

FROM GABRIEL TO #BLACKLIVESMATTER

MARCH 17-18, 2017

FRIDAY, MARCH 17

7:00PM

Join us at **First Baptist Church (727 Scotland St)** to hear The **Hampton University Choir** under the direction of Mr. Omar Dickenson

SATURDAY, MARCH 18
Mason School of Business
(101 Ukrop Way)

8:30am

Continental breakfast and check-in

9:30am

Keynote speaker, Brinkley Commons
Dr. Lester Spence
"Resurrecting A Black Radical Tradition"

10:45am **Presentations**

Brinkley Commons

Public History: Interpreting the Lives and Resistance of Enslaved Virginians for Twenty-first Century Revolutionaries

Room 1069

Rebelling against the System: Black Revolutionary Thought in Haiti, Hampton, and the Shenandoah Valley

Room 1082

Black Women's Rebellions Against Enslavement and Imprisonment

Room 1088

The Lemon Project in Action: William and Mary Undergraduate Presentations

ACTIVISM AND THE ARTS

12:00pm

Infuse your lunch hour with artistic flair.

1:00pm **Presentations**

Brinkley Commons

"Visibility and Race: From Civil Rights to 'Black Lives Matter'"

2:15pm **Presentations**

Brinkley Commons

Documentary & Panel: "Rise Up: The Legacy of Nat Turner"

OPEN MIC NIGHT

7:00pm **Sadler Center (200 Stadium Dr.) Lodge 1**

Enjoy live performances & wrap up the weekend.

Panel Abstracts
SATURDAY, MARCH 18

10:45am **Public History: Interpreting the Lives and Resistance of Enslaved Virginians for Twenty-first Century Revolutionaries, Brinkley Commons**

*Moderator: Susan Kern, Ph.D.
Executive Director, Historic Campus and Adjunct Associate Professor of History,
William and Mary*

“Black Lives Matter: Resistance, Rebellion, and Sacrifice from Gabriel to Trayvon Martin,”
**Autumn Barrett, Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Social and Cultural Analysis,
New York University**
Ana F. Edwards, History graduate student, Virginia Commonwealth University

This paper discusses the circulations and resonance of revolutionary discourse in Virginia of 1800. We connect past and present trajectories of liberation struggles by discussing ethnographic dialogues with Virginia residents. Gabriel’s legacies live on in contemporary personal and collective formations of meaning where slavery is a defining part of one’s history, in local and national narratives, as well as in present day fights for social justice to end systemic oppressions. Recognizing that Gabriel’s 1800 revolt was one example within a history of resistance, as long as the history slavery in the Atlantic World, we examine the context of Gabriel’s life and his legacies, as moments within a long history of Africans of the Diaspora fighting to end slavery and oppression.

“The Quiet Revolution: Defining and Declaring, “I have a valued history!”
Zann Nelson, Director, Montpelier's African American Descendants' Project

The work currently being conducted under the auspices of James Madison’s Montpelier Foundation is to identify living descendants of people of color, enslaved or free and associated with the Madisons, Montpelier and/or other properties in Orange County, VA. The presentation will review and explore the challenges faced and the solutions utilized in the efforts to identify, track and collaborate with living descendants. Revolutions are not always about military-style weapons or provocative protests.

“A fitting anniversary to mark slavery’s end”
Steven T. Corneliussen, columnist, Physics Today Online, and member, The Save Fort Monroe network

The increasingly recognized celebration Juneteenth, June 19, recalls a happy day in 1865 but unhappily cements a false understanding of emancipation. Inherently, it focuses on black passivity, requiring stark disrespect for self-emancipating black revolutionaries' crucial, central, animating agency in emancipation's evolution. This presentation shows that May 23, not misleading, obsolete Juneteenth, is the fitting anniversary for marking slavery's end—and for remembering those revolutionaries' first hobbled, halting but hopeful steps toward belatedly but blessedly completing America's founding as the first nation built on ideas.

Rebelling against the System: Black Revolutionary Thought in Haiti, Hampton, and the Shenandoah Valley , Room 1069

Moderator: R. Trent Vinson, Associate Professor of History, William & Mary

“Haiti’s Contributions to Francophone Black Atlantic Identity”

William Alexander, Ph.D., Professor, Norfolk State University

The Haitian Revolution, with its primarily African-born (bossale) participants, was a defining experience for the Atlantic world, almost a sine qua non of black consciousness in the Francophone Atlantic. This study examines the writings of Haitian intellectuals Juste Chanlatte (1766-1828), Baron Pompée Valentin Vastey (1781-1820), S. Linstant Pradine (?-1884), and Joseph Auguste Anténor-Firmin (1850-1911) that defined the intellectual agendas of the 19th-century Francophone Black Atlantic. Beyond the Enlightenment values of freedom and liberty, and the attainment of actual freedom through abolition by 1848, Francophone blacks and people of color asserted the worth of their own culture and its equality with others.

“Revolutionary Foot Soldiers: Hampton Institute Students Dismantling Jim Crow,”

Linda Janet Holmes, M.P.A., independent scholar

Leah Smith, B.A., Hampton University

Zachary McKiernan, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Hampton University

If revolution is the dismantling of one paradigm and its replacement by another, then the Hampton Institute students who turned Jim Crow on its head during the lunch-counter sit-ins, economic boycotts, civil disobedience, and voter registration drives of the 1960s are indeed revolutionaries in both thought and action. This presentation, then, highlights the Hampton students who served as foot-soldiers in the social and political upheavals that defined not only an historical moment but, indeed, a revolutionary movement that grew to have a national scope. So, too, does the research behind this presentation fill historiographical voids as much as mobilize today’s Hampton University students and local citizens to memorialize and remember these actors and events to inform and spark social action to challenge racist policies that persist today

“The Freedmen’s Labor Revolution in the Northern Shenandoah Valley,”

Donna Dodenhoff, Ph.D., research historian and educator, Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation.

Almost two years before a Union League was established in Winchester, freedmen of the Northern Shenandoah Valley had organized a proto-labor movement, becoming the principle agents in the crumbling of the area’s paternalistic agricultural economy. Black farm laborers resisted the Virginia legislature’s efforts to impose such constraints on their labor as vagrancy and anti-enticement measures. By Reconstruction’s end, while the freedmen did not enjoy the full autonomy of landowners and proprietors neither were they emancipated dependents.

Black Women's Rebellions Against Enslavement and Imprisonment, Room 1082

*Moderator: Suzette Spencer, Visiting Assistant Professor, English,
William and Mary*

***"From Cradle to Your Grave: Poison by House Slaves in Antebellum Virginia,"
Lexi Cleveland, alumna of William and Mary and Leiden University; Office Manager,
Cultural Heritage Partners, PLLC.***

"From Cradle to Your Grave: Poison by House Slaves in Antebellum Virginia," Lexi Cleveland, alumna of William and Mary and Leiden University; Office Manager, Cultural Heritage Partners, PLLC. The scholarly focus on violent, open revolt, such as Nat Turner's Rebellion, has led to the erasure of smaller forms of resistance and has particularly been neglectful of representing women in the narrative of resistance. The use of poison marks a much needed middle ground on the spectrum of slave resistance as it is both a violent way of revolt but also hidden. Slaves were often employed in positions of trust, such as cooks, nannies, and housemaids and examining the use of poison by house slaves allows for women and children to be viewed as agents of violent revolt.

"Sassy Mouths, Unfettered Spirits, and the Contemporary Lynching of Sandra Bland and Korryn Gaines, Structural Cognitive Dissonance (*SCD), Post Traumatic Slave "Master" Syndrome, and the Familiar "Policing" of Black Women's Resistance in 21st Century America,"

Zoe Spencer, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Virginia State University

This socio-historic paper critically correlates the history of lynching to the contemporary "suicides" and "officer involved shootings" of Black women resisters, who have been associated with the Black Lives Matter and contemporary resistance. This places the manner in which stereotypes of "the sapphire" construct contribute to the devaluation of Black women's revolutionary voice, work, and resistance. But more importantly, this work develops two new theoretical concepts that explain the psycho-structural impact that Emancipation and the loss of supremacist, capitalist, sexual, and patriarchal domination over Black women's bodies, that was integral during enslavement, has had on the white male psyche. The aim of this work is to take accounts of the deaths of Bland and Gaines that have been labeled "conspiracy theories" and put them into a socio-historic and psycho-structural context that makes the conspiracy theory sound more plausible than the accounts provided.

The Lemon Project in Action: William and Mary Undergraduate Presentations, Room 1088

Moderator: Stephanie Blackmon, Assistant Professor, Education, William and Mary

“The “Science” of White Supremacy: Eugenics at the College of William & Mary,”
Emma Bresnan, undergraduate student, William and Mary.

The eugenics movement in Virginia used genetic pseudo-science to justify racial discrimination, anti-miscegenation laws, and forced sterilization. Virginia Universities embraced and promoted the doctrine of eugenics and William & Mary was no exception. Biology professor from 1916 to 1950 and long-time head of the Biology department Donald W. Davis was actively involved with several eugenics organizations and he and others taught courses and advocated for eugenic ideas within the community, the school, the scientific community, and even the state government.

“Somethin’ Strange: Black Women’s Voices & the Evolution of Jazz as Protest Music,”
Malerie C. Gamblin, undergraduate student, William and Mary

Black lives in America were hardly ever seen in literature or in mainstream performing arts. They were invisible to the white public, with few stories of Black life published or produced for general consumption. Eventually, Black literary figures and musicians, especially women singers, began making social change through the use of blues and jazz as protest music. That evolution can be traced through three songs: “Summertime” (1935), “Strange Fruit” (1939) and “Mississippi Goddam” (1964).

“Decolonizing Ethnography: How addressing the Eurocentrism within the canon and methodology of Anthropology and Sociology can lead to better contemporary Urban Ethnography,”

Asaad Lewis, undergraduate student, William and Mary

Today, black revolutionary thought has enjoyed a resurgence in contemporary discourse, especially in its’ potential to address social problems such as racial oppression, mass incarceration, and police brutality. This project addresses how Urban Ethnography can sufficiently address racial oppression in society by looking at the eurocentrism within the cannon and methodology of ethnography. He will examine works of contemporary popular urban ethnography (“On the Run”, “In Search of Respect”, “Code of the Streets, “Gang Leader for a Day”) to show how they have failed to adequately address social problems.

1:00pm

**“Visibility and Race: From Civil Rights to ‘Black Lives Matter’”
Brinkley Commons**

“Invisible and Too Visible: Blacks, Justice and the Police,”

Alphine W. Jefferson, Chair, Ph. D.

Professor of Black Studies and History, Randolph-Macon College

Lenneal J. Henderson, Ph.D.

Visiting Instructor of Government, William and Mary

Delores Jones-Brown, JD, Ph.D.

Professor, Law, Police science and Criminal Justice Administration

John Jay College of Criminal Justice, City University of New York

Michael R. Fischbach, Ph.D.

**Department of History, Randolph-Macon College; W. Neal Holmes, Ph. D. Associate
Professor of Political Science, Virginia State University**

Using Robert E. Park’s quotation: “Prejudice is a function of visibility,” as its framework, this Panel examines the intersection of the Black Experience in the United States, its elusive search for justice, and the role of the police in the Black community. The first paper uses Critical Race Theory to explore episodes of conflict in urban areas. It critiques the failed recommendations of presidential commissions to offer viable solutions to ameliorate Black community and police violence. The historical and institutional patterns and strategies of Race Riots from Chicago (1919) and Tulsa (1921) to Baltimore, St. Paul, and others in 2016, are dissected. Speaker two analyzes the future of racial justice and the police in the context of Trump’s ‘law and order’ platform. Modern police policies of ‘Broken Windows’ and ‘Stop and Frisk’ are regressive measures from an earlier period. The third paper situates the non-violence of the 1960s in the larger context of the Black Liberation Army, the Black Panthers, and the 1965 Watts Rebellion. With the controversial 1973 movie, “The Spook Who Sat by the Door” as its metaphor, this talk examines Armed Black Militant actions during the Civil Rights era. The final speaker investigates institutionalized state violence in local, national and international spheres. The Weberian institutional complex model is utilized to dissect both ‘the military industrial complex’ and the emergence of ‘private prison enterprises’ by merging contemporary uses of media and technology with traditional historical narratives.

2:00pm

**"Rise Up: The Legacy of Nat Turner" Documentary and Panel
Brinkley Commons**

"Rise Up: The Legacy of Nat Turner"

Kelley Fanto Deetz, Ph.D.
independent scholar

Alfred L. Brophy, Ph.D.
Judge John J. Parker Distinguished Professor of Law, University of North Carolina,
Chapel Hill

A special screening of National Geographic's 2016 documentary Rise Up, which explores the history and Legacy of Nat Turner and his 1831 rebellion in Southampton County, VA, combined with a panel discussion and Q&A immediately following. Panelists will include two of the featured scholars, Dr. Kelley Fanto Deetz and Dr. Alfred Brophy, and local descendants.

Presenter Bios

Dr. William Alexander is a Professor of History at Norfolk State University with specialties in Modern European Intellectual and Cultural History, World History, and African Diaspora. He has a BA from Fisk University and a doctorate from Stanford University. Two of his recent articles that are in press include: "Race in the Francophone Black Atlantic: A Triangular Conversation in the Early 19th Century," *Consortium on the Revolutionary Era, 1750-1850: Selected Papers, 2014 (2016)*, ed. by Marc Lerner; and "Jean Price-Mars and Haitian Exceptionalism," in Celucien Joseph et al, eds., *Between Two Worlds: Jean Price-Mars, Haiti, and Africa*. In press, (2017).

Autumn Barrett is an historical anthropologist in the Department of Social and Cultural Analysis at NYU, Senior Research Associate at the Institute for Historical Biology, and co-director of the Remembering Slavery, Resistance, and Freedom Project. Currently, her work focuses on cemeteries of the enslaved as contested sites of reclamation within local, national, and diasporan memorial landscapes. Autumn draws on ethnographic, bioarchaeological, and documentary analyses. Her current book-length projects include studies of history, race, memory, and identities in Rio de Janeiro and Virginia and a study of childhood, labor, and race within Virginia's system of indentured servitude from the 17th to 19th centuries.

Emma Bresnan is an undergraduate student at the College of William and Mary. She was the first to receive the Gaither-Johnson Summer Fellowship from the Lemon Project.

Alfred L. Brophy, Ph.D., is the Judge John J. Parker Distinguished Professor of Law at University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and the author of the forthcoming study *University, Court, and Slave: Proslavery Thought in the Antebellum Academy and Judiciary* (Oxford University Press). His works include *Reconstructing the Dreamland: The Tulsa Race Riot of 1921* (Oxford, 2002), *Reparations Pro and Con* (Oxford, 2006), *Integrating Spaces: Property Law and Race* (co-authored, Wolters Kluwer 2010), and *University, Court and Slave: Pro-Slavery Thought in Southern Colleges and Courts and the Coming of Civil War*, (Oxford, 2016).

Lexi Cleveland works as the Office Manager of Cultural Heritage Partners, PLLC. She is a historian with a love for the macabre. She is a graduate of William and Mary and Leiden University. When not poking about cemeteries or archives, she enjoys spending time her wonderful cat.

Steven T. Corneliussen is a columnist living in Poquoson, Virginia and is involved with The Save Fort Monroe network. He has degrees in English from Duke and Tech. These days he writes a media column for Physics Today Online. But none of this explains how he came to be writing about under-recognition of self-emancipators, starting with a December 2006 Daily Press op-ed, including two Washington Post op-eds among many in four regional dailies, and also including "Obsolete Juneteenth disregards black role in emancipation" last year in the Richmond Times-Dispatch. This writing grows out of his civic advocacy of sensible post-Army disposition of Fort Monroe, which, as far as he knows, became a public political issue thanks to his September 2005 Daily Press op-ed. What he proposes here has only to do with history, however, not Fort Monroe politics.

Kelly Fanto Deetz, Ph.D., is a scholar and professor of African Diaspora history. Her scholarship and teaching focus on constructions of race, identity, culture, public narratives, and histories within the African Diaspora. Her forthcoming book is entitled "Bound to the Fire: Virginia's Enslaved Cooks, Conjuring, and Community." She specializes in the following: Material and Visual Culture, Black Expressive Culture, Historical Archaeology, Public History, Cultural Resource Management, Foodways, Gender, Domestic Labor, Black Feminist Thought, Cultural Landscapes, Plantation Museums, Cultural Tourism, Memorials, and Memory.

Donna Dodenhoff is an alumna of the College of William and Mary. She is an educator and a research historian. Donna Dodenhoff received her Ph.D. in American Studies from the College of William & Mary in May of 2016. She is currently working at the Jamestown Yorktown Foundation as a museum educator and curatorial researcher, as well as conducting post-doctoral research for her dissertation on the Northern Shenandoah Valley's Reconstruction period. She has enjoyed a long career in public history in various venues and capacities.

Ana Edwards, member of Defenders for Freedom, Justice & Equality, a community activist group which formed the Sacred Ground Historical Reclamation Project in 2004 to elevate the Richmond story of Gabriel's rebellion and reclaim Richmond's African Burial Ground in Shockoe Bottom, and to advocate for the district's historic preservation and development of the area as a nine-acre historic memorial park. Currently a graduate student in public history at VCU, her research focus is on early American and African American history, U.S. slavery, Gabriel's rebellion, and the meaning of the 18th century revolutionary wave (America, France, Haiti) on nation-building and African American history.

Michael Fischbach, is Professor of History at Randolph-Macon College in Ashland, Virginia. He specializes in the history of the modern Middle East, especially Palestine, Israel, Jordan, and the Arab-Israeli conflict. His research interests include land tenure and ownership in the Middle East, especially in Palestine, Israel, Jordan and claims and the Arab-Israeli peace process; Palestinian refugee property claims; Jewish property claims against Arab countries; Black Power, the New Left, and the Question of Palestine in the U.S. in the 1960s-1970s.

Malerie C. Gamblin is an undergraduate student at the College of William and Mary, class of 2017, majoring in Psychology, a Management & Organizational Leadership minor. She is excited about pursuing a master's degree in Higher Education Administration. While at William & Mary, her on-campus involvement has included the university Pep Band, Swing Dance Club and club volleyball. She was also a research assistant for two semesters in the Department of Psychology's Social Cognition Lab as well as a 2017 DC Winter Scholar in the Urban Education Seminar. Currently, Malerie is in the Office of Undergraduate Admission as a student recruiter for the Home for the Holidays Program and a Transfer Intern; is a member and Chapter Historian for the Nu Chi Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated; and, sits on the Committee for Memorialization of the Lemon Project on Race & Reconciliation; and, was appointed to the Committee Commemorating the 50th Anniversary of Black Residential Students here at The College of William & Mary.

Lenneal J. Henderson, Ph.D., is Visiting Instructor of Government at the College of William and Mary. He is also Assistant Dean for Civic Engagement and International Affairs, Distinguished Professor of Public and International Affairs and Senior Fellow, William Donald Schaefer Center for Public Policy at the University of Baltimore. Born in New Orleans and raised in San Francisco, California, he received his A.B., M.A., and Ph.D. degrees from the University of California, Berkeley and his post-doctoral work at the Paul Nitze School of Advanced International Studies at Johns Hopkins University. He is currently Chair of the Board of the Maryland Humanities Council. In Fall 2016, the Governor appointed him to the Board of the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities and Public Policy. As well, Governor Larry Hogan of Maryland appointed him to the Board of Directors of the Reginald Lewis Maryland Museum of African American History and Culture.

Linda Janet Holmes, M.P.A., is an independent scholar whose publications span African American history, women's studies, and health equity. *A Joyous Revolt: Toni Cade Bambara, Writer and Activist* (Praeger) is her most recently published book. As a community organizer, Holmes worked with the Black Women's Health Project and the National Women's Health Network. After retiring as director of the New Jersey Office of Minority and Multicultural Health, Holmes moved to Portsmouth where she served as the first supervisor of the Portsmouth Community Colored Library Museum. As part of the Hampton Sit-in Memory Project, Holmes conducted interviews with Hampton Institute's civil rights veterans.

W. Neal Holmes, Ph.D. is an Associate Professor of Political Science at Virginia State University. He has a broad background in African-American Studies, Political Science and University Administration. His research interests include mass movements, third parties, Liberian politics and the organization and politics of Pan-Africanism. He is also interested in theories of settler colonialism, internal colonialism, neocolonialism and the political economy of philanthropy in the United States. He has a broad background as a volunteer and participant in a number of organizations that focus on issues of peace, social justice and development.

Alphine W. Jefferson, Ph. D., is Professor of Black Studies and History at Randolph-Macon College. Alphine Jefferson, Ph.D., is Professor of Black Studies and History at Randolph-Macon College in Ashland, Virginia. He received his A.B. from the University of Chicago in 1973, his M.A. from Duke University in 1975, and his Ph.D. from Duke University in 1979. His special interests include Africa and the Black Diaspora, Oral History Theory and Methodology, Modern American Social History, Urban History, and Global Issues of Race, Class and Gender.

Delores Jones-Brown, JD, Ph.D., is Professor of Law, Police science and Criminal Justice Administration at John Jay College of Criminal Justice, City University of New York. She is the founding director of the John Jay College Center on Race, Crime and Justice where she currently serves as faculty research fellow. Her areas of research and scholarship include: race, crime and the administration of justice, police-community relations, juvenile justice, and the legal socialization of adolescent males. Her book, *Race, Crime and Punishment*, won a New York Public Library award in 2001. In addition to multiple articles, book chapters and legal commentaries, she is the co-editor of two additional books: *The System in Black and White: Exploring the Connections between Race, Crime and Justice* (Praeger, 2000) and *Policing and Minority Communities: Bridging the Gap* (Prentice Hall, 2004).

Assad Lewis is a student at the College of William and Mary who majors in Anthropology and minors in Sociology. He is interested in theory, especially in regard to race. This can be seen in his current role of Research Assistant for his advisor Dr. Jones on the Race Project. In addition to this, he is set to present at the Society for Applied Anthropology Annual conference on his work, "An Institutional Analysis of Meaning and Inequality within the Alternative Food Movement."

Zachary McKiernan is an academically trained public historian. After earning his doctorate from UC Santa Barbara in 2014, he served as an Assistant Professor of History at Hampton University in Virginia. Before that, he worked with human rights groups in Chile recovering former sites of detention and torture. He is interested in publicly engaged scholarship, sees history as a community-building and problem-solving discipline, and is passionate about undoing historical injustices.

Zann Nelson is the Director of Montpelier's African American Descendants' Project. Zann Nelson, an independent historian and freelance writer is currently the director of Montpelier's African American Descendants' Project. Ms. Nelson has developed an extensive reputation for investigating African American history; finding documentation where none had been previously discovered and subsequently, publishing the findings. She has worked with the National Baseball Hall of Fame, the National Park Service, and a multitude of organizations related to Civil War history, Civil Rights, museum caliber exhibits as well as individual African American families. The work during the last 25 years has allowed her to build a valuable network of resources and a skill set that produces remarkable results

Leah Smith earned her B.A. in History from Hampton University in 2016. During and after her time at Hampton, she conducted critical oral histories for the National Park Service and the Hampton History Museum. At Hampton she served as the president of the Phi Alpha Theta History Honors Society and conducted original research for the Hampton Sit-In Movement Memory Project.

Dr. Zoe Spencer is an Associate Professor at Virginia State University. She is an activist/scholar who has devoted her life to nourishing socio political consciousness through her work as a Professor to her activism in the street.

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