

SLAVE DWELLING PROJECT CONFERENCE

The Illusion of Freedom: Slavery in the Northern States

October 3–5 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

The Museum of the American Revolution and Philadelphia Marriott Old City



A LETTER FROM JOSEPH MCGILL JR.

Slave Dwelling Project, Founder



It's not my knowledge of history that brought me here, it was my lack thereof. My South Carolina education left me in a forsaken place. The history taught to me about my enslaved Ancestors bordered on being as cruel as the enslaved were historically treated. This education gave me the impression enslaved people were happy with their lot in life and their enslavers were benevolent.

Since 2010, I continue to honor the enslaved Ancestors by sleeping in slave dwellings around the nation. From presidential sites to institutions of higher learning, I have slept at sites in twenty-five states and the District of Columbia. Through our nearly fifteen-year evolution as a nonprofit organization, we now conduct campfire conversations, living history programs, and conferences across the country.

The Board of Directors of The Slave Dwelling Project and I are thrilled you are joining us at our 8th conference, the first one to be held in a northern state. *The Illusion of Freedom: Slavery in the Northern States* will tell the stories of how the North continued to prosper from slavery after the

American Revolution, challenging the belief Slavery occurred in the South and the lives of enslaved people only encompassed a brief window of American history. Nothing could be further from the truth.

We hope the only stressor you all experience as an attendee to the conference is which session you have to choose from the many presenters on our program.

As we approach the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution in 2026, we are pleased to have several of our conference sessions at the Museum of the American Revolution. As such, our conference will help set the tone for how Black voices will be represented in the commemoration of America's independence from England.

My first sleepover in a slave dwelling in a northern state was Cliveden, a National Trust for Historic Preservation Site, in Philadelphia. For our attendees who signed up for the campfire conversation at Cliveden, be prepared for a lively conversation. We are equally as excited for the chance to participate in a two-hour walking tour, which will follow in the steps of the lesser-known stories behind many of America's most well-known monuments. The conference will culminate with the great Michael Harriot author of *Black AF History: The Un-Whitewashed Story of America* as our keynote speaker on Saturday evening.

On behalf of our Board of Directors and myself, we would like to extend our sincere appreciation to the McNeil Center for Early American Education for hosting this special event at the historic University of Pennsylvania campus, and for their partnership. We are also grateful to the Center for the Preservation of Civil Rights Sites at Stuart Weitzman School of Design for their contributions during our conference planning.

I would especially like to thank our dedicated Board of Directors and countless additional supporters of our work. While enjoying your time in Philadelphia, I encourage you to get to know them during the conference.

Lastly, I want to express our appreciation to our newest sponsor, The Americana Foundation in Novi, Michigan, and our longstanding sponsor, The 1772 Foundation, whose ongoing support of our conferences remains indispensable. With this collective support, The Slave Dwelling Project is breaking the geographical boundaries of interpreting the whole story that slavery existed in the United States. We do so by changing the narrative one conversation - one sleepover - at a time.

On behalf of our ancestors, thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Joseph McGill Jr.'.



Interpretation of "Scenes in cotton field - Blacks picking; White men watching; large factory in background" with a 1777 Philadelphia map all courtesy of LOC.gov

The Illusion of Freedom: Slavery in the Northern States

Thank you to our Conference Committee Members!

Amy Baxter-Bellamy
McNeil Center for Early American Studies

Rachael A. Finch
Slave Dwelling Project Board of Directors

Tammy Gordon
Slave Dwelling Project

Emma Hart,
McNeil Center for Early American Studies

Joseph McGill Jr.
Slave Dwelling Project

Vilarin McGill
Slave Dwelling Project

Frederick DeShon Murphy
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Peter Jakob Olsen-Harbach,
McNeil Center for Early American Studies

Lia Schifitto
Center for the Preservation of Civil Rights Sites
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Tanya M. Timmons
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Amber N. Wiley
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Jonathan D. Williams
Slave Dwelling Project Board of Directors

Mariam Williams
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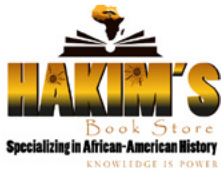
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Civil Rights Sites



Thank you to our Sponsors



THE 1772 FOUNDATION



Many thanks to our host hotel, Philadelphia Marriot Old City.

Thank you to our Patron Sponsors

Alabama Historical Commission



Clarke County Historical Association



Carolyn Evans

Newport Restoration Foundation



Northern Slavery Collective



Jennifer McCain Thomas Co-Author of *The 5 Apology Languages*
Business Coaching and Personal Development www.drjenthomas.com



Center for the
Preservation of Civil
Rights Sites advances
the understanding and
sustainable conservation
of heritage places
commemorating
American civil rights
histories and Black
heritage.

www.cpcrs.upenn.edu
civilrightsites@design.upenn.edu



Through research, teaching, and fieldwork we work in partnership with other organizations and institutions, focus on everyday spaces and iconic sites, and build upon existing traditions in order to honor existing community efforts.

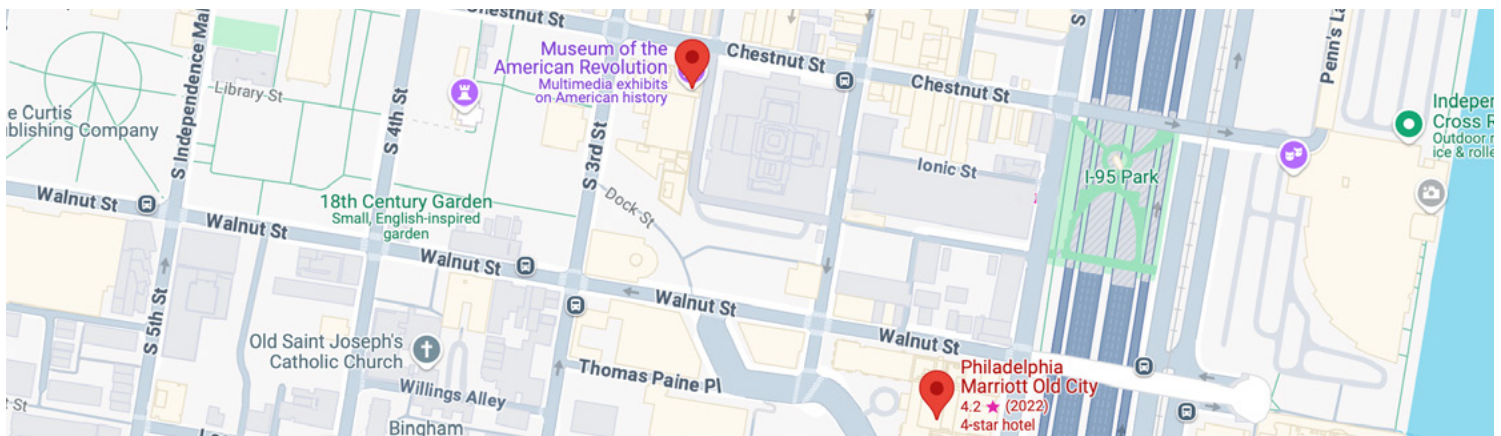
Highlights:

- Henry Ossawa Tanner House (in partnership with the Friends of the Tanner House)
Philadelphia, PA
- The Armstrong School (in partnership with Tuskegee University's Taylor School of Architecture and Construction Science)
Macon County, AL



Important Details

- The SDP Conference will take place from Thursday, October 3–Saturday, October 5, 2024.
- The host hotel is the Philadelphia Marriott Old City located at One Dock Street. Thursday registration, Thursday lunch, Friday sessions, Thursday dinner, and Saturday lunch will take place here.
- Thursday and Saturday sessions will take place at the Museum of the American Revolution located at 101 S 3rd St. Friday sessions will take place at the Philadelphia Marriott Old City located at One Dock Street.
- Registration will take place on Thursday at the Philadelphia Marriott Old City located at One Dock Street beginning at 8:00 am. There will be a registration table at the hotel on Friday and the museum on Saturday.
- Saturday evening's Keynote will take place at Penn Carey Law/McNeil Center—see page 8 for details.
- Parking is available at Auto Park Olde City at 125 S 2nd St, the hotel, or on the street. Attendees are responsible for their own parking.
- The Walking Tour and Cliveden Campfire Conversation are available by advance reservation only. Attendees have received an email with instructions or you may inquire at the registration desk.



THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2024

8:00 am-8:45 am	Registration Philadelphia Marriott Old City One Dock Street
MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION 101 S 3rd Street	
9:00 am-9:20 am Liberty Hall	Welcome from Joseph McGill Jr. and the SDP Board of Directors
9:30 am-10:15 am Liberty Hall	<i>A Philadelphia Story: Uncovering the True Narrative of "Old Blind Hawkins", a Northerner Involved in the West African Slave Trade in the 1790s</i> Peter H. Wood
9:30 am-10:15 am Classroom A	<i>Slavery and Freedom in New London, CT</i> Taylor Desloge and Sydney Marenburg
9:30 am-10:15 am Classroom B	<i>The Place Beyond the Fence: Archaeology of Enslavement on a Delaware Tenant Farm</i> Michael Gall
10:30 am-11:15 am Liberty Hall	<i>Champion For Freedom: The Reverend Alexander Heritage Newton Story Unearthing Untold Stories of Abolitionists, Freedom Seekers and the Underground Railroad in Historic African American Cemeteries</i> Dolly L. Marshall
10:30 am-11:15 am Classroom A	<i>One House, Two Worlds: Slavery in Connecticut</i> Tammy Denease
10:30 am-11:15 am Classroom B	<i>Sleeping with the Ancestors</i> Joseph McGill Jr. and Herb Frazier
11:30 am-12:15 pm Liberty Hall	<i>Descendants of Northern Slavery History, Black and White, Discuss Freedom and Resistance through the Lens of our Interconnected Family Legacies</i> Tonya Ward Singer and Laurel Yancey
11:30 am-12:15 pm Classroom A	<i>Black Resistance in Quaker Enslaver Households</i> Jim Fussell
11:30 am-12:15 pm Classroom B	<i>Reflecting on Freedom: A Check-In with NEMA's Community of Practice on Interpreting Enslavement</i> Scarlett Hoey
12:45 pm-2:00 pm	Lunch Break, Philadelphia Marriott Old City One Dock Street
2:15 pm-3:00 pm Liberty Hall	<i>Slavery Among My Ancestors in New Utrecht (Brooklyn, NY)</i> Sally L. Godard
2:15 pm-3:00 pm Classroom A	<i>Slavery in the Northwest Territory</i> Mary Elise Antoine
2:15 pm-3:00 pm Classroom B	<i>A Lawful Business: The Legality of Slavery and the Interpretation of a Place of Law</i> Allison Reardon & Juliette Wurm
3:15 pm-4:00 pm Liberty Hall	<i>Afroterpretation: Interpreting History While Black</i> Cheyney McKinght

continued on next page

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2024 (CONTINUED)

- 3:30 pm-4:30 pm Classroom A.....*Freedom/Unfreedom: Reinterpreting Marblehead's Lee Mansion and Slave Quarters*
Kristin Gallas & Lauren McCormack
- 3:30 pm-4:30 pm Classroom B*Surfacing Maine's Suppressed Stories of Enslavement and Agency*
Meadow Dibble Ph D, Vana Carmona, Bob Greene, James Tanzer & Korinne Tanzer
- 4:15 pm-5:00 pm Liberty Hall *The Fight Back to Freedom: Stolen Men of the Mid-Atlantic and Their Radical Returns*
Dionne Patterson
- 6:30 pmWelcome Dinner, presented by the Slave Dwelling Project
Philadelphia Marriott Old City, One Dock Street

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2024

PHILADELPHIA MARRIOTT OLD CITY ONE DOCK STREET

- 8:00 am-8:45 am Bromley *The Past is Not the Past: Understanding and Navigating the Historic Trauma of Slavery at Public Sites*
Teresa Lee
- 8:00 am-8:45 am Frampton*White Allies in Massachusetts? Ezekiel Russell, Isaiah Thomas, and the Problem of Antislavery in the American Revolution*
Grant Stanton
- 9:15 am-10:00 am Bromley*New London, CT: A Microcosm of American History, Slavery, the REAL West Indies Trade, and the Struggle for Freedom, Education, and Civil Rights 1637-1865*
Thomas Schuch
- 9:15 am-10:00 am Flower*Slavery in Illinois, Indentured Service Contracts and the Illinois Salinee*
John Wildeboer
- 9:15 am-10:00 Frampton *Shattering the Illusion of Freedom- Exploring Slavery's Impact in Early Minnesota*
Mica L. Anders
- 10:15 am-11:00 am Bromley*Slaves Were the Commodity That Was Bought and Sold on Wall Street*
Myra Davis-Branic
- 10:15 am-11:00 am Flower*Black Organizational Support for Freedom Seekers*
Michiko Quinones & Morgan Lloyd
- 10:15 am-11:00 Frampton *Closed Doors: Exposing the Anti-Black North through Law*
Katie Stockdale & Asja Bard
- 11:15 am-12:00 pm Bromley *William Brown and Thomas Gilmore's Letter to William Dunlap, 1768: Connecting Territory Network Methodology to the History of Slavery in Canada*
Emily Davidson
- 12:00 pmLunch on your own and sightseeing at your leisure
- 2:00 pm-4:00 pmEXTRA OPPORTUNITY Black History Walking Tour
Those that registered will meet in the front area of the Philadelphia Marriott Old City
- 7:00 pm EXTRA OPPORTUNITY Campfire Conversation and Overnight at Cliveden
Those that registered will meet at Cliveden, use address 98 East Cliveden Street, Philadelphia 19119

continued on next page

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2024

MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION 101 S 3rd Street

8:00 am-8:45 am Liberty Hall..... *Interpreting Northern Colonial Enslavement at the Trent House*
Samuel Stephens

8:00 am-8:45 am Classroom A*The First Emancipation: Forging Free African Heritage Identity in Early America*
Keith Stokes

8:00 am-8:45 am Classroom B*We've Done Enormous Research ... Now What?*
Barbara Brown

9:15 am-10:00 am Liberty Hall..... *For Service or Slave Forever: Enslavement in Seventeenth Century Rhode Island*
John Dower & Robert Geake

9:15 am-10:00 am Classroom A*Newport Restoration Foundation: Telling Stories, a Dispersed Monument*
Gina Tangorra

10:15 am-11:45 am Liberty Hall*Confronting the Illusion of Freedom in the North: Experiences of Truth -Telling
Through the Middle Passage Ceremonies and Port Markers Project*
Jessica Hanson, Kaycee Hailey & Hannah Fisher Gray

10:15 am-11:45 am Classroom A.....*African Voices in New England Slavery, 1746-1841*
Aaron Fogleman, Edward Andrews, Akeia de Barros Gomes, Margaret Newell

10:15 am-11:45 am Classroom B *Ending Erasure: Uncovering the Legacy of Slavery in Central Delaware*
Vertie Lee, Anne Fenimore & Gloria Henry

12:00 pm-1:15 pm..... Lunch Break, Philadelphia Marriott Old City
One Dock Street

1:30 pm-2:45 pm Liberty Hall *By All Means Necessary: Freedom's Battle at Christiana*
Candra Flanagan, Michael Lawrence-Riddell & Darlene Colon

1:30 pm-2:45 pm Classroom A..... *"Forgotten Founders: David Hempstead, Senior,
and the Story of the Plain Sight Project"*
Donnamarie Barnes, David Rattray & Heather Lodge

1:30 pm-2:45 pm Classroom B*Lindenwald: A Presidential Home Meets its Black Past*
Lisa Fludd-Smith & Megan O'Malley

3:00 pm-4:30 pm Liberty Hall *Interpreting Slavery at Sites with Quaker History*
Sarah Lerch, VJ Kopacki, Kerry Depraida & Shirley Lee Corsey

3:00 pm-4:30 pm Classroom A.....*Northern Stars: Freedom Seeker Networks of the
Underground Railroad in New York*
Ally Spongr DeGon, Saladin Allah, Amie Whitmore, Jaqueline Madison & Sage Hamilton-Hazarik

3:00 pm-4:30 pm Classroom B *Slavery in Pennsylvania German Households*
Emily Sneff, James M. Beidler, Lisa Minardi, Birte Pflieger & Carly D. Schmidt

KEYNOTE

6:30 pm.....*Black AF History* with Michael Harriot
Michael A. Fitts Auditorium at University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School
3501 Sansom Street Philadelphia, PA 19104
Book signing and reception to follow at McNeil Center for Early American Studies
3355 Woodland Walk Philadelphia, PA 19104

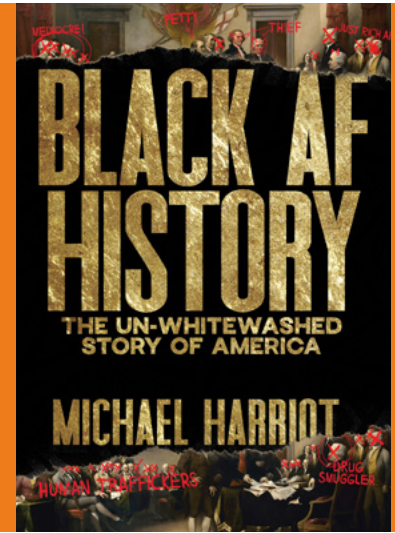


KEYNOTE SPEAKER MICHAEL HARRIOT

Saturday, October 5, 2024 at 6:30 pm
Levy Conference Center
University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School

*presented by The McNeil Center
for Early American Studies
and The Americana Foundation*

**reception and book signing to follow*



Michael Harriot is a columnist at theGrio and a staff writer on *The Amber Ruffin Show* and author of *Black AF History: The Unwhitewashed Story of America*. His work has appeared in the *Washington Post*, *The Atlantic*, NBC, BET, and on his mother's refrigerator. He is a frequent political commentator on MSNBC and CNN and earned the National Association of Black Journalists Award for digital commentary as well as TV news writing.

Known for his acerbic wit, biting commentary, and investigative reporting, Harriot's work has influenced presidential politics and pop culture. He originated the phrase "invited to the cookout" and his social media posts contextualizing history are shared by millions. He served as the sole writer for BET's Midterm Election Special as well as "Young, Gifted and Broke," an examination of the student debt crisis. Although he has jokingly billed himself as a "wypipologist" for years, Michael Eric Dyson hails him as "one of the funniest men out there taking no prisoners on the subject of white supremacy." As a performance poet, Michael has traveled across the country performing his unique blend of comedic verse.

Michael earned degrees in mass communications and history from Auburn University and earned a master's degree in macroeconomics and international business from Florida State University. He also won the 2019 NABJ award for digital commentary but considers his biggest accomplishment to be the fact that Tucker Carlson, Candace Owens, and the National Rifle Association have all publicly expressed disdain for him.

We are grateful to **Hakim's Bookstore and Gift Shop** for handling book sales during Mr. Harriot's presentation. Founded in the 1959, Hakim's Bookstore and Gift Shop is the oldest Black owned bookstore in Philadelphia as well as the East coast. From its start, the business knew the value of specializing in African American literature for all ages. Visit www.hakimsbookstore.com to learn more of their legacy.

Thank you to The McNeil Center for Early American Studies and The Americana Foundation for their support.

The Keynote Presentation will take place at
Penn Carey Law, University of Pennsylvania, Golkin 100, Michael A. Fitts Auditorium
3501 Sansom Street Philadelphia, PA 19104

The Reception is hosted by the McNeil Center for Early American Studies
located across the street
3355 Woodland Walk Philadelphia, PA 19104

The best way to travel to University of Pennsylvania is via the El (Septa) which runs from 5th Street (Old City at INHP) to 34th Street and the Law School is one block down from the Septa exit.

You may also take a taxi or an Uber from the hotel located at 1 Dock Street Philadelphia, PA 19106.
We recommend sharing the ride together if you chose to Uber.



Saladin Allah
Northern Stars: Freedom Seeker Networks of the Underground Railroad in New York
Saturday, October 5 at 3:00 pm

Saladin Allah is an Educator, Author, Award-Winning Producer, and the third-great grandson of famed underground railroad Freedom Seeker Josiah Henson whom Harriet Beecher Stowe used as the primary narrative for her famous 19th-century novel Uncle Tom’s Cabin.

Saladin has authored twenty-three books, five of which are part of a Curatorial Activism archive in the British Library. He was a featured historian in the award-winning IMAX film ‘Into America’s Wild’ narrated by Morgan Freeman and a featured historian in the six-part award-winning docuseries ‘Enslaved’ executive produced by and starring Samuel

L. Jackson, and directed by three-time Emmy award-winning journalist Simcha Jacobovici. Saladin was featured in a United Nations short documentary for the 2023 International Day of People of African Descent, a co-host in the award-winning The Nature of Things CBC documentary ‘Secrets Agents of the Underground Railroad’, and co-producer/ featured historian of the award-winning Abbey Mecca/ Buffalo & Erie County Naval Park documentary ‘Two Wars: The Road to Integration’.

Saladin is currently Director of Community Engagement at the Niagara Falls Underground Railroad Heritage Center, Public Projects Coordinator at the Niagara Falls National Heritage Area, a member of the United Nations International Civil Society Working Group for the Permanent Forum on People of African Descent, and Founding Director of the Atlantis School For Gifted Youngsters.



Mica L. Anders
Shattering the Illusion of Freedom- Exploring Slavery’s Impact in Early Minnesota
Friday, October 4 at 9:15 am

Mica L. Anders, owner and founder of Anders Genealogical Services, brings over 15 years of professional experience in genealogy and historical research. She specializes in African American and Midwestern U.S. research. Holding an MFA in visual art, Mica combines her two passions—history and art—to create unique family history displays for her clients. In addition to her client work, she frequently lectures and collaborates with museums and civic organizations to research, design, and curate community history exhibits, focused on highlighting the stories and contributions of underrepresented communities in local history. Mica is a member of the Association of Professional Genealogists. She has worked with clients and organizations from around the United States, Canada, Jamaica, and the United Kingdom.



Edward Andrews
African Voices in New England Slavery, 1746-1841
Saturday, October 5 at 10:15 am

Edward E. Andrews is a Professor in The Department of History and Classics at Providence College. His work examines the intersection of race and religion in the Atlantic World. His first book, *Native Apostles: Black and Indian Missionaries in the British Atlantic World*, was published by Harvard University Press in 2013. His next project, “Newport Gardner’s Anthem: Composing Slavery and Freedom in Early America,” is a biography of a major African leader in early Newport, Rhode Island and is currently under contract with Cornell University Press. Contact Edward at eandrews@providence.edu



Mary Elise Antoine
Slavery in the Northwest Territory
Thursday, October 3 at 2:15 pm

Mary Elise Antoine was born and raised in Prairie du Chien. She resides in a restored early 19th century French-Canadian house with her Golden Retriever, Meggie. She is a graduate of Marquette University, Milwaukee with a BA History and New York State University-Oneonta with a MA History Museum Studies.

Mary has over 40 years professional experience working for history museums and in historic preservation. While living in upstate New York, she worked for the New York State Division of Historic Preservation as Coordinator of Interpretation, was Director of Fort Johnson, home of Sir William Johnson built 1749 a Register National Historic Landmark.

Returning to Wisconsin, Mary was Curator of Collections and Research at Villa Louis, State Historic Site and National Historic Landmark, conducting the research that directed the restoration. She is Past-President of the Prairie du Chien Historical Society and continues on the Board, while directing restoration St. Germain dit Gauthier House, Registered National Historic Site.

Mary is the author *The War of 1812 in Wisconsin: The Battle for Prairie du Chien; Frenchtown Chronicles of Prairie du Chien; Enslaved, Indenture, Free: Five Black Women in the Upper Mississippi* all published by Wisconsin Historical Society Press. She received the Wisconsin Board of Curators' Book of Merit Award for *The War of 1812 in Wisconsin and Enslaved, Indentured Free*. The later book also received awards from the Independent Book Publishers' Association and the Midwest Independent Publishers Association. She also authored *Images of Prairie du Chien; Legendary Locals of Prairie du Chien* - Arcadia Publishing. *Frenchtown Cemetery-Old Catholic Burying Ground Prairie du Chien, 1816-1840* - Little Creek Press. And numerous articles on the history and cultures of the upper Mississippi in the 18th and early 19th centuries.

Though retired, Mary continues her work in the museum field, and research and writing.



Asja Bard, MA
Closed Doors: Exposing the Anti-Black North through Law
Friday, October 4 at 10:15 am

Asja Bard is a revisionist historian and sociologist who aims to demonstrate and interpret histories that challenge long held negative stereotypes and disillusionments about Black history and the Black Community. Asja earned her bachelors and master's in history with a self-made concentration in African American History and minors in both Sociology and Government and Politics at St. John's University in Queens, NY. She is currently an Adjunct Professor at Pima Community College in Tucson, Arizona teaching the African American Experience and the African Diaspora.



Donnamarie Barnes
Forgotten Founders: David Hempstead, Senior,
and the Story of the Plain Sight Project
Saturday, October 5 at 1:30 pm

Donnamarie Barnes began working at Sylvester Manor in 2014 as a volunteer and history docent. In 2016, she joined the staff full time as Curator & Archivist and curated the exhibitions, “Women of the Manor”, “A Place in Pictures” and “All That Has Been: Our Roots Revealed”. Her ongoing work now as the Director of History & Heritage includes researching the lives and identities of the Enslaved, Free People of Color and Indigenous People of Sylvester Manor and the East of Long Island, interpreting their stories into the Manor’s narrative and serving as the liaison between partner organization and Institutions of Higher Learning. In addition, Donnamarie is involved in conserving and interpreting

the various collections and archives at Sylvester Manor.

Before coming to the Manor, Donnamarie worked for over thirty years in the editorial photography field as a photographer and photo editor for publications such as People and Essence Magazines and as a Photo Editor at the Gamma Liaison international news photo agency.

As a life-long summer and full-time resident of Ninevah Beach in the historic SANS Community in Sag Harbor, Donnamarie grew up photographing the community and the beach landscape which she continues to do combining the research she does at Sylvester Manor.

Donnamarie serves on the steering committee of The Northern Slavery Collective and as a Trustee of the Sag Harbor History Museum, and as the Co-Founder of the Plain Sight Project on the East End of Long Island.

She holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in photography from the Cooper Union School of Art.



James M. Beidler
Slavery in Pennsylvania German Households
Saturday, October 5 at 3:00 pm

James M. Beidler, known internationally as one of the top people in the field of German genealogy, has authored four commercially published books, including three on German family history. He’s been executive director for Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania on two occasions, and was a reports editor for the globe-spanning research-for-hire firm Legacy Tree Genealogists for three years. Beidler also writes “Roots & Branches,” a weekly newspaper column and blog (at www.roots-branches.com), is a German Life magazine columnist, and editor emeritus of *Der Kurier*, the quarterly journal of the Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society. In 2022, he presented “Pennsylvania German Enslavers: Initiating a Re-Examination” for the Historical Society of Pennsylvania.



Barbara Brown
We’ve Done Enormous Research ... Now What?
Saturday, October 5 at 8:00 am

Barbara Brown has centered her professional life in public history and popular education. After receiving her PhD and teaching at the University of Botswana, she came home to lead BU’s program in public education on Africa. Twenty years ago, she uncovered the truth that enslavers, slave traders and enslaved people had been part of her home town, Brookline MA. After much research was done, she established *Hidden Brookline*. The next step was public education: concerts, talks, tours, curriculum and the fraught changing of names of two schools. Now the questions are harder: What to prioritize? Which hidden understanding/s matter most? What are the best ways to foster a deeper understanding that goes beyond information?

Contact Barbara at bbbrown@bu.edu



Vana Carmona
Surfacing Maine's Suppressed Stories of Enslavement and Agency
Thursday, October 4 at 3:30 pm

Vana Carmona is a descendant of several colonial Maine families who were enslavers and were complicit in the slave trade. She founded The Prince Project based on her 10 years of research on enslavement in Maine. She has done presentations on her work at various local historical societies, libraries and schools throughout the State and beyond. She is a graduate of Sarah Lawrence College, and completed her Masters of Liberal Arts (focusing on Medieval History) at California State University/Sacramento.



Darlene Colon
By All Means Necessary: Freedom's Battle at Christiana
Saturday, October 5 at 1:30 pm

Darlene Colon is the president of the Christiana Historical Society in Christiana, Pennsylvania. Darlene is a direct descendant of one Ezekiel Thompson a freedom fighter during the resistance at Christiana in 1851. A first-person historical interpreter, Darlene is also founder and president of the Lydia Hamilton Smith Society.



Shirley Lee Corsey, Gather Place Museum
Interpreting Slavery at Sites with Quaker History
Saturday, October 5 at 3:00 pm

Shirley Lee Corsey is a founder, conservator, and Executive Director of Gather Place, headquartered at the Historic African Methodist Episcopal (A.M.E.) Church in Yardley Borough. This African American founded and operated museum opened in 2022 with the mission to preserve and celebrate the often forgotten stories of Yardley Borough including the African American community, both freed and enslaved. Shirley is an experienced historical interpreter and consultant focused on the connection between Quaker history and enslavement. She has developed numerous engaging, community-based living history presentations and most recently worked with Pennsbury Manor on a youth educational program telling the story of the enslaved individuals at William Penn's estate. Contact Shirley Lee at info@gatherplace.org



Emily Davidson
Case Study on William Brown and Thomas Gilmore's Letter to William Dunlap, 1768: Connecting Territory Network Methodology to the History of Slavery in Canada
Friday, October 4 at 11:30 am

Emily Davidson is a white settler artist based in Kjiptuk in Mi'kma'ki (Halifax, Nova Scotia). Her current research/creation focuses on the entangled relationship of print media in historic and ongoing colonization of Indigenous lands across Turtle Island and interrogates the role printers played in Transatlantic Slavery in the territories that became Canada. Emily holds a Master of Fine Arts and Bachelor of Fine Arts (Interdisciplinary, Minor in Art History) from NSCAD University. Emily is a recipient of the Canada Graduate Scholarships-Master's Program in Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of

Canada (SSHRC). Emily is a Research Assistant for Slavery North, University of Massachusetts Amherst, directed by Dr. Charmaine A. Nelson, Provost Professor of Art History. She is also the Managing Editor of *Chrysalis: A Critical Student Journal of Transformative Art History* hosted on the Black Maple Magazine website.



Myra Davis-Branic
Slaves were the commodity that was bought and sold on Wall Street
Friday, October 4 at 10:15 am

Myra Davis-Branic is a freelance writer for HUAMI Magazine, Black History blogger for The Modern Green Book, an author and works with at-risk youth. Myra Davis-Branic's book, *"Cornbread My Soul: The Davis Family of Eutawville, South Carolina"* chronicles her family's history on a South Carolina plantation from the 18th century to The Great Migration. A chance meeting with a descendant of the family who enslaved her family led to a documentary entitled, "Legacies of Slavery and the Shared History of the South..." (currently in editing). Her love for Black History and commitment to at-risk youth piloted her into creating programs to teach and expose youth, and adults to Black History, opening their eyes to information that is rarely taught, or is altogether omitted from the history books. Contact Myra at myradbranic@gmail.com



Akeia de Barros Gomes
African Voices in New England Slavery, 1746-1841
Saturday, October 5 at 10:15 am

Akeia de Barros Gomes is the William E. Cook Vice President of the American Institute for Maritime Studies at Mystic Seaport Museum, the Director of the Frank C. Munson Institute of American Maritime Studies, and she is a Visiting Scholar at Brown University's Center for the Study of Slavery and Justice. Her recent exhibition, "Entwined: Freedom, Sovereignty and the Sea," is a multi-year Mellon Foundation-funded project that recovers the history of the founding and development of the Dawnland (New England) through Indigenous, African, and African-descended maritime perspectives. This project is a cooperative effort with individuals in Dawnland Indigenous, African, and African-descended communities. Akeia taught as professor of American Studies and Professor of Psychology and Human Development at Wheelock College from 2008 to 2017. Contact Akeia at akeia.gomes@mysticseaport.org



Tammy Denease
One House, Two Worlds: Slavery in Connecticut
Thursday, October 3 at 10:30 am

Tammy Denease, is an accomplished Historian, Artist, and Storyteller passionate about amplifying the voices of those who have been overlooked by history. Tammy is the Executive Artist Director of the Hidden Women Stage Company and the Executive Director of Hidden LLC Consulting firm. As the outreach director for the Connecticut Freedom Trail, Tammy spearheads the telling of Black Narratives throughout the state of Connecticut. Tammy is also with the Slave Dwelling Projects Living Historians. Tammy sits on the governance board of the Connecticut League of Museums.



Kerry Depraida, Pennsbury Manor
Interpreting Slavery at Sites with Quaker History
Saturday, October 5 at 3:00 pm

Kerry Depraida is the Education Program Coordinator for Pennsbury Manor. Previously, the Early Learning Coordinator for the New Jersey State Museum. She holds a BFA in Visual Arts from the Mason Gross School of the Arts, Rutgers University, and exhibits her artwork regularly.



Taylor Desloge
Slavery and Freedom in New London, CT
Thursday, October 4 at 9:30 am

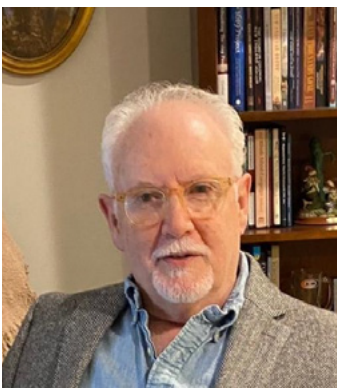
Professor Taylor Desloge is a social historian of 19th and 20th century African American and Urban History at Connecticut College. His research is focused on the dynamics of Black community life in the Jim Crow era with a special emphasis on how African Americans confronted the health and environmental consequences of urban segregation. His work has appeared in multiple venues, including publications in the *Journal of Urban History* and the *Missouri Historical Review* and exhibits at the Missouri History Museum. His forthcoming book, *The Lost Politics of Blight: African American Struggles Against Environmental Inequality and the Making of Modern Urban Policy, 1877-1940*, tells the story of how three generations of African Americans defined and fought for health and wellbeing in St. Louis, Missouri during an era of rapid urbanization

and deepening racial and class inequality. In addition to his work on St. Louis, he is currently directing a collaborative, multi-year digital history and ArcGIS mapping project alongside his students that tracks the development of New London's African American community in both slavery and freedom.



Meadow Dibble, Ph.D.
Surfacing Maine's Suppressed Stories of Enslavement and Agency
Thursday, October 3 at 3:30 pm

Meadow Dibble, Ph.D. is a researcher and antiracist historical recovery advocate organizing to surface New England's suppressed history. She received her Ph.D. from Brown University's Department of French and taught Francophone African literature at Colby College from 2005-08. In 2018 she founded [Atlantic Black Box \(www.atlanticblackbox.com\)](http://www.atlanticblackbox.com), a public history organization that empowers communities throughout the Northeast to take up the critical work of researching and reckoning with the region's active role in colonization, the slave trade, and the global economy of enslavement. From 2019-2023, Meadow served as a Visiting Scholar at Brown University's Ruth Simmons Center for the Study of Slavery and Justice.



John Dower
For Service or Slave Forever: Enslavement in Seventeenth Century Rhode Island
Saturday, October 5 at 9:15 am

John B. Dower is a public historian, researcher, and writer from North Kingstown, Rhode Island. He currently serves as president of Smith's Castle Historic House Museum, believed to be the oldest surviving plantation house in America. John attended Empire State University, the University at Albany, Penn State University, and Stony Brook University. He holds a BA in Social Studies and an MA in American History. John regularly makes presentations on Rhode Island enslavement to various historical associations and other groups in Rhode Island. John also served as a consultant to numerous groups, including the National Museum of the United States Army, where he researched the

men of color who were members of the Black Regiment from Rhode Island during the American Revolution. That research will culminate in an upcoming exhibit featuring the Black Regiment of Rhode Island. He is also working on a book about the Black Regiment that he hopes to finish this year. John is in charge of the college internship program at Smith's Castle, where students help contribute to the scholarship of the former plantation. He is also involved with writing lesson plans at the urging of the Rhode Island Department of Education that meet their updated social studies standards pertaining to slavery. John will be appearing on an upcoming broadcast of the PBS show, "Treasures Inside the Museum," where he shares stories about some significant artifacts relating to the enslaved people at Smith's Castle.



Anne Fenimore
Ending Erasure: Uncovering the Legacy of Slavery in Central Delaware
Saturday, October 5 at 10:15 am

Annie Fenimore is the Lead Historic Site Interpreter at the John Dickinson Plantation. She manages the Plantation Stories Project by leading project research and coordinating the development of its public interface. Annie has a bachelor's in History and Italian Studies from the University of Rochester, where she was a researcher and transcriber for the Seward Family Papers Project, and is currently pursuing a master's degree in Public History.



Candra Flanagan
By All Means Necessary: Freedom's Battle at Christiana
Saturday, October 5 at 1:30 pm

Candra Flanagan is the director of the Teaching and Learning unit in the Education Department at the National Museum of African American History and Culture in Washington, D.C. With a special eye towards teachers and students, she oversees the development of programming and resources which actively incorporate African American experience into the larger story of history. She researches and creates educational publications for use by the general public and educators and strategizes the role of NMAAHC in the professional development of educators. As a museum educator, Candra serves on exhibition teams where she works with the content team and is instrumental in considering the ways we learn and its impact on visitor's museum experiences. She has written articles for the *Journal of Museum Education*,

Social Education from the National Council for the Social Studies, the annual themes book for National History Day, and *Teaching Tolerance* from the Southern Poverty Law Center. Candra is dedicated to establishing research-based, audience-appropriate K-12 initiatives for educators and students. With a B.A. from the University of Maryland, College Park and a M.A. from the University of Virginia, she is passionate about the intersection between formal and informal learning as well as cultivating and encouraging life-long learning in educators and students.



Lisa Fludd-Smith
Lindenwald: A Presidential Home Meets its Black Past
Saturday, October 5 at 1:30 pm

Lisa Fludd-Smith is co-founder and Deputy Executive Director of the African American Archive of Columbia County. She is a lay historian and researcher whose focus is on slavery and freedom in Columbia County from the 17th to 19th centuries. The mission of her organization is to develop a deeper understanding of New York's Black history, and to preserve and pass that knowledge onto the larger community. Their goal is to develop a local museum and research center for others who are interested in Black history and genealogy. Lisa is, herself, descended from a family that has lived in Columbia County, where her ancestors were originally enslaved, since at least the mid-1700s, and she is currently writing a book about that history.



Aaron Fogleman
African Voices in New England Slavery, 1746-1841
Saturday, October 5 at 10:15 am

Aaron Spencer Fogleman is a Distinguished Research Professor and Board of Trustees Professor in the History Department at Northern Illinois University. He has written extensively about forced and free migration, religion, gender, and revolution in early America and in the Atlantic World. He recently completed a book with Robert Hanserd entitled *Five Hundred African Voices: A Catalog of Published Accounts by Africans Enslaved in the Transatlantic Slave Trade, 1586-1936* (Philadelphia: American Philosophical Society, 2022), and the work he is presenting at this conference is derived from African voices in that collection.



Herb Frazier
Sleeping with the Ancestors
Thursday, October 3 at 10:30 am

Herb Frazier is a Charleston, South Carolina-based writer. He's a senior editor at the Charleston City Paper, and the former marketing director at Magnolia Plantation and Gardens in Charleston. Before he joined Magnolia, Herb edited and reported for five daily newspapers in the South, including his hometown paper, The Post and Courier.

In 1990, the South Carolina Press Association named him Journalist of the Year. He has taught news writing as a visiting lecturer at Rhodes University in South Africa. He is a former Michigan Journalism Fellow at the University of Michigan. He studied journalism at the University of South Carolina.

After leaving daily journalism in 2006, Herb led journalism workshops in Sierra Leone, Zambia, Ghana, Suriname, Guyana and The Gambia for the U.S. government and a Washington-based journalism foundation.

Herb's international reporting includes West Germany during the fall of the Berlin Wall, humanitarian post-war relief efforts in Bosnia and Rwanda during its post-genocide recovery, social and political issues in Japan and South Korea and Cuba's cultural ties with Florida and Lowcountry South Carolina.

He also reported on the conflict in Sierra Leone. Herb has written about the historical and cultural ties between West Africa and the Caribbean and Gullah Geechee people of coastal South Carolina and Georgia.

Herb represented South Carolina on the Gullah Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor Commission, created by the U.S. Congress in 2006. He also served as secretary of the Jazz Artists of Charleston, which supports the Charleston Jazz Orchestra.

He is the author of *Behind God's Back: Gullah Memories*. He is a co-author of *We Are Charleston: Tragedy and Triumph at Mother Emanuel* with Marjory Wentworth and Dr. Bernard Powers Jr.

Herb also co-edited a collection of poems and essays titled *Ukweli*: (pronounced - you - quail - lay) *Searching for Healing Truth*, South Carolina Writers and Poets Explore American Racism with the late Horace Mungin.

Herb's latest book, *Sleeping with the Ancestors: How I Followed the Footprints of Slavery*, is a collaboration with Joseph McGill Jr., founder of the Slave Dwelling Project. Herb's forthcoming book, *Crossing the Sea on a Sacred Song*, tells the story of an African funeral song that links a Georgia family with a woman in Sierra Leone.



Jim Fussell
Black Resistance in Quaker Enslaver Households
Thursday, October 3 at 11:30 am

Jim Fussell is a scholar of Quaker history in Richmond, Indiana.

He worked in international human rights and genocide prevention in Washington, D.C. for over two decades. In 2023 he lectured on Quaker History and Testament at the Friends Theological Seminary in Kaimosi in Western Kenya.



Michael Gall
The Place Beyond the Fence: Archaeology of Enslavement on a Delaware Tenant Farm
Thursday, October 3 at 9:30 am

Michael J. Gall is a Principal Senior Archaeologist at Richard Grubb & Associates, Inc., a cultural resource management firm in Cranbury, New Jersey, editor of the *Bulletin of the Archaeological Society of New Jersey*, and a board member of the Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology. He has conducted archaeology in the Northeast and Middle Atlantic regions since 1997, where he has identified and recorded many dozens of archaeological sites. His research foci include: the archaeology of landscape and settlement patterns, expressions of everyday religion through land use and material culture, enslaved communities, and free African American households in the

Middle Atlantic and Northeast regions. His research is regularly published in peer reviewed journals like *Historical Archaeology* and *Northeast Historical Archaeology* and in edited books. Michael is a co-editor of the 2017 book titled, *Archaeologies of African American Life in the Upper Middle Atlantic*, which received a Choice award for outstanding title. Michael's research on the archaeology of the free African American Cooper family's 1770-1820 farmstead in Dover, Delaware will be featured in Meredith Linn's upcoming book titled, *Revealing Communities: The Archaeology of Free African Americans in the Nineteenth Century*.



Kristin Gallas
Freedom/Unfreedom: Reinterpreting Marblehead's Lee Mansion and Slave Quarters
Thursday, October 3 at 3:30 pm

Kristin Gallas, principal of MUSE Consulting, is an award-winning educator with nearly 30 years of experience in the public history field. She leads workshops for museums and historic sites on developing comprehensive and conscientious interpretations of slavery, facilitates interpretive planning processes, and speaks regularly at conferences. She is the author of *Interpreting Slavery with Children and Teens at Museums and Historic Sites* (Rowman and Littlefield, October 2021), an essential guide for museums and historic sites on engaging young audiences with the history and legacies of slavery, and co-editor of *Interpreting Slavery at Museums and Historic Sites* (Rowman & Littlefield,

January 2015), among other publications on best practices in museum education. Kristin holds a bachelor's degree in secondary history education from the University of Vermont and a Master of Arts in museum education from George Washington University. She led the education departments at the Montana Historical Society, the USS Constitution Museum, and is currently the project manager for education development at the Tsongas Industrial History Center. Kristin was an advisor for the exhibit "Lives Bound Together: Slavery at George Washington's Mount Vernon."



Robert A. Geake
For Service or Slave Forever: Enslavement in Seventeenth Century Rhode Island
Saturday, October 5 at 9:15 am

Robert A. Geake is a public historian and the author of fifteen books on Rhode Island and New England history, including *From Slaves to Soldiers: The First Rhode Island Regiment in the American Revolution*. Other books include *A History of the Narragansett Tribe: Keepers of the Bay*, *New England's Citizen Soldiers: Mariners and Minutemen*, *New England Plantations: Commerce & Slavery*. The author participated in a symposium at Valley Forge entitled *African Americans in the Philadelphia Campaign and the Valley Forge Encampment of 1777-1778*, sponsored by the Valley Forge National Park Service (NPS) and The Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH).

He has also given his presentation "In League with Liberty: The Persistence of Patriots of Color and the Formation of the Black Regiment in the Continental Line" to libraries and historical societies, including the Institute of the American Revolution in Washington, D.C. Most recently he completed an extensive timeline of the formation and service of the First Rhode Island Regiment for the Battle of Rhode Island Association's website. Mr. Geake has contributed to the blogs *smallstatebighistory.com*, *rifootprints.com*, and most recently, *The Cocumscussoc Review* on *smithscastle.org*. His essay on Rhode Island and The American Revolution is among those who contributed to *EnCompass*, online tutorials for the Rhode Island Historical Society, and the Rhode Island Department of Education.



Sally L. Godard
Slavery Among My Ancestors in New Utrecht (Brooklyn, NY)
Thursday, October 3 at 2:15 pm

Educated at Willamette University and Oregon Health Sciences University, Sally Godard, M.D. has enjoyed a long career in community psychiatry in rural Oregon. In 2010, she complemented her education with a Master of Divinity degree from Pacific School of Religion in Berkeley, CA with an emphasis on justice and witness ministries.

In 2011, Sally founded Unidos Bridging Community, the first Latinx advocacy nonprofit in McMinnville, OR. As funding was secured, a Latina executive director was hired, and Unidos has continued to grow and become a well-respected leader in the state.

In the last three years, Sally and her husband, Ron Olisar, have become active with the nationally recognized program, Behind the Big House (BTBH), in Holly Springs, Mississippi. Begun in 2012, BTBH interprets the lives of enslaved persons through the structures in which they lived and worked. Based at the site of an 1851 neoclassical "big house" and the 1847 wooden "slave quarters," visitors witness familiar activities of urban slavery in the "land of cotton."

As genealogical and historical records became more easily accessed through the internet, Sally discovered Dutch ancestors who enslaved Africans in New Utrecht (Brooklyn) in the 17th century. How is this history of slavery different than what is usually taught in school? Does knowing our family's role in slavery change us? Is there value in sharing our history of enslavers in the family?



Hannah Fisher Gray
Confronting the Illusion of Freedom in the North: Experiences of Truth-Telling through the Middle Passage Ceremonies and Port Markers Project
Saturday, October 5 at 10:15 am

Hannah Fisher Gray works for the Middle Passage Ceremonies and Port Markers Project (MPCPMP), where she works on researching and interpreting the history of the transatlantic human trade in the United States. Born in Philadelphia and raised in Wilmington, Delaware, Hannah is invested in uncovering the legacies of enslavement and the human trade in the North. She is earning her master's degree in Media, Culture, and Communication from New York University, where she is writing a thesis on the aftermath of monument removal. She graduated from Bennington College in 2021.



Bob Greene
Surfacing Maine's Suppressed Stories of Enslavement and Agency
Thursday, October 3 at 3:30 pm

Bob Greene belongs to the eighth generation of his family born in Cumberland County, Maine, and his roots in this state stretch back into the 1700s. After retiring from his career as a journalist for the Associated Press, Bob returned home. His genealogical research has led to an ever-deepening knowledge about Maine's Black history, which he shares through courses at Osher Lifelong Learning Institute and through walking tours.



Kaycee Hailey
Confronting the Illusion of Freedom in the North: Experiences of Truth-Telling through the Middle Passage Ceremonies and Port Markers Project
Saturday, October 5 at 10:15 am

Kaycee Hailey is a 2023 Duke University's Department of African and African American Studies graduate. She uses popular media to promote historical literacy and educational equity as an educator. She has experience working with Freedom School Partners, the Samuel Dubois Cook Center on Social Equity, and the James Cates Scholars of Chapel Hill, NC. Kaycee currently serves as a researcher for the Middle Passage Ceremonies and Port Markers Project (MPCPMP), where she works on digitizing archival materials regarding the trans-Atlantic slave trade in and around the United States. In the fall, she will begin a Master of Arts program in Cinema Studies at New York University, where she looks to develop a freedom education pedagogy centering on subversive filmmaking in the African diaspora.



Jessica Hanson
Confronting the Illusion of Freedom in the North: Experiences of Truth-Telling through the Middle Passage Ceremonies and Port Markers Project
Saturday, October 5 at 10:15 am

Jessica Hanson has been an educator since 2011, teaching in community colleges, the HBCU Tennessee State University, and K-8 settings. She holds a B.A. and M.A. in English and an Ed.S. in Culture, Cognition, and the Learning Process. She is a contracted public history researcher for the Middle Passage Ceremonies and Port Markers Project (MPCPMP), digitizing sources and engaging the public with the Black Atlantic's neglected histories through contributing to OpenTour narratives, QR codes, and physical historical markers, centering the two million captive Africans who perished during the transatlantic crossing known as the Middle Passage and the ten million who survived to build the Americas. Jessica serves as the Access Services Library Assistant at Fisk University,

the oldest institution of higher learning in Nashville, Tennessee, and a distinguished HBCU with a leadership role in African American education since its inception. She is learning from archivists, conservationists, digital specialists, and social justice leaders to enhance Access Services and support the university's rich history and contributions to African American scholarship. As a graduate research assistant/field worker with Middle Tennessee State University's Center for Historic Preservation, she creates exhibit panels, surveys sites, researches, and writes/edits interpretive plans. Through the CHP, she will be aiding the Black Craftspeople Database (BCDA) with research, social media, or any other needs to support their archives' initiatives by honoring Black landscapes, human stories, and material culture while completing her doctorate. She collaborates closely with community members in historic freedom towns, cemeteries, historic homes, spaces once inhabited by formerly enslaved and free Black individuals, Rosenwald schools, and NRHP sites. She is pursuing a Ph.D. in Public History, focusing on historic preservation, oral history, and material culture through community engagement. Her dissertation explores modern Black women historic preservationists' and community leaders' contributions to landscapes linked to Zora Neale Hurston.



Sage Hamilton Hazarika
Northern Stars: Freedom Seeker Networks of the Underground Railroad in New York
Saturday, October 5 at 3:00 pm

Sage Hamilton Hazarika currently serves as Corridor Coordinator for the Underground Railroad Consortium of New York State (URCNYS). In this role, he works between URCNYS' partner heritage sites and their external collaborators to introduce the history of Abolition in New York State to new audiences. A marketing strategist with nine years experience in the travel and tourism industry, Sage introduced URCNYS' initial brand and digital marketing presence to help position Underground Railroad history as a domestic and international special-interest tourism category in New York State. Before joining URCNYS, Sage's work in events and experiential marketing helped define his understanding of how the public's experience with destination marketing brands can influence their travel practices. Sage holds a BA in Marketing from Wittenberg University in Springfield, Ohio, and he lives and works in Brooklyn, NY.



Gloria Henry
Ending Erasure: Uncovering the Legacy of Slavery in Central Delaware
Saturday, October 5 at 10:15 am

Gloria Henry is the site supervisor of the John Dickinson Plantation, a National Historic Landmark administered by the Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs. Gloria's history degree from the University of Delaware has enabled her to spend the last 30 years, conducting historic demonstrations, portraying enslaved individuals, transcribing primary documents, conducting tours, creating exhibits, and developing interactive programs. Her current research focuses on the enslaved, free, and indentured African American people who lived, labored, and died on the John Dickinson Plantation. In her free time, she works with the Underground Railroad Coalition of Delaware. Gloria has a passion for sharing Delaware history.



Scarlett Hoey
Reflecting on Freedom: A Check-In with NEMA's Community of Practice on Interpreting Enslavement
Thursday, October 3 at 11:30 am

Scarlett Hoey, (she/her), Director of Membership Experience, NEMA. Scarlett connects museum people and those that work with and for institutions in the Northeast. She developed a love for museums while at the Massachusetts College of Art and Design, where she earned a BFA in Art History and Photography. Currently, she coordinates the NEMA Community of Practice on Interpreting Enslavement and Freedom. Her past work experience includes ArtsWorcester, the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, The Boston Athenaeum, Boston's Old South Meeting House, and Brisbane's Newstead House. She is active in the Gender Equity in Museums Movement and is a proud alumna of Leadership Worcester (Class of 2017-2018). In her free time, she enjoys museuming with her toddler.



VJ Kopacki, Historic Sugartown
Interpreting Slavery at Sites with Quaker History
Saturday, October 5 at 3:00 pm

VJ Kopacki is a museum educator and curator who loves to pursue untold stories at the margins of history. In her current work as Director of Programs at Historic Sugartown, VJ is undertaking research for an exhibit, grave dedication, and Juneteenth programs about Rachel Nixon, a formerly enslaved woman who lived in Sugartown. As Historic House Director & Curator at Pearl S. Buck International, she focused on developing programs and exhibits that highlighted both historical and contemporary civil rights activism. She also secured museum accreditation through the American Alliance of Museums. While at Peter Wentz Farmstead, VJ researched and developed programs on the history of enslavement, including the interpretation of runaway slave ads placed in Philadelphia newspapers about Jack, an enslaved man who twice escaped the Farmstead. Her work led to the museum's placement on the National Park Service's Underground Railroad Network to Freedom register. When she isn't working, she can be found writing professionally for historically inspired tabletop roleplaying games.



Michael Lawrence-Riddle
By All Means Necessary: Freedom's Battle at Christiana
Saturday, October 5 at 1:30 pm

Michael Lawrence-Riddell holds a Masters of Arts in Teacher Leadership from Mount Holyoke College and is an award winning public school educator, who spent two decades in elementary, middle, and high school classrooms. He is also a guest lecturer in the Department of Education at Westfield State University. As the founder and executive director of [Self-Evident Education](http://www.selfevidenteducation.com) (www.selfevidenteducation.com) Michael brings all of his expertise as an educator and his vision of the power of storytelling to address complex and hard history to his work. Self-Evident is a non-profit dedicated to helping educators and communities in their quests to honestly and rigorously understand the histories and legacies of systemic racism. Michael founded Self-Evident Education in September 2019, in response to the urgent need for our society to honestly and

rigorously engage in work to understand the histories and legacies of race and institutional racism. Michael was inspired, in part, by his scholarship as an African-American Studies major at Wesleyan University, his work as a teacher of American History I, and the failures of our nation to truly reckon with the racial inequities present in history and our contemporary society. When Michael could not find the kinds of engaging and accessible multimedia resources he was seeking to critically examine the histories and legacies of systemic racism in the United States, he set out to create them with a team of brilliant and trusted collaborators. Michael believes fully in the power of stories to change the world.



Teresa Lee
The Past is Not the Past: Understanding and Navigating the Historic Trauma of Slavery at Public Sites
Friday, October 4 at 8:00 am

Teresa Lee has served as the Historic Site Supervisor at Riverside, the Farnsley-Moremen Landing since 2018. She holds degrees in history, anthropology, and gender studies. She is currently pursuing a master's in public health. Teresa feels so fortunate to be able to pursue a life-long passion for history and sharing it with the public.

Riverside has hosted a public archaeology program for over twenty years. This has allowed it to focus its interpretation on history as an evidence-based, investigative process. Since arriving at Riverside, Teresa has led an in-depth analysis of how slavery is interpreted on the site, as well as exhibit design, and program development.

Riverside was one of the founding organizations of the Louisville Coalition on the History of Enslavement in 2021, whose purpose is to maximize the impact of the four former sites of enslavement, in their efforts to provide accurate interpretation and programming that ties the history of slavery to existing social inequity. The Coalition has partnered with the Slave Dwelling Project, the Kentucky African American Heritage Center, and the University of Louisville Medical School to offer public programming, conduct and present research and support anti-racism education initiatives. Most recently we offered a professional development workshop led by nationally renowned consultants Kristin Gallis and Nicole Moore. The Coalition and Teresa's work at Riverside, comes out of her own personal love for the past and the stories of those who came before us. And an unwavering dedication to telling a comprehensive history that acknowledges and celebrates the humanity of everyone and to using the past to create a more just and equitable world for us all.



Vertie Lee
Ending Erasure: Uncovering the Legacy of Slavery in Central Delaware
Saturday, October 5 at 10:15 am

Vertie Lee is the Curator of Education for the Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs. She serves as the liaison between educators and the Division's museums by coordinating educational programming and resources, developing, and presenting teacher professional development, and programming for the general public. Vertie was the recipient of the 2023 Small Museum Association award and recognized was her long-term efforts to make historical information and museums more accessible to all people.



Sarah Lerch, Colonial Pennsylvania Farmstead
Interpreting Slavery at Sites with Quaker History
Saturday, October 5 at 3:00 pm

Sarah Lerch joined Colonial Pennsylvania Farmstead in September 2021 and oversees the development and implementation of agricultural educational and public programs and community partnerships. The Farmstead is dedicated to the education, interpretation, preservation, and participation in 18th century historic skills. She has interned and worked in the public history field for close to 10 years at living history museums across the country. She holds an MA in Public History from the University of South Carolina where she focused on museum studies, interpretation, and program development. As a graduate student, she worked on projects relating to slavery at USC, creating a walking tour entitled

“Hiding in Plain Sight” to highlight the slave-built landscape and experience on campus, and explored the issue of diversity at living history sites for her Master’s thesis. Sarah is committed to making history engaging, relevant, inclusive, and accessible to diverse audiences and does not shy away from complex narratives. She is playing an active role in the ongoing strategic planning process including research of enslavement and program revetment at CPF as well name change transition from Colonial Pennsylvania Plantation.

Contact Sarah at programdirector@colonialplantation.org



Morgan Lloyd
Black Organizational Support for Freedom Seekers
Friday, October 4 at 10:15 am

Morgan Lloyd and Michiko Quinones are the co-founders of the 1838 Black Metropolis public history project. They have been resurfacing 19th Century Black histories through various formats; walking tours, social media, online exhibitions, blogs, TV appearances, interviews with press, papers, lesson plans, conference presentations, public talks. Morgan is a former Mellon Curatorial Fellow at the Philadelphia Museum of Art. She currently serves as Lead Interpreter at the African American Museum in Philadelphia. Michiko brings 25 years of IT experience to the project and has been a museum volunteer in Philadelphia for over a decade. She holds a MA in Museum Studies from Harvard University and BA in African American Studies/Government from University of Maryland-College Park.



Heather Lodge
Forgotten Founders: David Hempstead, Senior, and the Story of the Plain Sight Project
Saturday, October 5 at 1:30 pm

Heather Lodge is the new Programs Manager at the Windsor Historical Society in Windsor, CT. Windsor was home to both one of Connecticut’s earliest recorded enslaved individuals, a man named Cirus in 1680, and Nancy Toney, the last enslaved individual in the state, who died in 1857. Before coming to Windsor, Heather worked at the Greenwich Historical Society, where 16 individuals were enslaved at the Bush Holley House National Historic Site. In Greenwich, she headed the town’s Witness Stones Project, working with middle school and high school students for 5 years to conduct original research and place memorials for those enslaved on the site. Heather graduated with a BA in History and Education from Merrimack College and a MLitt in Ethnology and Folklore from the University of Aberdeen. She is thrilled to be here speaking with you today.



Jacqueline Madison
Northern Stars: Freedom Seeker Networks of the Underground Railroad in New York
Saturday, October 5 at 3:00 pm

Jacqueline Madison is the President of the North Country Underground Railroad Historical Association which oversees the North Star Underground Railroad Museum. Her biggest contribution to the organization was acquiring the building that house the North Star Underground Railroad Museum. She has created a website on people of color who lived in this region. Jackie is also the President of the Women’s Rights Alliance of New York State, which focuses on the history of women and was the last President of the Girl Scouts of the North Country when it became Girl Scouts of Northeastern New York. She is on the Advisory Board for Adirondack Architectural Heritage, a nonprofit historic

organization for New York State’s Adirondack region and the Community Advisory Board for Mountain Lake PBS.

Jackie retired from Pfizer/Wyeth in 2010 as a Principal Toxicology Information Specialist for Drug Safety and has degrees in Chemistry and Library and Information Management. She is a Vietnam Veteran. Her husband, Calvin, retired from the military and Bombardier and they have two daughters, Jaquenette and Calexandria. Jackie is a Rotarian, a member of Delta Kappa Gamma and Phi Kappa Phi. In 2022, she received the Outstanding Librarian Award for the North Country from NYS Senator Sean Ryan and a NYS Assembly Citation from Assemblyman Billy Jones. In 2023, Jackie received the Women of Distinguish Military Service Award from and the Distinguish Service Award from Dr. Alexander Enyedi, President of SUNY Plattsburgh. She is an avid reader, grows grapes, and restores old trunks.



Sydney Marenburg
Slavery and Freedom in New London, CT
Thursday, October 3 at 9:30 am

Sydney Marenburg is an economic historian with an interest in the intersections of class, gender, and race in the United States. Sydney is a dynamic academic and has recently completed an award-winning biography of a little-known early 20th century politician, Olive M. Johnson, that explores the limits and possibilities of women’s political participation in the decades surrounding the enactment of the 19th Amendment. Sydney has also worked on investigative projects for community reparations and slavery-era insurance policies. Having worked with institutions such as Colonial Williamsburg, George Washington’s Mount Vernon, and the United States National Archive, Sydney is excited to share more of their research with the Slave Dwelling Project Conference.



Dolly L. Marshall
Champion For Freedom: The Reverend Alexander Heritage Newton Story
Unearthing Untold Stories of Abolitionists, Freedom Seekers and the Underground Railroad in Historic African American Cemeteries
Thursday, October 3 at 10:30 am

Dolly L. Marshall is a historian, preservationist, educator and activist. Ms. Marshall is the Historic Preservation Specialist and the first African American and first woman historian to represent the City of Camden, NJ. She has also made a huge impact as a preservationist and is one of the Trustees of Mount Peace Cemetery Association which maintains Mount Peace Cemetery, a historic African American burial ground in Lawnside, NJ. Due to Ms. Marshall’s research and perseverance, Mount Peace Cemetery is designated as a National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom site and is listed on the African American Civil Rights Network by the National Park Service. Dolly Marshall is dedicated

to public service and the dissemination and truthful interpretation of African American and African diaspora histories. Ms. Marshall’s lineage is bursting with freedom fighters, evangelical leaders and anti-slavery activists. One such notable figure she descends from is abolitionist James Forten. His exhibit *Black Founders: The Forten Family of Philadelphia* was hosted by the Museum of the American Revolution during the 2022-2023 season and received record attendance. Ms. Marshall is working on a book about her genealogical discoveries and two Camden sites will be honored with historical markers for the New Jersey Black Heritage Trail. Her work has been recognized with many accolades including a Public Service Award from the Preservation Alliance for Greater Philadelphia and an Award of Recognition from the NJ Historical Commission for “Outstanding Service to Public Knowledge and Preservation of the History of New Jersey.”



Lauren McCormack
Freedom/Unfreedom: Reinterpreting Marblehead’s Lee Mansion and Slave Quarters
Thursday, October 3 at 3:30 pm

Lauren McCormack has served as the Executive Director of the Marblehead Museum since 2018, where she has led several projects to uncover and share the history of Black individuals who lived and worked in Marblehead throughout its history, for which the Museum earned a 2023 AASLH History Leadership in History Award. The Museum’s current project is to research, preserve, and interpret the newly-acquired 1766 detached Kitchen and Slave Quarters of the Jeremiah Lee Estate. Prior to that, she was the Project Director for an Institute of Museum and Library Services National Leadership Grant, Engage Families, with the USS Constitution Museum, where she led a team that studied

best practices for encouraging engagement and learning among and between all family members in museum programming (engagefamilies.org). She has also served as the Assistant Director of Education and Programming for Old Sturbridge Village. McCormack served as the Research Coordinator and Mass Humanities Scholar-in-Residence for the USS Constitution Museum, where she studied People of Color who served in the U.S. Navy during the War of 1812, as well as researched over 1,000 of USS Constitution’s crewmembers during the War of 1812. McCormack has a Masters of Arts degree in American History from Brandeis University and a Masters of Arts degree in American and New England Studies from Boston University, where her major paper was a study of the Black community living on the North Slope of Boston’s Beacon Hill in the early 19th century.



Joseph McGill Jr.
Sleeping with the Ancestors
Thursday, October 3 at 10:30 am

Joseph McGill Jr. is the founder of the Slave Dwelling Project in Charleston, SC. By arranging for people to sleep in extant slave dwellings, the Slave Dwelling Project has brought much needed attention to these often-neglected structures that are vitally important to the American built environment. Mr. McGill has conducted over 250 overnights in approximately 150 different sites in 25 states and the District of Columbia. He has interacted with the descendants of both the enslaved communities and of the enslavers associated with antebellum historic sites. He speaks with school children and college students, with historical societies, community groups, and members of the public. Joe is the coauthor to *Sleeping with the Ancestors*.



Cheyney McKnight
Afroterpretation: Interpreting History While Black
Thursday, October 3 at 3:15 pm

Cheyney McKnight is the Manager of Living History at New-York Historical Society. She develops and runs Living History Programs at the museum. Cheyney also runs the *Not Your Momma’s History* YouTube channel which has over 200,000 subscribers and 5 million views, that shows the day to day lives of Black people throughout American history.

Cheyney has taken her “Let’s Talk About Slavery” table to over 30 parks, historical sites, and public events across America to provide a safe place for people to learn and talk about the history of slavery.

Her current exhibit, *The Ancestor’s Future: An Afrofuturist Journey Through Time*, is a significant exploration of Black America’s past, viewed through the lens of Afrofuturism. McKnight’s work delves into a distant future while drawing on the past and present, illuminating the crucial role of Black bodies, health, and joy. McKnight’s creative practice, rooted in history, offers a fresh and enlightening understanding of our shared history and future.

Cheyney graduated from Simmons University in 2011 with a bachelors in Political Science.



Lisa Minardi
Slavery in Pennsylvania German Households
Saturday, October 5 at 3:00 pm

Lisa Minardi is executive director of Historic Trappe, where she oversees three historic houses associated with the Muhlenberg family and the Center for Pennsylvania German Studies. She is also editor of *Americana Insights*, an annual volume series dedicated to presenting groundbreaking research on traditional Americana and folk art. Lisa is also director of the Lutheran Archives Center at Philadelphia. Lisa holds a B.A. in history and museum studies from Ursinus College, an M.A. from the Winterthur Program in American Material Culture, and is a Ph.D. candidate in the History of American Civilization program at the University of Delaware, where she is researching the German-speaking community of early Philadelphia for her dissertation. She is the curator of numerous exhibitions

and author of many books and articles on Pennsylvania German art and culture, including *Pastors & Patriots: The Muhlenberg Family of Pennsylvania* and *A Colorful Folk: Pennsylvania Germans & the Art of Everyday Life*.



Margaret Newell
African Voices in New England Slavery, 1746-1841
Saturday, October 5 at 10:15 am

Margaret Ellen Newell is Arts and Sciences Distinguished Professor of History at The Ohio State University. Her most recent book, *Brethren by Nature: New England Indians, Colonists, and the Origins of American Slavery* (Cornell University Press), won the 2016 James A. Rawley Prize from the Organization of American Historians for the best book on the history of race relations in the U.S., and the 2016 Peter Gomes Memorial Prize for nonfiction from the Massachusetts Historical Society. Her recent articles include "The Rising of the Indians'; Or, the Native American Revolution of (16)76," *The William and Mary Quarterly*, 80 (April 2023); "Sarah Chauqum: Eighteenth Century Rhode Island and Connecticut," in *As If She Were Free: A Collective Biography of Women and Emancipation in the Americas*, ed. Erica Ball, Tatiana Seijas, and Terri Snyder (Cambridge University Press, 2020); "In the Borderlands of Race and Freedom (and Genre): Embedded Indian and African Slave Testimony in Eighteenth-Century New England," *Hearing Enslaved Voices: African and Indian Slave Testimony in French and British America, 1700-1848* ed. Sophie White and Trevor Burnard (Routledge, 2020). Presently, she is Principal Investigator for a multiyear Mellon-funded research project on African American and Native American citizenship, 1780-1950.

Professor Newell has appeared in a documentary on Indian slavery and on the podcasts *Ben Franklin's World* and *Teaching the Hard History of Slavery*. She has written Op-Eds on slavery and race for the *Providence Journal and Bulletin* and *The Columbus Dispatch*. One of her American Revolution lectures was filmed and televised by C-Span in 2022 and used to create educational programming on state constitutions.



Megan O'Malley
Lindenwald: A Presidential Home Meets its Black Past
Saturday, October 5 at 1:30 pm

Megan O'Malley has been Site Manager of Martin Van Buren National Historic Site in Kinderhook, NY for eight years. Before taking this position, she worked in units across the National Park Service including Allegheny Portage Railroad NHS, Johnstown Flood NMem, Yellowstone National Park and Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area. A childhood interest in history and archeology brought her to Bryn Mawr College where she earned a bachelor's degree in history. She's grateful that in her current position she can both support historic research and engage in it herself. When she's not working, she can be found in her garden with her crew of rescue dogs.



Dionne Patterson
The Fight Back to Freedom: Stolen Men of the Mid-Atlantic and Their Radical Returns
Thursday, October 3 at 4:15 pm

Dionne Patterson of UGR3DAY Underground Railroad Experiences Inc. provides historic education on the antebellum time period, as it relates to the lives of free and enslaved African Americans and the expansive facets of the Underground Railroad. Dionne is a graduate of Delaware State University, a certified cultural interpretive guide, a genealogist, herbalist, and historian. Her mission is to provide holistic, untold stories that highlight landscapes, structures and the people who exhibited faith, resilience and community on the Underground Railroad.

Through curated experiences, Dionne has developed partnerships throughout the Mid-Atlantic Region with state organizations, parks, genealogical societies, schools and museums. From hands-on workshops to walking tours, cycling, cruising, hiking, birding and seminars, participants are immersed in history.

She is an education consultant who carries the credentials of a subject-matter expert(SME) in trauma, cultural competency and a host of other topics that fall under the umbrella of diversity, equity and inclusion and child development. She is a curriculum and program developer who has developed programs for institutes of higher learning and the state of Delaware. Dionne also partnered with Delaware State University as a content consultant and storyteller for a documentary they produced on the Underground Railroad, entitled, *Women of Vision, Women of Purpose*. This fall she will be featured in a PBS documentary. Through UGR3DAY, she also writes and produces a quarterly magazine, a collection of Underground Railroad travels, Black history and genealogy.



Birte Pflieger
Slavery in Pennsylvania German Households
Saturday, October 5 at 3:00 pm

Birte Pflieger (bpflieger@calstatela.edu), is Professor of History at the California State University, Los Angeles. She earned her PhD at the University of California, Irvine. She was a pre-doctoral fellow at the McNeil Center for Early American Studies at the University of Pennsylvania and a post-doctoral fellow at the German Historical Institute. She is the author of *Ethnicity Matters: A History of the German Society of Pennsylvania* (GHI, 2006). "A horrible state of affairs: Race, Slavery, and Gradual Emancipation in Pennsylvania," was published in *Babel of the Atlantic: Language and Cultural Politics in Colonial Pennsylvania*, Bethany Wiggin ed. (Penn State University Press, 2019). In 2010 "German Immigration to Philadelphia from the Colonial Period through the Twentieth Century," was published in *Global Philadelphia: Immigrant Communities, Old and New*,

Ayumi Takenaka and Mary Osirim, eds. (Temple University Press, 2010). She is currently working on two projects related to mid-twentieth century German and German-American history: *Auf Wiedersehen!: Two German Teenagers and the Second World War*, in collaboration with Kevin Ostoyich, to be published by Berghahn Books. In addition, she is researching the life and legacy of Kurt Molzahn, a German-born Lutheran clergyman in Philadelphia convicted of espionage for Nazi Germany in 1942, titled *Vergangenheitsbewältigung: The Pastor Who Was a Nazi Spy*. Since 2022 Birte has served as the DHSI (U.S. Department of Education Developing Hispanic-Serving Institutions) Faculty Fellow for ACUE (Association of College and University Educators) at Cal State LA.



Michiko Quinones
Black Organizational Support for Freedom Seekers
Friday, October 4 at 10:15 am

Morgan Lloyd and Michiko Quinones are the co-founders of the 1838 Black Metropolis public history project. They have been resurfacing 19th Century Black histories through various formats; walking tours, social media, online exhibitions, blogs, TV appearances, interviews with press, papers, lesson plans, conference presentations, public talks. Morgan is a former Mellon Curatorial Fellow at the Philadelphia Museum of Art. She currently serves as Lead Interpreter at the African American Museum in Philadelphia. Michiko brings 25 years of IT experience to the project and has been a museum volunteer in Philadelphia for over a decade. She holds a MA in Museum Studies from Harvard University and BA in African American Studies/Government from University of Maryland-College Park.



David Rattray
Forgotten Founders: David Hempstead, Senior, and the Story of the Plain Sight Project
Saturday, October 5 at 1:30 pm

David Rattray is the founder and co-director of the Plain Sight Project study of slavery on Long Island, N.Y. In his day job, he is the fifth member of his family over three generations to serve as editor of The East Hampton Star weekly newspaper. The Plain Sight Project began with a search of a local church record for the names of enslaved persons and people of color. From two known enslaved individuals in East Hampton, the list quickly grew to more than 330 names. Expanding into nearby communities, the Plain Sight Project online database now contains more than 1,000 individuals. With the support of a Department of

Education grant, the project has completed a free curriculum component designed to fit into New York State's seventh grade education requirements. David is a descendent of many Northern enslavers in his own hometown, dating to the 1650s, a reality he did not confront until more than a year after Plain Sight Project research was underway.



Allison Reardon
A Lawful Business: 'The Legality of Slavery and the Interpretation of a Place of Law
Thursday, October 3 at 2:15 pm

Allison was raised in Indiana, and she attended Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis for both her undergraduate and graduate studies. She received two bachelor's degrees in history and biology and a master's degree in public history. She has worked for several museums and public history organizations, including the Center for Puppetry Arts, the Indiana Medical History Museum, and the National Council on Public History. At her current position as the Lead Interpreter at the New Castle Court House Museum, she plans and implements museum programming, creates social media content, and leads tours of the

historic building. Though she is new to Delaware, she is passionate about sharing its unique history and finding creative ways to support the region's diverse communities.



Thomas Schuch
New London, CT: A Microcosm of American History: Slavery, the REAL West Indies Trade, and the Struggle for Freedom, Education and Civil Rights 1637-1865
Friday, October 4 at 9:15 am

Tom Schuch is a New London native and a graduate of Georgetown University in Washington, D.C., with a longstanding interest in social justice issues. He retired after 38 years as executive director of a local residential facility for troubled adolescent males. He has an avid interest in history, particularly John Brown, the Civil War, and, as a lifelong Sherlock Holmes fan, he has a special interest in unknown, forgotten, hidden or suppressed local history. This interest led to the discovery of several of the sites that

are now part of the New London Black Heritage Walking Trail. He has given over 50 presentations and podcasts of his findings, including published articles in Connecticut Explored Magazine, and several local newspapers. He has plans in the works to help Freedom Fighter, and local hero, David Ruggles gain the recognition he deserves, which may include a number of presentations, publications and a Symposium in the near future. Brown University has accepted an article that Tom wrote on David Ruggles, which will be published in their upcoming book, *Reimagining New England Histories*, scheduled for release in 2025.



Carly Schmidt
Slavery in Pennsylvania German Households
Saturday, October 5 at 3:00 pm

Carly D. Schmidt is the Museum Educator at the Peter Wentz Farmstead, part of the County of Montgomery's Department of Parks, Trails, and Historic Sites. A native of the area, she enjoys sharing the county's early history with visitors through organizing special programs and events. She holds a Master's degree in the History of Art and Design from Pratt Institute, where she completed her thesis on Violet Oakley's murals in the Pennsylvania State Capitol Building.



Emily Sneff
Slavery in Pennsylvania German Households
Saturday, October 5 at 3:00 pm

Emily Sneff is an independent scholar and historian of the Declaration of Independence. She is the consulting curator for Historic Trappe’s exhibition planned for the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, and is also a consulting curator for the special exhibitions planned for 2026 at the American Philosophical Society and the Museum of the American Revolution. She earned her Ph.D. and M.A. in history from William & Mary and her B.A. in history from Johns Hopkins University. Her book manuscript, “When the Declaration of Independence was News,” traces the dissemination and reception of the Declaration across the United States and around the Atlantic in 1776.



Ally Spogr DeGon
Northern Stars: Freedom Seeker Networks of the Underground Railroad in New York
Saturday, October 5 at 3:00 pm

Ally Spogr DeGon is the Director of Public Art for the Niagara Falls National Heritage Area and the Interim Director for the Niagara Falls Underground Railroad Heritage Center. With a strong background in arts and culture, she generates enthusiasm for the advancement of cultural assets and dedication to local community.

Throughout the creation of the Heritage Center from 2016 to 2018, Ally creatively led the design-build project team, positioning the stories of freedom seekers in the forefront of the Underground Railroad narrative. The Heritage Center is the first new cultural institution to open in the City of Niagara Falls in over 35 years, and under Ally’s leadership she supported the decades-long vision of the Board of Directors with a budget of \$2.2 million. Additionally, since 2019, Ally has spearheaded the development of the Niagara Falls National Heritage Area’s public art initiatives, currently resulting in over 40 murals in the North End of the City of Niagara Falls.

Ally’s involvement in board service includes serving as the President of the Underground Railroad Consortium of New York State, Co-President of the Cultural Alliance of Niagara, and Trustee of Preservation Buffalo Niagara. Her educational background includes a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Painting with a Second Major in Art History, a Master’s Degree in Museum Studies from SUNY Buffalo State University, and she is working towards the completion of the Executive Program in Social Impact Strategy at the University of Pennsylvania’s School of Social Policy and Practice and the Center for Social Impact Strategy.



Grant Stanton
White Allies in Massachusetts? Ezekiel Russell, Isaiah Thomas, and the Problem of Antislavery in the American Revolution
Friday, October 4 at 8:00 am

Grant Stanton is an Assistant Professor of History and Africana Studies at Drew University studying Black politics and antislavery activism in early America. His work has been published in peer-reviewed, popular, and digital outlets, including *Early American Studies*, *the Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography*, *the Boston Globe*, *the Washington Post*, *the Slavery, Law, and Power Project*, and *the Magazine of Early American Datasets*. His scholarship has received special recognition from, among others, the Colonial Society of Pennsylvania, Temple University, and the College of William and Mary. Grant’s work has also been supported through fellowships offered by the American

Antiquarian Society, the American Philosophical Society, the Library Company of Philadelphia, and the National Endowment for the Humanities with Philadelphia’s Christ Church, among others.

Grant earned his PhD and MA in History at the University of Pennsylvania, his MA in the Social Sciences from the University of Chicago, and his BA in History and Political Science from the University of California – Santa Barbara.



Samuel Stephens, Ph.D.
Interpreting Northern Colonial Enslavement at the Trent House
Saturday, October 5 at 8:00 am

Sam Stephens is a Trenton resident of 40+ years and served on the Trent House Association board of trustees since 2013 and as treasurer since 2015. Beginning in June 2022 he began executive director for the Association, which manages and operates the 1719 William Trent House Museum for the City of Trenton. As trustee and now as staff, Stephens leads the Association’s work in expanding its interpretation of the Museum site, heading up projects on Lenape history and contemporary life, colonial slavery, Trenton’s industrial development and immigration, and the Great Migration.

For 30 years he was vice president of a non-profit social science research and evaluation center, where he worked until retirement in 2022. From 2014 to 2019 he also directed the federally funded Research Connections project at the National Center for Children in Poverty at Columbia University. He was a senior survey researcher at Mathematica Policy Research from 1980 to 1991.

Stephens holds a Bachelors in sociology from Reed College in Portland, Oregon, and Master and Doctorate degrees in sociology from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor.



Katie Stockdale, MA
Closed Doors: Exposing the Anti-Black North through Law
Friday, October 4 at 10:15 am

Katie Stockdale is a museum specialist and storyteller focused on widening the lens of historical memory. Her professional goal is to return those who have been ignored, silenced, or written out of history to the mainstream narrative. Katie holds a master’s in history with a concentration in Public History, and a certificate in Museum Studies from the University of West Georgia. She is currently the Exhibit Content Developer at the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center. In her role, Katie determines the content of the Freedom Center’s exhibits and the strategies for communicating that content.



Keith Stokes
The First Emancipation: Forging Free African Heritage Identity in Early America
Saturday, October 5 at 8:00 am

In all of the various roles in his four decades of public service to Rhode Island Keith W. Stokes is driven to create community for all who call the ocean state home. From elected city official in his beloved home of Newport to statewide office as a gubernatorial appointment on economic development to his service for the City of Providence, Stokes sought to braid public dollars with private development to foster a beloved community.

Keith took an undergraduate degree from Cornell University and his formative graduate work on public policy was obtained at the University of Chicago. Woven into the formal education are the stories of a generation of ancestors whispering long shared stories of a time before the American Revolution and the lens to see the present.

Keith is presently Vice President with the 1696 Heritage Group. He has also been an Advisor for Rhode Island with the National Trust for Historic Preservation and served on numerous local, regional, and national business and public boards, including Preservation Society for Newport County, Touro Synagogue Foundation, Rhode Island Historical Preservation & Heritage Commission Historical Review Board, Rhode Island Black Heritage Society, Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation, Quonset Development Corporation, Rhode Island Foundation, and the American Antiquarian Society.

His current passion is borne of a heritage that extends before the republic and ground his roots in the land of Rhode Island. From his father the cerebral and equally physical baseball, and from his mother a grounding in history and a curiosity to learn more about his African, Jewish and Caribbean family roots. He frequently appears on national historical programs, including C-SPAN, Fox News Legends & Lies, and Ted Talk. Recently, he was the lead researcher and author of “A Matter of Truth” publication for the examination and documentation of the role of the City of Providence and State of Rhode Island in supporting a “Separate and Unequal” existence for African heritage, Indigenous, and People of Color.

He is a 9th generation Rhode Islander and calls Newport home with his beloved wife Theresa and is the father of four children, and an extended clan of Pit Bull dogs that he rescues and nurtures.



Gina Tangorra
Newport Restoration Foundation: Telling Stories, a Dispersed Monument
Saturday, October 5 at 9:15 am

Gina has been at NRF for 5 years, with evolving roles that have worked to advance NRF's strategic engagement with communities, increase accessibility, spark curiosity, and encourage a sense of belonging through inclusive storytelling. Prior to coming to NRF, Gina was the Interpretive Specialist at the Richard H. Driehaus Museum in Chicago, Illinois where she redesigned the museum's interpretive content to include more nuanced, inclusive, and engaging storytelling. She holds a MPhil in Modern European History from the University of Cambridge, a MSLIS from the Graduate School of Library & Information Sciences at the University of Illinois, and a B.A. in History and English Literature with a Minor in Hispanic Studies from Illinois Wesleyan University.



James Tanzer
Surfacing Maine's Suppressed Stories of Enslavement and Agency
Thursday, October 3 at 3:30 pm

James Tanzer has been a museum professional in Maine for 15 years and serves in a volunteer capacity as Vice President and trustee of Lincoln County Historical Association in Lincoln County, Maine. James holds a B. A. in history from Smith College and an M. A. in medieval history from the University of Toronto. In the spring of 2020, while working on a genealogy project in the history of a white family in Lincoln County, Maine, James came across a digital copy of the will of a formerly enslaved Black man named Quash Winchell during the eighteenth century. Thus began a years-long project in local history to uncover the life of Quash and bring his memory to the fore once again in the communities in which he lived.



Korinne Tanzer
Surfacing Maine's Suppressed Stories of Enslavement and Agency
Thursday, October 3 at 3:30 pm

Korinne Tanzer is currently obtaining a bachelor's degree in History through Arizona State University online. She is also a volunteer with and on the board of trustees for Lincoln County Historical Association in Lincoln County, Maine, where she has been researching free and enslaved Black sailors of the 18th and 19th centuries from the area.



Tonya Ward Singer
Descendants of Northern Slavery History, Black and White, Discuss Freedom and Resistance through the Lens of our Interconnected Family Legacies
Thursday, October 3 at 11:30 am

Tonya Ward Singer, founder of Courageous Literacy LLC, is an author and international consultant helping K-12 educators shift mindsets and practices for equitable schools. A descendant of New Englanders, Tonya lived decades with the illusion of freedom in the north. Since finding a clue in an 18th century family letter, she has been unearthing legacies of slavery and silence in her northern ancestry. This ongoing work has become collective through collaborations with the Black Heritage Trail of NH, Moffatt-Ladd House & Gardens, Black historians, and descendants of interconnected histories. Tonya is the 6th-great-grandniece of the man who enslaved Prince Whipple, and humbled to be in collaboration with Laurel Guild Yancey in honoring Prince and Dinah Chase Whipple's legacies. Tonya volunteers with Coming to the Table to co-facilitate honest dialogues on racism, truth seeking and healing. Contact: <https://tonyasinger.com/contact/>



Amie Whitmore
Northern Stars: Freedom Seeker Networks of the Underground Railroad in New York
Saturday, October 5 at 3:00 pm

Amie Whitmore is the Experiential Connections Coordinator at the Niagara Falls National Heritage Area, where she spearheads the creation of immersive Heritage Tours. In the upcoming summer of 2025, she is set to unveil the much-anticipated BadA** Women of Niagara Falls Tour.

Her journey at the Niagara Falls Underground Railroad Heritage Area commenced in May 2022, where she initially served as a Visitor Experience Specialist, leading enlightening Freedom Conversation Tours. With a rich background encompassing roles in education, tour guiding, and public speaking, Amie brings a multifaceted approach to her endeavors.

In her current capacity, Amie is actively developing an Ambassador program for the Niagara Discovery Shuttle, aimed at empowering teenagers in Niagara Falls to become advocates for the city's rich history and natural beauty. Additionally, she provides comprehensive training for shuttle drivers, ensuring a seamless and enriching experience for visitors. This summer, a compelling new addition to the tour offerings was introduced: On Juneteenth, a poignant excursion from the site of the former Cataract House Hotel within Niagara Falls State Park to the brink of the American Falls was inaugurated. By transporting narratives beyond the confines of traditional museum settings, this on-site tour injects fresh vitality into the already captivating story.

During the off-season, Amie delves into a long-term research project focused on the evolution of Main Street, unraveling its historical tapestry and tracing its transformative journey through the years. Contact Amie at amie@discoverniagara.org



John Wildeboer
Slavery in Illinois, Indentured Service Contracts and the Illinois Saline
Friday, October 4 at 9:15 am

John L. Wildeboer is a graduate of Calvin University and the University of Illinois College of Law. He is a retired attorney, previously a trial and appellate attorney in criminal and civil cases.

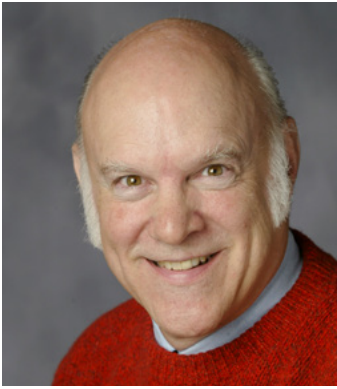
In conjunction with the 8th Annual Slave Dwelling Conference he has produced *An Illinois Slavery Primer, Slavery and Indentured Servitude Through the Lens of the Illinois Supreme Court*. The Primer discusses the approach of Illinois Supreme Court to slavery, indentured servitude, fugitives, de facto enslaved, enslaved in transit, free persons of color and the "French negroes" of Illinois and includes the text of fifty Illinois Supreme

Court cases discussed in the text.

As a retirement project he has been compiling collections of state supreme court cases relating to the institution of slavery and free persons of color, including: Alabama Supreme Court, 1855-1860, 449 cases; Arkansas Supreme Court, 1837-1860, 338 cases; Delaware Court of Errors and Appeals, 1792-1862, 141 cases; Florida Supreme Court, 1846-1860, 113 cases; Georgia Supreme Court, 1846-1860, 749 cases; Kentucky Court of Appeals, 1847-1860, 340 cases; Louisiana Supreme Court 1855-1860, 579 cases; Maryland Court of Appeals, 1829-1860, 281 cases; Mississippi Court of Errors and Appeals and Supreme Court, 1818-1860, 893 cases; Missouri Supreme Court, 1821-1861, 497 cases; South Carolina, 1841-1861, 444 cases; Tennessee Court of Errors and Appeals and the Supreme Court 1801-1860, 968 cases; Texas Supreme Court, 1846-1860, 452 cases. These compilations have been self-published under the name JL Wildeboer on Amazon.com.

He also writes a weekly Substack article, "JL's Substack - 3/5th of All Other Persons," which addresses the story of the enslaved person or free person of color underlying a specific state supreme court decision. To date he has posted pieces on cases from the Supreme Courts of eleven states, from Delaware to Texas.

He has previously written *Jehu: Regicide* (Resource Publications, Wipf and Stock Publishing, 2022), *Ragpickers' Soiree*, *The Haitian Plan* and *The Unauthorized Autobiography of Leon Ezra Van Raalte* (available through Amazon.com).



Peter H. Wood
A Philadelphia Story: Uncovering the True Narrative of “Old Blind Hawkins”, a Northerner Involved in the West African Slave Trade in the 1790s
Thursday, October 3 at 9:30 am

Peter H. Wood is a graduate of Harvard and Oxford; he taught early American history and Native American history at Duke from 1975 until his retirement in 2007. He now lives in Longmont, Colorado. His 1974 book on enslavement in the colonial era appeared this year in an expanded fiftieth-anniversary edition entitled *Black Majority: Race, Rice, and Rebellion in South Carolina, 1670-1740*.

In 2022, Dr. Wood helped to organize the SDP Annual Conference in Charleston, and he prepared a related free booklet entitled “*What Was Stono? Discovering a South Carolina Freedom Struggle.*” bit.ly/srglance He has contributed to several PBS productions concerning slavery, and he is an author for the major American History textbook, *Created Equal* (Pearson).

Professor Wood co-authored *Natives and Newcomers* (UNC Press, 1983), a brief history of early North Carolina that won the American Historical Association’s Robinson Prize. Wood has worked with Houston’s Menil Foundation on its monumental project on “The Image of the Black in Western Art.” In 2010, he received the Asher Distinguished Teaching Award given by the American Historical Association.

Dr. Wood has written extensively on the great American artist, Winslow Homer. Wood’s Huggins Lectures at Harvard in 2009 resulted in *Near Andersonville: Winslow Homer’s Civil War* (Harvard U. Press, 2010). With Karen Dalton, he produced *Winslow Homer’s Images of Blacks: The Civil War and Reconstruction Years* (University of Texas Press, 1988). His 2002 Lamar Memorial Lectures at Mercer University resulted in *Weathering the Storm: Inside Winslow Homer’s Gulf Stream* (University of Georgia Press, 2004).



Juliette Wurm
A Lawful Business: The Legality of Slavery and the Interpretation of a Place of Law
Thursday, October 3 at 2:15 pm

A native of Landenberg, PA, Juliette received a bachelor’s degree in history from the State University of New York at Cortland and a master’s degree in museum education from George Washington University. She has worked at various history and science museums on the East Coast. Currently, she is the Site Supervisor at the New Castle Court House Museum, which is part of the Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs. As the Site Supervisor, she is in charge of the everyday running of the Court House. In her free time, she enjoys swimming, hiking, podcasts and occasionally escaping the real world with books and games.



Laurel Guild Yancey
Descendants of Northern Slavery History, Black and White, Discuss Freedom and Resistance through the Lens of our Interconnected Family Legacies
Thursday, October 3 at 11:30 am

Laurel Guild Yancey is an attorney in private practice, and an advocate for justice. During 2022, Laurel unexpectedly learned that she is the 6th-great-granddaughter of Prince Whipple and Dinah Chase Whipple, enslaved Africans in Portsmouth, New Hampshire during the 1800s. As recognized leaders in their community, Prince and Dinah sought justice, freedom, equality and education. Their efforts are not footnotes in American history. Rather, their contributions are found in the histories of Portsmouth, New Hampshire, the records of the American Revolutionary War, and the events surrounding America’s independence. Through research, storytelling and projects, Laurel humanizes Prince and Dinah Chase Whipple who persevered under slavery in the northern states, defied the oppressive norms of their time, were rightfully emancipated by their owners, and liberated from the name of slave, Servant for Life.



Changing the narrative, one slave dwelling at a time.



THE Slave Dwelling PROJECT

Founded in 2010, the Slave Dwelling Project envisions a future in which the hearts and minds of Americans acknowledge a more truthful and inclusive narrative of the history of the nation that honors the contributions of all our people, is embedded and preserved in the buildings and artifacts of people of African heritage, and inspires all Americans to acknowledge their Ancestors.

www.slavedwellingproject.org



Meet the People that Make the Slave Dwelling Project Possible

Joseph McGill Jr. is the founder of the Slave Dwelling Project in Charleston, SC. By arranging for people to sleep in extant slave dwellings, the Slave Dwelling Project has brought much needed attention to these often-neglected structures that are vitally important to the American built environment. Mr. McGill has conducted over 250 overnights in approximately 150 different sites in 25 states and the District of Columbia. He has interacted with the descendants of both the enslaved communities and of the enslavers associated with antebellum historic sites. He speaks with school children and college students, with historical societies, community groups, and members of the public.

Ashley Bouknight is a community educator and museum consultant for various museums, historic sites, and neighborhood history projects in the southeast. She received a Masters of Arts in Public History and a Certificate in Museum Management from the University of South Carolina and a Bachelor of Arts in Historic Preservation and Community Planning from the College of Charleston. She received a Ph.D. in Public History Program from Middle Tennessee State University. Her research focuses on collections management theory, intersectionality and inclusivity in museums, and community outreach. Dr. Bouknight served as a Curator at Andrew Jackson's Hermitage and the Senior Manager of Professional Development for the American Association for State and Local History.

Rachael Harrell Finch is the Founder & CEO of Engage Preservation Consulting, Inc., a cultural resource management firm dedicated to stewarding historic sites, museums, and communities through innovative strategic initiatives, inclusive practices for preservation and interpretive planning, GIS, and community-forward advocacy. Finch has nearly two decades of experience in historic preservation, museum management, and nonprofit leadership. Finch holds an MA in Public History with an emphasis in Historic Preservation, Cultural Resource Management and Administration of Historical Organizations from Middle Tennessee State University and a BA in History and Political Science from Metropolitan State University in Denver, Colorado.

Tammy Gordon a seasoned nonprofit executive with over 18 years of experience in education, historic preservation, government contracting, and public programming. Her expertise includes curriculum design, homeschooling, program management, operational efficiency, and a global perspective on national programming. Tammy recently spoke at the last AASLH conference about the importance of building interpretations and public programs that uniquely center the Black visitor experience. Tammy works remotely and supports our Executive Director by managing schedules, coordinating logistics for our bi-annual conference, campfire talks, sleepovers, speaking engagements, and enhancing our organizational infrastructure.

Amber N. Mitchell is the Curator of Black History at The Henry Ford Museum of American Innovation in Dearborn, MI. As a public historian, Amber strives to tell the stories of underrepresented peoples in cultural institutions and transform cultural and historical institutions into accessible reflections of our communities. Before joining The Henry Ford, Amber worked at Whitney Plantation, the National WWII Museum, and the American Association for State and Local History. She holds a master's degree in History from Indiana University and a bachelor's in History from Wayne State University in Detroit, MI.

Nicole A. Moore is a public historian with 10 years' experience interpreting the lives of the enslaved. She has facilitated workshops on best practices around the interpretation of slavery and has conducted training sessions at historic sites across the Southeast. Ms. Moore serves on the board of directors for the National Council on Public History and is an active member of the American Association for State and Local History. Her publications include chapters in *Interpreting Slavery* and *Interpreting the Civil War for Museums & Historic Sites* as well as *Radical Roots: Civic Engagement, Public History and a Tradition of Social Justice Activism*. Ms. Moore is currently director of education at the National Center for Civil and Human Rights in Atlanta, Georgia.

Frederick DeShon Murphy is the founder of History Before Us, LLC, a project centered on capturing, preserving and advocating influential history. His first film, the award-winning *The American South as We Know It*, explores the lives of survivors of Jim Crow—the courageous individuals who didn't make the headlines. His second documentary, *The Other Side of the Coin: Race, Generations & Reconciliation*, was released on September 2, 2020. A collection of experiences and thoughts addressing the complexities of race in America, the film asks, "How do we reconcile for the sake of future generations and humanity?" Mr. Murphy is a Licensed Clinical Mental Health Counselor who finds joy in helping people achieve and retain an optimum level of functioning by focusing on their holistic health. He has a master's degree in Transformative Leadership and serves on the board of the James K. Polk historic site in Pineville, North Carolina.

Tanya M. Timmons, treasurer of the Slave Dwelling Project, has a love for history and believes strongly that if you don't know your past, you can't appreciate your future. She enjoys all things planner related (journals, fountain pens, stickers), traveling, trying new wines, and new love of weight training and Zumba. A project manager at ATI, she also serves at Co-Chairperson of IDEA (Inclusivity, Diversity, Equity, Advancement) Council. Tanya is married with two young adults.

Jon Williams holds a BA in History from Wake Forest University, an MS in History (Secondary Education) from North Carolina A&T State University, and a Post-Master's Certificate for School Administration from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. Jon served as a high school Social Studies teacher for close to 20 years, and as a school administrator for over 8 years serving as Principal of a high school, a middle school, and an alternative school in addition to roles as an Assistant Principal. He was named the McMichael High School Teacher of the Year for 2012-2013 and is a past recipient of the Marcellus Waddill Excellence in Teaching Award from Wake Forest University. Jon has now retired from North Carolina Public Schools and is currently an Adjunct Professor at Wake Forest University in the Education Department.

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