Arabia Alliance work with partners across the AMNHA to ensure that everyone can benefit from the cultural and natural resources of the National Heritage Area. For more information, visit www.arabiaalliance.org.