

Mitchelville Times

November 2019

Newsletter

The Mitchelville Times is the official newsletter of Historic Mitchelville Freedom Park.

Lighting of Big Oak Tree & Lantern Parade Reprise

The Lighting of the Big Oak Tree will be held in Historic Mitchelville Freedom Park, 229 Beach City Road, Hilton Head Island, SC on December 9, 2019 at 5:30pm.

We are inviting participants from the overwhelmingly successful Hilton Head Island Lantern Parade sponsored by Culture HHI, to bring your lantern's and highlight the history, ecology, and family of our Community/Island.

Dr. Marlena Smalls and The Hallelujah Singers, and Historic First African Baptist Church, will sing and tell some amazing stories of Holiday celebrations in the Low-country.

The Lighting of the Big Oak Tree is apart of a weekend of Sea Island traditions, Historic Holidays on Hilton Head Island.

**LIGHTING OF THE
BIG OAK TREE**
Plus
entertainment features include
Marlena Smalls, the Hallelujah Singers
& Historical First African Baptist Church Choir
.....
HISTORIC MITCHELVILLE FREEDOM PARK
229 BEACH CITY ROAD
HILTON HEAD ISLAND, SC
.....
DEC 9
5:30 PM - 6:30 PM
FREE ADMISSION
DONATIONS WILL
BE ACCEPTED
MORE INFORMATION VISIT:
EXPLOREMITCHELVILLE.ORG
OR CALL 843.255.7301
f t i @EXPLOREMITCHELVILLE

REMINDERS:

- Arrive by 5pm if you are bringing your lantern.
- Please park at the Historic St. James Baptist Church and Historic Cherry Hill School and walk down to the park. Lantern will be lit when the Big Tree is lit.
- Hot chocolate and soup will be available for purchase.
- For more information call (843)255-7301

Admission is FREE.

HHI Lantern Parade



On November 9, we enjoyed a magical evening along with hundreds of others as we illuminated the night on South Forest Beach. for the HHI Lantern Parade. This temporary art installation was created by and featured artist Chantelle Rytter. The inaugural event was hosted by Culture HHI.

Upcoming

December 6-9, 2019
Historic Holidays on
Hilton Head Island
Various Locations

December 9, 2019
Holiday Lighting in
Historic Mitchelville
Freedom Park

February 1, 2020
Freedom Day Celebration
Historic Mitchelville
Freedom Park

Historic Mitchelville Freedom Park preserves, promotes and honors Mitchelville, the first self-governed town of formerly enslaved people in the United States. HMFP is a 501(c)3 organization. All contributions are tax deductible.

843-255-7301  exploremitchelville.org



Annual Board of Directors Meeting Highlights

The Annual Mitchelville Preservation Project Board of Directors Meeting was held November 19. The board reviewed the successes, challenges, and changes within Mitchelville Preservation Project and set benchmarks for the upcoming year.

Listed are this year's successes within Historic Mitchelville Freedom Park and Mitchelville Preservation Project:

-HMFP received **\$150,000** from the South Carolina State Budget to support development of the Park area. Special thanks to Senator Tom Davis and the South Carolina legislature for their support of Historic Mitchelville Freedom Park.

-HMFP has raised **\$182,450** through program revenue, fundraising, sponsorships, donations and pledges.

-Launched 2019 **Griot's Corner** Literacy program on February 28 Connected with **400** school children and **500** people in total. This program was made possible through the generous support of the Breedlove Foundation.

-The Finding Freedom's Home exhibition at the Westin Hotel and Spa has reached **25,000** people.

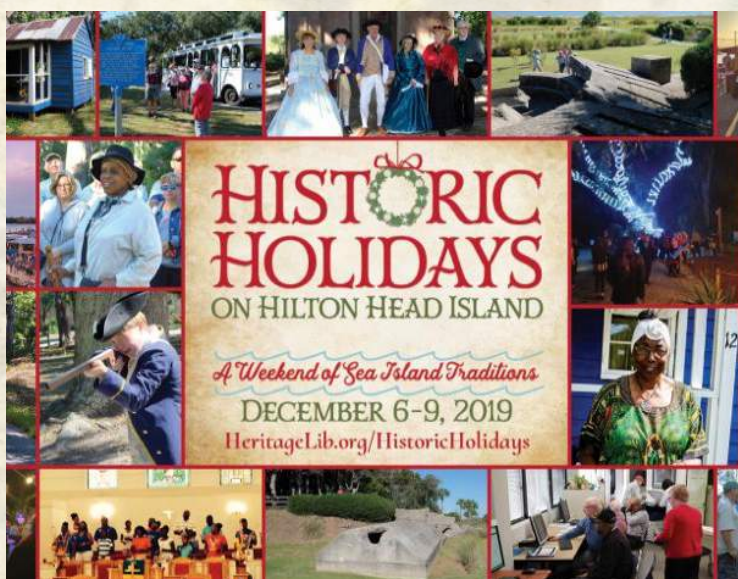
-2019 public programs, presentations and outreach have reached **35,410** people.

-The **2019 Juneteenth Celebration** took place on June 15 and featured Ruben Studdard, Alvin Garrett, Latrese Bush, Logan the Entertainer and Marlena Smalls. There were **1,200** people in attendance on Saturday and additional Juneteenth-related events and outreach brought our all-around attendance to **1,875** people.

-Launched **M.A.G.I.C Youth Leadership** program on March 12. The students were trained to give docent tours of the Park and connected with over **300** people this Summer. This program was made possible through the generous support of the Breedlove Foundation.

-Katie Seeber and archaeologists from the Masters of Arts Public Archaeology program at Binghamton University, worked at the Park from **June 8 – July 18** to confirm the location of one of the historic churches on the Mitchelville property.

Holiday Fun On Hilton Head Island



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