

MDAH EDUCATORS E-NEWS

Mississippi History for Teachers

Fall 2015
Vol. 3 Issue 1

Mississippi Teachers Attend Inaugural MDAH Summer Teachers School

MDAH held its first Summer Teachers School: Teaching Mississippi's Complex History this past June. The Summer Teachers School is supported by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation. This week-long professional development drew seventeen teachers from across the state. Teachers from kindergarten through twelfth grade explored the resources available at the Mississippi Department of Archives and History.

When the teachers applied they were asked to research a topic and write a lesson based on the primary resources discovered during the week. Topics the teachers chose ranged from missionaries and Mississippi Choctaws, to the writings of Richard Wright to Freedom Summer in Mississippi.

Teachers attended an orientation session on the use of the state archives as well as a behind-the-scenes tour. Chauncey Spears from the Office of Curriculum and Instruction at the Mississippi Department of Education led a session for the teachers about how to incorporate primary sources into their lessons and subjects other than social studies. The last session was taught by Dr. Jennifer Stollman of the William Winter Institute for Racial Reconciliation on

creating an open and trusting classroom.

Tuesday evening a reception was held for the teachers with keynote speaker Dr. Leslie Burl McLemore, former director of the Fannie Lou Hamer Institute. Thursday evening featured a screening of the documentary *With All Deliberate Speed* and footage from the WLBT newsfilm collection at MDAH about desegregation of public schools in Mississippi.

"This has been a remarkable experience. The staff have all been tremendous and the opportunity to learn and interact with my fellow teachers has been a real blessing. It's one of the few summer workshops/classes that I didn't really want to end." said David Lee, Picayune Junior High School.

Stacey Everett, director of education said, "We can't wait until next year. We had such a great response from the teachers who attended the Summer Teachers School and we can't wait to take their suggestions and make it even better."

Next year's Summer Teachers School is scheduled for Monday, June 20, through Friday, June 24. Three CEU credits and a \$300 stipend will be available for attending teachers.



Top: Nicole Bell-Taylor and Ruth Brown Look at the journals from the 1865 Mississippi House of Representatives. **Above:** Teachers and MDAH staff attended a reception with keynote speaker Dr. Leslie Burl McLemore. **Right:** Teachers get an orientation to the state archives.



Right: Chauncey Spears from MDE talks about primary resources in the classroom.

Annual Fall Teachers Workshop Examines Mississippi from 1929-1954

31st Annual MDAH

Social Studies Teachers Workshop

HARDSHIP, CONFLICT, AND CHANGE: MISSISSIPPI 1929-1954

Old Capitol Museum, Jackson
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2015

<p>8 a.m. REGISTRATION, Old Capitol Museum</p> <p>8:30 a.m. WELCOME Katie Blount, <i>director, Mississippi Department of Archives and History</i> Lucy Allen, <i>director, MDAH Museum Division</i></p> <p>8:45 a.m. THE NEW DEAL IN MISSISSIPPI Connie Lester, <i>associate professor, University of Central Florida, Orlando</i></p> <p>9:30 a.m. THE SOUTH IN WORLD WAR II Chad Daniels, <i>director, Mississippi Armed Forces Museum, Camp Shelby</i></p> <p>10:15 a.m. BREAK AND DISTRIBUTION OF EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS Organizations will display educational resources</p> <p>10:45 a.m. SHIFT OF AFRICAN AMERICAN ROLES IN WORLD WAR II AND THE KOREAN WAR Charles Chamberlain, <i>president, Historia LLC, New Orleans</i></p> <p>11:30 a.m. LUNCH</p>	<p>CHOOSE ONE (INDICATE ON REGISTRATION FORM):</p> <p>1 p.m. RISE OF THE DIXIECRATS: RACIAL POLITICS IN MISSISSIPPI (1930-1954) Jason Morgan Ward, <i>professor, Mississippi State University, Starkville</i></p> <p>WILLIAM FAULKNER Jay Watson, <i>Howry professor of Faulkner Studies, University of Mississippi, Oxford</i></p> <p>DIVERSIFICATION OF MISSISSIPPI'S ECONOMICS Connie Lester, <i>associate professor, University of Central Florida, Orlando</i></p> <p>2 p.m. DOCUMENTING SEPARATE BUT EQUAL IN MISSISSIPPI SCHOOLS Jennifer Baughn, <i>architectural historian, MDAH Historic Preservation Division</i></p> <p>2:40 p.m. OVERVIEW OF MDAH EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES AND ONLINE MATERIALS Claire Gwalmey, <i>assistant director of education, MDAH, Museum Division</i></p>
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The Social Studies Teachers Workshop is sponsored by the Mississippi Department of Archives and History in conjunction with the Mississippi College School of

Continuing Education, Mississippi Council for Social Studies, Mississippi Department of Education, and Mississippi Historical Society.

Teachers are invited to attend this fall's 31st Annual Social Studies Teachers Workshop focusing on Mississippi's tumultuous history from 1929 through 1954.

Dr. Connie Lester from the University of Central Florida will speak on the role of the New Deal in Mississippi. Teachers will be able to choose one of the afternoon sessions: the rise of the Dixiecrats, William Faulkner, or diversification of Mississippi's economics. Scholars will also examine the role of the South in World War II and the shifting of the roles African Americans played in World War II and the Korean War. Historians from MDAH will

discuss Mississippi's separate but equal policies in schools and help teachers discover resources related to the topics covered during the workshop.

Participants can expect to leave the workshop with a .5 CEU credit from Mississippi College as well as lesson plans and classroom resources. A complete schedule and registration materials are available on our website <http://mdah.state.ms.us/new/learn/teachers/professional-development/> Contact museum division education staff at 601-576-6800 or email outreachprograms@mdah.state.ms.us with any questions.

Mississippi Department of Archives and History

Groundbreaking Mississippi Art Contest

Investigate and celebrate the state by submitting your original artwork of a groundbreaking Mississippi place. Tell us what you believe is the most important, inspiring or interesting place in Mississippi. Winning entries will be displayed in the Museum of Mississippi History and the Mississippi Civil Rights Museum now under construction.

601-576-6800

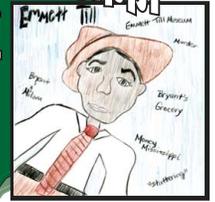
outreachprograms@mdah.state.ms.us
www.mdah.state.ms.us

Groundbreaking Mississippi Art Contest 2014-15 Winners



Austin Burkett

8th Grade
Philadelphia Middle School



Taliyah McKinney

4th Grade
Winona Elementary School

Mississippi Council for the Social Studies Annual Conference

Thursday, November 5, 2015, 9 a.m.
Old Capitol Museum, Jackson

In partnership with MDAH, the MCSS Conference sessions will focus on "Social Studies in Mississippi: College, Career, and Civic Life (C3)" and include field trips to Jackson area historic sites/resources.

For more information contact MCSS President Chuck Yarborough (cyarborough@themsms.org) or MCSS Treasurer Marlo Hendrix (mhendrix17@gmail.com). Also visit the Mississippi Council for Social Studies website <http://mcss.org.msstate.edu/>.

SPOTLIGHT COLLECTION

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPH COLLECTION

Within the collection of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History are artifacts that tell of Mississippi's past. When taken alone, an artifact tells one side of a story. Dig deeper and you may find a different point of view or support for the original. Put together each version, and you are able to tell a more complete and multifaceted story. The images below are from the MDAH Digital Archives.

A new digital collection has recently debuted on the MDAH website focusing on school photographs between the years 1920 and 1980. Totalling 7,995 images, the photographs depict school buildings, school transportation, and education in general throughout the state. Approximately one third of the collection are images that accompanied surveys sponsored by the Educational Finance Commission that documented the conditions of Mississippi schools in the 1950s. The purpose of the EFC was to help ensure equal educational opportunities for students of all races.

While the prospect of delving into almost 8,000 images may seem daunting, the images are divided by county, making it considerably easier for researchers, teachers, or students to focus their search to a specific geographic region or hometown. And despite only being added to the digital archive this summer, these images are already being used extensively for educational purposes by the MDAH education staff.

In a film activity packet entitled *With All Deliberate Speed*, spring education intern Grace Allen utilized photos of white and African American schools in the same county to draw comparisons between the quality of school facilities and equipment. Participants from the Summer Teachers School—including Nicole Loran Bell-Taylor from Forest Hill High School (Jackson), Barbara McHenry from French Elementary School (Jackson), and Ruth Rondon from Coffeerville Elementary School (Coffeerville)—included photos from the collection in lesson plans they researched and wrote and which are now available for free on the MDAH website.

Explore the school photograph collection yourself at http://mdah.state.ms.us/arrec/digital_archives/series/schoolphotographs and download lesson plans relating to school desegregation at <http://mdah.state.ms.us/new/learn/classroom-materials/lesson-plans-and-teaching-units/>.



For this and more stories from our collections you can check out the MDAH Collections Blog *A Sense of Place*. <http://mdah.state.ms.us/senseofplace/>

MISSISSIPPI VICTORIAN

While the circa-1857 Manship House Museum is undergoing restoration it is open for group tours by reservation only. Check out the Manship House blog *Mississippi Victorian* at <http://mdah.state.ms.us/mississippivictorian/> For more information call 601-961-4724.



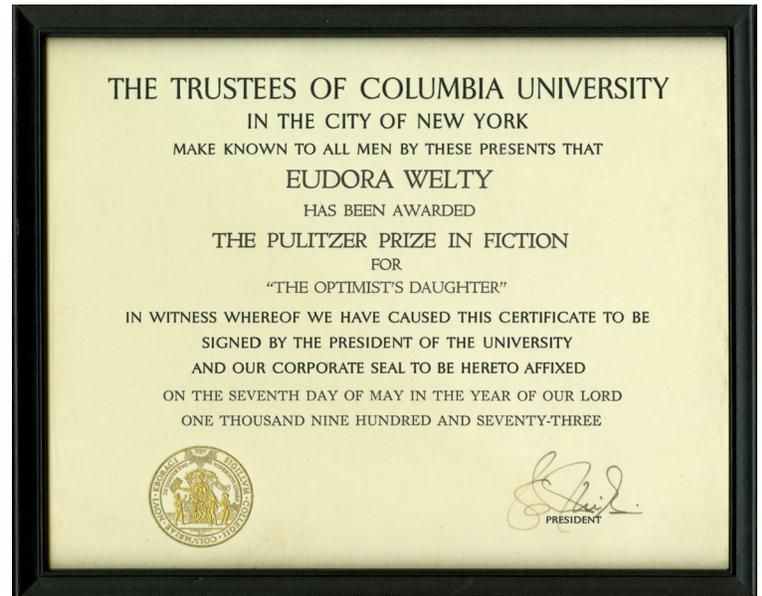
News from the Eudora Welty House and Garden

Welty Teachers Workshop

Join the Eudora Welty House and Garden staff for the annual Welty Teachers Workshop on February 19, 2016, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. This year's workshop will celebrate the centennial of the Pulitzer Prize. Welty was the 1973 recipient of the fiction prize for her novel *The Optimist's Daughter*. The workshop features Dr. Suzanne Marrs, the Eudora Welty Foundation Scholar-in-Residence at Millsaps College. She will be assisted by other Millsaps faculty to give

educators ideas for teaching Welty and other Pulitzer Prize-winning Mississippians, including Tennessee Williams and Natasha Tretheway, in the classroom. A .5 CEU credit is available through Millsaps College.

Cost of the workshop is \$35.00, and checks should be made payable to the Eudora Welty Foundation. For more information contact Education and Outreach Specialist Lee Anne Bryan at 601-354-5210 or email lbryan@eudoraweltyhouse.com



Eudora Welty's Pulitzer Prize, MDAH Museum Division Collections.

New Educator joins the Welty House and Garden Staff

The Eudora Welty House and Garden is pleased to welcome new educator Isabel Gray. She is a recent graduate of Millsaps College, where she completed a degree in art history with a concentration in museum studies. Her experience as an intern at the Mississippi Museum of Art led her to pursue a career in museum education.

At the Welty House, her duties will include giving tours, developing new exhibits, and creating teacher resources. When asked what she is most looking forward to in her new position, Gray replied, "I'm really excited about working with teachers and students from all over the state to assist them with their understanding of Ms. Welty, her literature, and her legacy.

I'm primarily looking forward to developing lesson plans and resources for teachers that help connect their visits to what they're doing in the classroom."

To learn more about the teacher and student resources available or tours at the Welty House and Garden, contact Isabel Gray at 601-354-5214 or igray@mdah.state.ms.us.



Isabel Gray, new education historian at the Eudora Welty House and Garden

Holiday Themed Educational Packet Now Available for K-2 Teachers

For many years, MDAH has celebrated the holiday season in with displays of historical Christmas trees and the fictional model train town of Possum Ridge. This fall, teachers will be able to bring this holiday excitement into their classrooms with the *Winter Holidays Activity Packet*. This free resource will be mailed to teachers upon request for use in the classroom, similar to how the popular Traveling Trunk program works.

The packet contains *A Special Visitor Comes to Possum Ridge*, a book and film about a Depression-era hobo named Lucky who arrives in a small Mississippi town and finds the true meaning of Christmas. Geared towards students in kindergarten through second grade, the accompanying activities help students practice reading and writing their ABCs, as well as recognizing sight words, reading maps, and improving math skills.

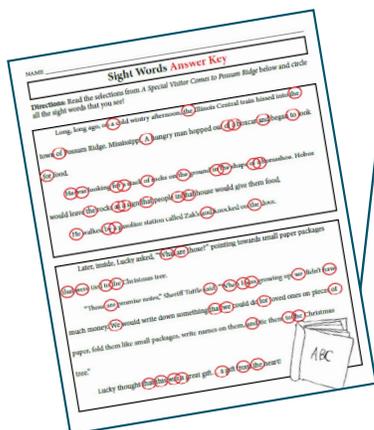
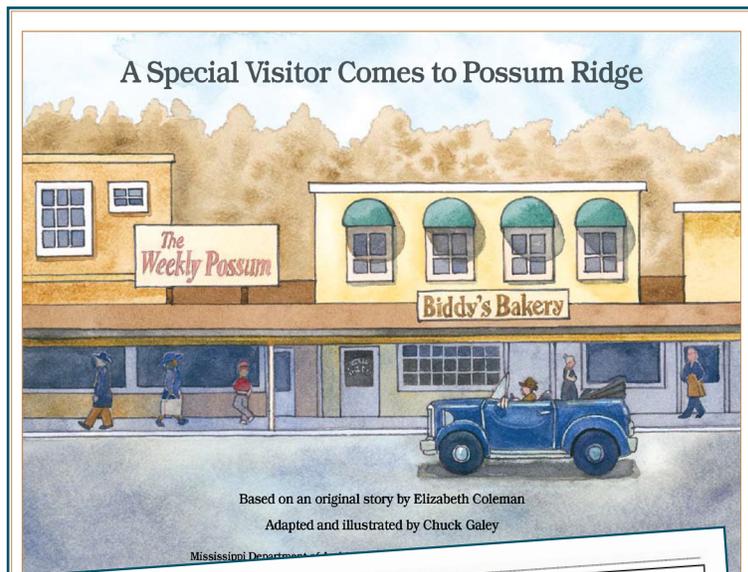
Students will also learn about several winter holidays including Christmas, Hanukah, Kwanza, and Chinese New Year by reading about how these different cultures and traditions came to Mississippi. Craft worksheets based on historical Christmas ornaments, Tet blossom trees, and

more are also included.

“This is one of our first attempts to create classroom curriculum for lower elementary students and we look forward to reaching this new audience and their teachers,” said assistant director of education Claire Gwaltney.

To learn more about the new *Winter Holidays Activity Packet* and access its list of curricular connections, visit <http://mdah.state.ms.us/new/learn/classroom-materials/winter-holidays-activity-packet/>. Packets must be returned, at the teacher’s expense, upon completion of the unit. Teachers may also pick up and return the packets to our Jackson location.

For more information or to book a packet, contact outreach programs coordinator Dorian Randall at 601-576-6997 or drandall@mdah.state.ms.us.



MDAH Educators E-News

This online newsletter for teachers will be posted on the MDAH website twice a year. If you would like to subscribe to the newsletter or have any comments or questions please email the MDAH education staff at outreachprograms@mdah.state.ms.us.

New Educator Joins Winterville Mounds Staff



Amanda Benter, new education historian at Winterville Mounds.

Winterville Mounds in Greenville has hired a new educational historian. Amanda “Mandy” Benter comes to Winterville from North Carolina State University, where she earned a master’s in public history. Her research interests include the American Progressive Era, labor history, and the intersection of race and public space in the American South.

Benter has always been fascinated by community

histories and has conducted oral history interviews for small grassroots organizations, such as The Friends of Oberlin Village, and the Khayrallah Center for Lebanese Diaspora Studies. One of her first responsibilities at Winterville is developing a new oral history project, *Remembering the Mounds*. This program will interpret Winterville’s greater significance and meaning for generations of Mississippians.

Benter is thrilled at the prospect of listening to and learning the history of the area and the modern history of the historic mound site from invested Greenville community members. To learn more about Benter’s oral history project or teacher and student resources available at Winterville Mounds, contact her at 662-334-4684 or abenter@mdah.state.ms.us.

Are your students reading *The Mudcat*?

The hottest publication for students focusing on Mississippi history? Check out the latest issue on the MDAH website.

<http://mdah.state.ms.us/new/learn/students/the-mudcat-newsletter/>

How would you like to see a catfish of your own creation on the cover of the *Mudcat*? If you’re an artist—or even if you’re not—craft a cool catfish graphic, send it to *The Mudcat*, and YOUR catfish could win a coveted spot on the cover of the next issue! Send all entries via mail or email to the outreach programs coordinator at: outreachprograms@mdah.state.ms.us or P.O. Box 571, Jackson, MS 39205.



2015 NATIVE AMERICAN DAYS

October 28–30, 9 a.m.–3 p.m.

School groups of all ages are invited to meet members of the Chickasaw of Oklahoma, the Choctaw Southern Pine Singers, the Native American Cultural Exchange, and Houma Nations.

Students will experience traditional Native American songs, dance, and storytelling, and participate in children’s arts and crafts, games, and special activities.



Additional programming by the Mississippi Museum of Natural Science and the Southern Traditional Archery Association.

FREE

Don’t forget to tell friends and family about our first-ever Great Fire Celebration **October 29, 6–8 p.m.**



For more information and to reserve your group’s visit, call 662-334-4684.

Winterville Mounds
2415 Highway 1 North
Greenville, MS 38703



Native American food and crafts are available for purchase. Parking available on site. Funding provided by the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Mississippi Humanities Council, the Mississippi Arts Commission, and the National Endowment for the Arts.

Check Out the MDAH Online Teacher Resources

Visit the MDAH website to find lessons and teaching units based on primary sources for multiple subjects and grades 3–12. Free to download, each lesson includes scans of primary source documents and is aligned to the Mississippi Department of Education Frameworks and the College and Career Readiness Standards. Visit <http://mdah.state.ms.us/new/learn/classroom-materials/lesson-plans-and-teaching-units/>.

MDAH Outreach Programs Get a New Face

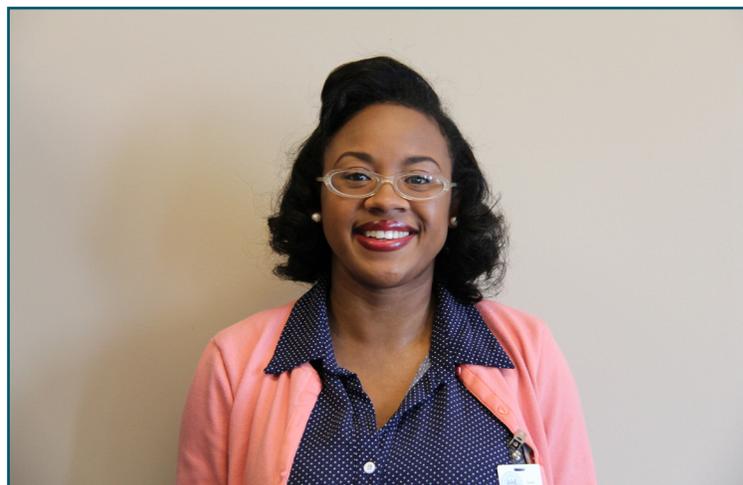
Dorian Randall is a native of Jackson who joined the Mississippi Department of Archives and History in 2012 as a volunteer transcriptionist and desk attendant at the State Capitol. In 2013, Randall joined the Administration Division as an administrative assistant and later transitioned into the role of special projects officer in the Museum Division. She holds degrees in journalism and media studies and is passionate about education and history. A voracious reader and self-proclaimed “lifelong learner,” Randall looks forward to working with teachers, educating students, and soaking up the wealth of the state’s history and culture.

“I am so grateful for the opportunity to be a part of a group that cares so much about educating others about Mississippi’s history,” Randall said. “I look forward to developing rapport with teachers, getting a chance to have fun with the little ones, and growing as a member of such a wonderful team.”

“While Dorian’s face and name may not be known to teachers yet, they are

already familiar with her work,” said Claire E. Gwaltney, now assistant director of education. “Over the past year she has written two issues of our student newsletter *The Mudcat*, a high school lesson plan on miscegenation law in Mississippi, and assisted with numerous teacher workshops.”

Popular outreach programs including the Hands-on-History Traveling Trunks, Mississippi History on Loan film rentals, and the Traveling Exhibits Program will now be administered by Randall. While this fall will mark her debut on the Mississippi teacher conference scene, she will also accompany Gwaltney on visits across the state to conduct teacher training on MDAH resources (available free of charge upon request). Randall will also join Gwaltney and director of education Stacey Everett on developing educational materials for the Museum of Mississippi History and Mississippi Civil Rights Museum, slated to open in December, 2017. Randall can be reached at drandall@mdah.state.ms.us or 601-576-6997.



New MDAH, Museum Division outreach programs coordinator Dorian Randall.

Looking for Native American resources to use in your classroom?

They’re only a click or a phone call away!
Contact the Mississippi Department of Archives and History today!

Hands-on-History Traveling Trunk Program

Let MDAH mail a Traveling Trunk to your classroom. Incorporating history into subjects as diverse as math, English, and the visual and performing arts, the traveling trunks are one-to-two week units that include three to five complete lesson plans and hands-on materials.



Native American Traveling Trunk Prehistoric Archaeology & Mississippi Traveling Trunk
Learn more at <http://mdah.state.ms.us/new/learn/classroom-materials/traveling-trunks/> and call 601-576-6800 to book a trunk.

Online Lesson Plans and Teaching Units

These single and multi-day, interdisciplinary resources include primary source documents, activities, and readings for students in grades K–12. Some highlights include

- Early Trading and Talking with the Choctaw
- Native American Mound Construction
- Winterville Mounds and the Native American Mississippian World Teaching Unit

Download these lessons and more at

<http://mdah.state.ms.us/new/learn/classroom-materials/lesson-plans-and-teaching-units/>

Mississippi History on Loan

This program mails films on a variety of Mississippi topics from prehistory through the twenty-first century to your classroom. Some highlights of the MHOL prehistoric and Native American collection include

- *Ancient Mysteries: The Secret Burial Mounds of Pre-Historic America*
- *First Encounter: A Chickasaw Nation Production*
- *In Search of History: The First Americans* and more!

Learn more and request a film at

<http://mdah.state.ms.us/new/learn/classroom-materials/mississippi-history-on-loan-film-collection/>

Plan a Visit!

Why not schedule a field trip to a local mound site? MDAH staff at the sites below will work with you to create a memorable experience for your class.

- **Grand Village of the Natchez Indians, Natchez**
Call 601-446-6502 to book a tour
- **Winterville Mounds, Greenville**
Call 662-334-4684 to book a tour

Learn more at <http://mdah.state.ms.us/new/>

Learn about Mississippi archaeology resources online at <http://trails.mdah.ms.gov/default.aspx>
Find Native American crafts online at <http://mdah.state.ms.us/new/learn/students/crafts/>

TRAVELING TEACHER PROGRAMS

Do your fellow teachers know what resources MDAH offers? The Museum Division education staff will come to your school, conference, or professional development day and teach a session about MDAH resources and opportunities for educators and students that includes information about online lesson plans and archival resources, teacher workshops, and field trips. Free.

Contact Claire Gwaltney at 601-576-6933 or cgwaltney@mdah.state.ms.us for more information or to schedule a visit in your location.

Mississippi Fun Fact

The yellow pine forests of the Piney Woods region of Mississippi provided the source of an economic boom for the state in the late 1800s. Logging and sawmill businesses sprung up across the state to harvest them.

MDAH Calender of Events for Educators–Fall and Winter 2015

September

September 1–December 1—**Putting Hernando DeSoto in His Place Exhibit**

Winterville Mounds hosts the traveling exhibit produced by the Mississippi Department of Archives and History. Admission is free and open to the public. For more information, please call 662-334-4684.

October

October 1–31—**The Mummy Returns**

The famous “Mummy” returns again to greet her adoring fans at the Old Capitol Museum during the month of October.

October 3—**Winterville Mounds Mock Dig**, 1–3p.m.

Winterville Mounds archaeologist Mark Dingeldein will conduct a “mock dig” where kids of all ages can learn about archaeology and excavation. Admission is free. Please register ahead of time. For more information and to register, please call 662-334-4684.

October 6, 2015–January 3, 2016—**Luminaries & Legends: Hall of Fame Spotlight Exhibit – William Faulkner**

The Old Capitol Museum’s Hall of Fame Spotlight for this quarter will be Nobel Prize–winning Mississippi author, William Faulkner whose notable works such as *The Sound and the Fury*, *Absalom, Absalom*, and *As I Lay Dying*.

October 8—**Old Capitol Bowl**, 9a.m.–noon

Teams from selected high schools compete in a scholar’s bowl contest. This day-long quiz competition will test students’ knowledge of government and Mississippi history as teams compete to become Old Capitol Bowl champions. Registration is required. For more information, call 601-576-6920.

October 1—**Winterville Mounds Artifact Identification**, 1–4 p.m.

Winterville Mounds archaeologist, Mark Dingeldein along with other state archaeologists will host *Artifact Identification* encouraging interested persons to bring private collections of artifacts for identification (age, origin, and function, etc.). For more information call 662-334-4684.

October 13—**Medgar Wiley Evers Lecture Series**, 7 p.m.

The Old Capitol Museum will host Henry Louis Gates Jr., one of America’s most preeminent scholars of African American studies and an Emmy Award-winning filmmaker, as the 2015 Medgar Wiley Evers Lecture Series speaker.

October 14-15—**Student Days**, 8:30 a.m.–noon

Grand Village of the Natchez Indians host its annual field trip program which brings in children from Mississippi and Louisiana Schools to educate them about the local Native Americans and French Colonists who once resided in southwest Mississippi through hands on demonstrations and unique educational opportunities. This event is free to all school groups but space is limited. For more information call 601-446-6502 or email banderson@mdah.state.ms.us.

October 28-30—**Native American Days**, 9–3 p.m.

Winterville Mounds host its annual Native American Days program. Featuring the Mississippi Museum of Natural Science, the Southern Traditional Archery Association, arts and craft vendors, special “kids’ activities,” Native American games, and Native American food as well as Native American Craft and food vendors. This years’ daily event includes special performances by the Chickasaw Heritage Dancers from Oklahoma (Dancing and Storytelling); Southern Pine Singers of Choctaw, MS (Dancing, Drumming and Chanting); the Native American Cultural Exchange (Dancing and Chanting); and Cocoa Creppel-Houma Nation (Dancing and Storytelling). Admission is free. For more information call 662-334-4684 or email info@wintervillemounds.com.

October 29—**Luak Chito: The Great Fire**, 6–9 p.m.

A special event this year is the first nighttime edition of the festival on Thursday night on the grounds of the historic mound site. Native Americans will perform a special performance of storytelling, drumming and dancing by our huge central campfire. Food vendors and arts and craft vendors will also be available for this nighttime event as well as those during daylight hours. For more information call 662-334-4684 or email info@wintervillemounds.com.

October 29—**Promote the Vote**, 10 am–noon

Election results are announced from the Secretary of State's kindergarten-through-twelfth-grade voting program. For more information, contact the Secretary of State's office at 601-359-6346.

November

November 5 – **Mississippi Council for the Social Studies Fall Conference and Reception**

The Mississippi Council for the Social Studies will hold its annual conference at the Winter Building and the Old Capitol Museum. Capping off the event will be an evening reception at the Old Capitol Museum. For more information, check out <http://mcss.org.msstate.edu/>.

November 6 – **MDAH Annual Social Studies Teacher Workshop**, 8 a.m.–3 p.m.

Hardship, Conflict, and Change: Mississippi 1929–1954 is the title for this year's annual Social Studies Teacher Workshop at the Old Capitol Museum. 0.5 CEU credit is available through Mississippi College. For more information, call 601-576-6800.

November 11-12 – **Mississippi High School Youth Legislature**, 9 a.m.–5 p.m.

The Old Capitol will host the Secretary of State's program for students. During this program, students learn about our state's political and legislative systems by participating in a mock legislative session. For more information, call 727-612-6984.

December

December 3-30—**Celebration of Christmas Trees Program and Exhibit**

Historic Jefferson College invites local school, community, and home educator groups to adopt a Christmas tree and provide hand-made decorations for it. After decorating, classes will have a brief history lesson, Christmas story, and refreshments. Decorating schedule is December 3, 4, 10, and 11. Times must be booked by November 24. The trees remain up through the holiday season for public viewing. To reserve a tree, contact Kay McNeil at kmcneil@mdah.state.ms.us.

December 1-31—**Holiday Happenings at the Old Capitol Museum**

Visit the Old Capitol, decorated in nineteenth-century holiday style, and enjoy the following special programs as well as a special Holiday Scavenger Hunt. Free. For more information call 601-576-6920 or email info@oldcapitolmuseum.com

December 11, 12, 18, & 19—**Sounds of the Season**, noon

Listen to local choirs in the Old Capitol's rotunda on selected Fridays and Saturdays in December. Free. For more information call 601-576-6920 or email info@oldcapitolmuseum.com

December 10—**Statehood Day**, noon

Celebrate Mississippi's statehood in the House Chamber of the Old Capitol Museum. Reception to follow. Free. For more information call 601-576-6920 or email info@oldcapitolmuseum.com

January

January 5–April 3—**Luminaries and Legends: Hall of Fame Spotlight Exhibit–Lawrence C. Jones**

Our Hall of Fame spotlight this quarter is the founder of The Piney Woods School, the historically black boarding school founded in 1909 in Rankin County, Mississippi. What started with just a few donations and community support has grown into a 60-acre, self-sufficient campus that continues to serve over 300 students each year continuing Dr. Jones' legacy.

January 28—**Face to Face–Members of the Hall of Fame**, 9 a.m.–3 p.m.

Students get to tour the Old Capitol and interact with several Hall of Fame members who impacted our Mississippi history. Reservations required. Free. Call 601-576-6920 to make a reservation.