

Mitchelville Times

September 2019

Newsletter

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

GRIOT'S CORNER ADDS DATES FOR 2019-2020



The Griot's Corner literacy program at Historic Mitchelville Freedom Park has added dates for the fall of 2019, in addition to Spring 2020. Griot's Corner is designed for early readers from PreK through grade 3, and welcomes classes of up to thirty children for the program under the Big Oak Tree in the park. Stories center on diversity with this year's special focus on relationships.

The presentations will be conducted in the traditional Griot style, the West African name for tribal history-keepers and story tellers, and will include guest readers from the community. The children will also share in activities like art, games and music related to the theme. Historic Mitchelville, the site of the first mandatory education program in South Carolina in 1862, keeps the spirit of public education alive through the tradition of storytelling to help encourage the importance of literature in the understanding of all people.

The titles for this year's programs are as follows:

October - The Adventures of Connie and Diego by Maria Garcia

November - The Sandwich Shop by Queen Roni AlAbdullah

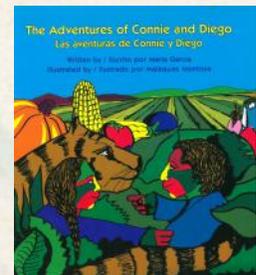
February - If A Bus Could Talk by Faith Ringgold

March - Just Like Josh Gibson by Angela Johnson

May - The Other Side by Jacqueline Woodson

To make arrangements for your visit to Griot's Corner, please call us at the office of Historic Mitchelville Freedom Park, 843-255-7301.

Griot's Corner Featured Book



A brother and sister who are teased because of their very different appearance leave their home and venture through a forest, where many animals assist them on their journey to a better understanding of themselves and their world. This is a bilingual story based on a Mexican folktale and read in Spanish and English.

Upcoming

October 2019

Gullah Geechee Cultural
Heritage Corridor
Awareness Month

November 2, 2019

Historic Mitchelville
Freedom Park
Anniversary Forum

December 9, 2019

Holiday Lighting in
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.

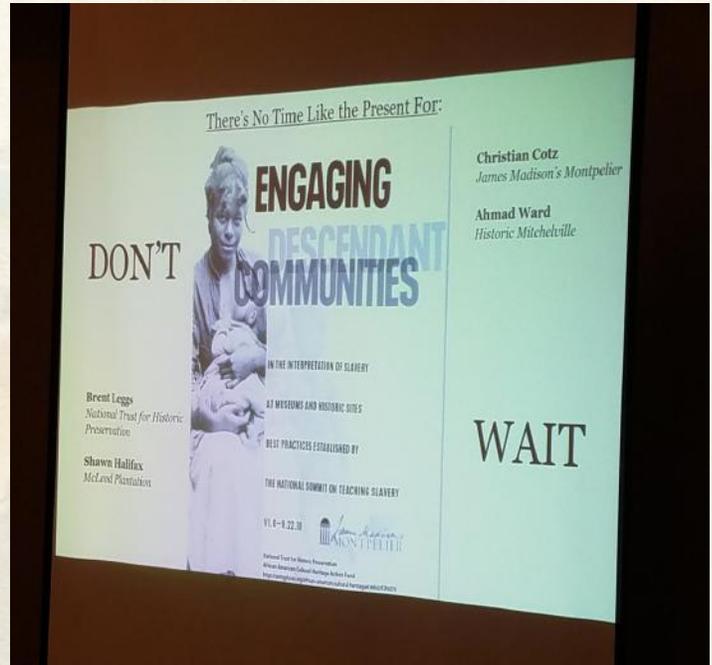
843-255-7301  exploremitchelville.org



HMFP Presents Teaching Slavery Toolkit in Philadelphia

Executive Director, Ahmad Ward presented in Philadelphia, PA on a Teaching Slavery Toolkit at the American Association for State and Local History. The rubric is being used in the implementation of the Mitchelville Master Plan which should be completed near the end of the year. Stay tuned for more information about the plan and the future efforts to create Historic Mitchelville.

Each year, 1,000 public history professionals and volunteers gather at the American Association for State and Local History for four days of learning, collaboration, networking, and inspiration. The AASLH Annual Meeting is known for practical sessions, takeaways galore, hallway conversations, unmatched evening events, new life-long friendships, intensive workshops, and the inspiration that comes from being around other history-doers. A complimentary Online Conference runs during the Annual Meeting.



Anniversary Forum: "Access: Who Has It?"



Mitchelville's significance in American history is profound. It represents the first African American self-governed town in the United States. The courage, perseverance, and resourcefulness of the freedmen on Hilton Head Island, SC ushered in the dawn of freedom. Their experiences during an era of war and the Reconstruction Period, exposed a culture that had survived from its roots in Africa, demonstrating how deeply the ideas of self-dependence and freedom were embedded in the minds of the African Americans. Suddenly, these individuals had access to property, education, and an independence that opened their minds to the real possibilities of citizenship and community.

Last year's forum, "Freedom Isn't Free," examined the historic push for freedom in this country and the notion that the struggle continues today. The 2019 Anniversary Forum: "Access: Who Has It?" looks at the issues revolving around historic and contemporary access in 21st Century America. This one-day session will examine access to quality education, issues associated with Health Care and the growing political power of women, 100 years after gaining the right to vote in 1920. The Forum will take place on November 2, 2019 on Hilton Head Island, SC from 9:00 am to 2:30 pm.

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