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**ST. AUGUSTINE  
PONTE VEDRA**  
FLORIDA'S HISTORIC COAST®

## ***African-American History Month: The history of African-Americans Begins in St Augustine***

**ST. AUGUSTINE, Fla. (Jan. 24, 2014)** – In recognition of February as African-American History month, several events will take place in St. Augustine.

### **February 1**

#### **First Saturday: Living History Day at Fort Matanzas**

From 10:30 p.m. until 3:30 p.m., authentically-clad re-enactors demonstrate Spanish cannons at this fortress that guarded the southern approach to St. Augustine. Admission is free including the ferry ride to and from Rattlesnake Island. Fort Matanzas National Monument is located at 8635 A1A, approximately 15 miles south of St. Augustine. 904-471-0116

[www.nps.gov/foma](http://www.nps.gov/foma)

### **February 1 - 28**

#### **“The Object Tells a Story: African-American Folk Art from Florida”**

The Crisp-Ellert Art Museum’s new exhibition “The Object Tells a Story: African American FolkArt from Florida” brings together a selection of works by four well-known African-American vernacular artists from Florida: Alynne Harris, Mary Proctor, Ruby C. Williams and Purvis Young. Interspersed throughout the exhibition are objects lent by members of St. Augustine’s African American community, including paintings, quilts, dolls and ceramics, along with artwork created by students from Ketterlinus and Osceola Elementary Schools during recent workshops with Ruby C. Williams at Fort Mose Historical State Park. The museum is open Monday - Friday from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. and Saturdays from 12 - 4 p.m. 48 Sevilla St., St. Augustine. 904-826-8530 <http://readme.readmedia.com/Crisp-Ellert-Art-Museum-presents-The-Object-Tells-a-Story-African-American-Folk-Art-from-Florida/7557493>

### **February 6**

#### **“The Loving Story”**

At 7 p.m., the National Endowment for the Humanities African-American Experience Film Series presents “The Loving Story” in the Virginia Room Ringhaver Student Center, Flagler College. The lecture is part of the series Race and the South: St. Augustine in Context, presented by the Flagler College Ideas and Images Program marking the 50th anniversary of the passage of the Civil Rights Act. The presentation is free and open to the public. 50 Sevilla Street, 904-819-6282 [www.flagler.edu/our-community](http://www.flagler.edu/our-community)

### **February 7 – March 4**

#### **Gerald Branch Exhibition**

Gerald Branch is an accomplished African American artist who works in mixed media to chronicle his experiences as a black man in America. He draws on history and presents historical and emotional works of art that provoke intense involvement. Highly collectible, this artist uses his amazing skills to look more deeply into our past. The artist will be giving an informative talk Feb. 9, at 2 pm. describing his paintings and what they mean. Admission is free. Open daily 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. Butterfield Garage Art Gallery, 137 King St., St. Augustine. 904-825-4577 <http://www.butterfieldgarage.com>

### **February 8**

#### **Lincolnvile Book Author Speaks at Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach**

At 10 a.m., The Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach hosts author Rosamond Parish who will discuss her book “Lincolnvile: St. Augustine Historic Neighborhood.” Free admission. 50 Executive Way, Ponte Vedra Beach. 904-280-0614 [www.ccpvb.org](http://www.ccpvb.org)

### **February 8**

#### **Flight to Freedom at Fort Mose**

Every 15 minutes from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., visitors will be taken on a guided walk along the freedom trail to experience what it was like for the hundreds of slaves who traveled to Fort Mose in search of freedom from the British. At 11 a.m. and 1 p.m., noted experts from the University of Florida or University of South Florida will present enlightening discussions of the role of slavery in the struggle between Spain and Britain for control of the southeastern United States. The event is free. 15 Fort Mose Trail, St. Augustine. 904-823-2232 [www.floridastateparks.org/fortmose](http://www.floridastateparks.org/fortmose)

**February 20****“Portraiture, Politics, and the Documentary Impulse of the Photography of Chris McNail”**

Dr. Bridget Cooks, Associate Professor, University of California, Irvine, presents “Portraiture, Politics, and the Documentary Impulse of the Photography of Chris McNail” at 7 p.m. in the Flagler Room at Flagler College’s Ponce Hall. The lecture is part of the speaker series Race and the American South: St. Augustine in Context, presented by the Flagler College Ideas and Images Program marking the 50th anniversary of the passage of the Civil Rights Act. The lecture is free and open to the public. 74 King Street, 904-819-6282 [www.flagler.edu/our-community](http://www.flagler.edu/our-community)

**February 26****Discover First America Program**

Fortress of Freedom: The Story of Fort Mose, America’s first freed black settlement, is told by scholars, re-enactors and state park officials. Also, Bob Moore, a composer for the St. Augustine Orchestra, performs *Someday*, which was written by Moore to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the Civil Rights Act. This program is sponsored by Fort Mose State Park. Held in Lewis Auditorium at Flagler College, admission is free. St. Augustine 450th Commemoration passports with souvenir stampings are complimentary to attendees. 14 Granada Street, St. Augustine. [www.Staugustine-450.com](http://www.Staugustine-450.com)

**February 28, March 1 & 2****St. Augustine Orchestra Commemorates 50th Anniversary of Civil Rights Act**

The St. Augustine Orchestra marks the 50th Anniversary of the signing of the Civil Rights Act with three concerts. Each performance includes Bob Moore’s new composition “*Someday*” as well as renowned pianist Thomas Pandolfi performing *Grieg’s Piano Concerto*. The Friday and Saturday performances take place at 8 p.m. at the Lightner Museum, while the Sunday performance is at 3 p.m. at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall. Moore and Pandolfi will also participate in the orchestra’s fundraiser event scheduled for Saturday at 6:30 p.m. in the Lightner Museum Lobby. Concert tickets are \$15 and are available at the door. 25 Granada St., St. Augustine. <http://staugustineorchestra.org/calendarevents-2/>

Located midway between Daytona Beach and Jacksonville, Florida’s Historic Coast includes historic St. Augustine, the outstanding golf and seaside elegance of Ponte Vedra and 42 miles of pristine, Atlantic beaches. For more information on events, activities, holiday getaway and vacation opportunities in St. Augustine, Ponte Vedra & The Beaches, go to the Visitors and Convention Bureau website at [www.FloridasHistoricCoast.com](http://www.FloridasHistoricCoast.com), become a fan on Facebook (st-Augustine-Florida) or call 1.800.653.2489.

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