

Alabama-Mississippi Quarterly Collaborative

"Advancing Understanding of the Southeast Civil Rights Landscape Through Regional Partnerships"

HOST VENUE

Smith Robertson Museum & Cultural Center, 528 Bloom Street, Jackson, MS 39202

October 22-24, 2026

Schedule At-A-Glance

MISSISSIPPI HOST

Mechelle Chane

MS Civil Rights Era Fellow

National Parks Conservation Association (NPCA)

ALABAMA HOST

Phillip Howard

Director, Legacy Places

The Conservation Fund (TCF)

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2026

12 pm—3:00 pm LUNCH WITH CIVIL RIGHTS VETERANS AND EXHIBIT TOUR *(invitation only)*

4:30 pm—6:30 pm REGISTRATION, WELCOME RECEPTION & PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBIT
PROOF POSITIVE: A CIVIL RIGHTS PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION
Greetings: **Mechelle Chane**, Mississippi Civil Rights Era Fellow, NPCA
Phillip Howard, Director, Legacy Places, The Conservation Fund (TCF)
Michael DiMaggio, Co-Founder, Proximity Partners
Featuring the work of five photographers who documented Mississippi's Civil Rights Movement from 1963 to 1968: Matt Herron, Jim Marshall, Tamio Wakayama, Bob Fitch, and Jim Pepler. The exhibition expands the Living Archive project by bringing these photographers' work together in Mississippi for the first time. Visitors are invited to help enrich the Historical record by sharing memories and identifying people, places, and events depicted in the photographs, both in the gallery and at alivingarchive.org
****Book signing**

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2026

7 am—8:30 am BREAKFAST ON YOUR OWN

9 am—10:15 am MEDGAR & MYRLIE EVERS HOME NATIONAL MONUMENT & MYRLIE'S GARDEN
(Free admission)
Guided tour by National Park Service Ranger
232 Margaret W. Alexander Dr., Jackson, MS 39213
<https://www.nps.gov/memy/index.htm>

10:30 am—12 pm MISSISSIPPI CIVIL RIGHTS MUSEUM VISIT
Meet with Mississippi Civil Rights Veterans to lead breakout gallery tours. Welcome from Michael Morris, Two Mississippi Museums Executive Director
222 N. Street, Jackson, MS 39201
General Admission: \$15 Adults; \$13 Seniors (60+) and Military \$8 Youth (ages 4-22)
<https://mcrm.mdah.ms.gov/>

12:15 pm—12:55 pm LUNCH

1:00 pm—2:15 pm VOICES OF COURAGE: MISSISSIPPI CIVIL RIGHTS PIONEERS PANEL
Overview: *A historic and deeply moving panel session that brings together the foot soldiers and pioneers who risked everything for equality"*
Moderator: **Vickie Roberts-Ratliff**, Founding Member, Bridging Winona
Panelists: **MacArthur Cotton**, SNCC Field Secretary, Author
Jackie Byrd Martin, Civil Rights Veteran, Community Liaison
Flonzie Brown Wright, NAACP, Civil Rights Veteran, Author
****Book signing**

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2026

2:25 pm—3:10 pm

ROOTED IN PLACE: ADVANCING CONSERVATION THROUGH LOCAL HERITAGE

Overview: *Explore how the history, culture, and traditions of Drew and Clarksdale, Mississippi support cultural resource preservation. This session highlights how local heritage can inspire stewardship, strengthen community partnerships, and advance conservation efforts that honor both people and place.*

Moderator: **John Spann**, *Director of Strategic Initiatives, Mississippi Humanities Council*

Panelists: **Gloria Dickerson**, *CEO, We2gether Creating Change*

Brenda Luckett, *NAACP, Civil Rights Activist*

Herman Johnson, Jr., *Mound Bayou Museum of African American Culture and History*

Herman Johnson, Sr., *Civil Rights Veteran*

3:15 pm—4:00 pm

FROM HERITAGE TO STEWARDSHIP: STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES THROUGH PLACE-BASED PARTNERSHIPS

Overview: *This session will showcase how the Mississippi Heritage Legacy Collective leverages place-based partnerships to connect heritage and stewardship across five rural communities. Participants will learn how collaborative efforts are helping preserve cultural resources, strengthen community identity, and advance sustainable conservation by engaging local residents, organizations, and leaders around a shared vision for the future.*

Introduction of Speaker: **Portia Ballard Espy, PhD**, *President & CEO, Mississippi Urban League*

Speaker: **April De Simone**, *Founder of Publius No. 1, Managing Principal*

4:05 pm—4:45 pm

PROOF POSITIVE: A CIVIL RIGHTS PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION

****Book signing**

4:50 pm—5:15 pm

REFLECTIONS & REMARKS

****Book signing**

****Dinner on your own**

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2026

9:00 am—9:45 am

BREAKFAST ON YOUR OWN

10:00 am

LEAVE FOR CANTON, MS

10:30 am—11:50 am

CANTON FREEDOM HOUSE PLUS VISITING HISTORICAL MARKER SITES

Greetings: Mayor Tim Scott Taylor, Canton, MS
838 George Washington Dr., Canton, MS 39046
<https://freedomhousecanton.org/>

12:00 pm—1:00 pm

LUNCH IN CANTON, MS

1:15 pm

LEAVE CANTON FOR TOUGALOO COLLEGE

1:40 pm—2:30 pm

TOUGALOO COLLEGE, HISTORIC WOODWORTH CHAPEL

5500 County Line Rd, Tougaloo, MS 39174
Tony Bounds, *Archivist, Tougaloo College*

2:45 pm

ADJOURN

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HOTELS

The Orchid Bed & Breakfast **Black Owned**

628 N. State Street

Jackson, MS 39212

601-552-0222

www.orchidjackson.com

King Edward Hilton Garden Inn

235 West Capitol St.

Jackson, MS 39201

601-355-5464

www.hilton.com

Jackson Hilton Hotel

1001 E. County Line Rd

Jackson, MS 39201

601-957-2800

www.hilton.com

The Westin Hotel

407 S. Congress St

Jackson, MS 39211

601-968-8200

www.hilton.com

Homewood Suites by Hilton Jackson

2815 N. State St.

Jackson, MS 39201

601-398-9500

www.hilton.com