

A.W. Jones Heritage Center
610 Beachview Drive
St. Simons Island

Admin Offices: 9 a.m.–5 p.m., M–F
Store: 10 a.m.–5 p.m., M–Sat
12 p.m.–5 p.m., Sun

Lighthouse Museum
101 12th Street
St. Simons Island

**World War II
Home Front Museum**
4201 1st Street, East Beach
St. Simons Island

Museum Hours of Operation
10 a.m.–5 p.m., M–Sat
12 p.m.–5 p.m., Sun
Last tickets sold: 4:30 p.m.

Museum Admission Fees

Single Tickets

\$12 Adults
\$6 Ages 6–12

Combined Tickets

\$20 Adults
\$10 Ages 6–12

\$2 Military discount with ID
Children under 6 and Society
members are admitted
free of charge.

ACCREDITED BY THE



VIRTUAL ANNUAL MEETING



A Preview of Charleston's International African American Museum

A lecture by Elijah Heyward III, Ph.D.

Thursday, January 21, 2021, at 6 p.m., Presented via Zoom

Shown in the rendering above, the International African American Museum (IAAM) will open in Charleston, South Carolina in early 2022, with the mission to “honor the untold stories of the African American journey at one of our country’s most sacred sites.” Under construction since 2019, the museum is located on the site of Gadsden Wharf, the entry point for over 150,000 enslaved Africans. *(continued on page 2)*

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A Note about the Annual Meeting

To accommodate COVID-19 safety guidelines, the Annual Meeting will be held virtually rather than in person at The Cloister on Sea Island. We are also changing the time of the event to a Thursday evening, rather than a Sunday afternoon, to avoid conflict with sports events. A short business meeting will be held at 6 p.m., similar in format to previous meetings. Dr. Heyward's lecture will begin at approximately 6:15 p.m.

The Coastal Georgia Historical Society 2020 Annual Report will be posted on our website, coastalgeorgiahistory.org, by the end of January.

Membership Highlights!

Thank you to those who have generously upgraded their memberships or increased their level of annual giving.

Keeper of the Light

Barbara and Bill Abbate—*Sustainer*
Sarah and Laurence Dunn—*Sustainer*

General

Staci Bennett, Bennett Financial Partners—*Lamplighter*
Elizabeth and Eric Bommer—*Curator*
Susan Hoffman—*Curator*
James Wolf and Mark Propst—*Lamplighter*

Welcome New Members!

Keeper of the Light

Hoke Brunson—*Benefactor*

General

Emily Bair—*Individual*
Amy Bishop—*Family*
T and Bob Boles—*Curator*
Michelynn Carellas—*Family*
Doris and Ken Collins—*Family*
LeRoy Dickson—*Individual*
Charlotte Doster—*Individual*
William Honvlez—*Family*
James Miller—*Family*
David Nelson—*Family*
KT O'Brien—*Individual*
Declan Palm—*Individual*
Nancy Stoddard—*Individual*
Lucy Thomas—*Family*

Memorial and Tribute Gifts

In Memory of Nell McGehee and
In Honor of Nell M. Black
By Denise and Jon Seiz



Sharing stories that move us and make us

Funding has been provided by Georgia Humanities and the National Endowment for the Humanities as part of the CARES Act economic stabilization plan of 2020. For more information, please visit www.GeorgiaHumanities.org.

A Preview of Charleston's International African American Museum

Continued From Front Cover

An estimated 60-80% of Black Americans can trace an ancestor to the Wharf, which has been described as the Ellis Island for African Americans.



On Thursday, January 21, at 6 p.m., Elijah Heyward III, Ph.D., will join us via Zoom to discuss the development and design of the museum, which will incorporate exhibit spaces, a family history center, a

contemporary art initiative, and a memorial garden. State-of-the-art interactive technology will be used, along with traditional techniques, to tell the stories of the African diaspora and the spread of African culture and influence. The Museum plans to reach beyond the borders of South Carolina to encompass the Gullah Geechee experiences of neighboring areas including the Georgia coast.

Dr. Heyward has served as Chief Operating Officer of IAAM since 2018. A native of Beaufort, South Carolina, he is a graduate of both Hampton University and the Yale Divinity School. He earned his Ph.D. in American Studies from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, where he curated the exhibit "Beyond Walls: Designs for 20th Century Murals at the Ackland Art Museum" and contributed to a traveling exhibit featuring African American artist Ronald Lockett. His lecture will include information about his Lowcountry roots and the educational experiences that prepared him for his role at the new museum.

This virtual program is free and open to the public. Registration is required by visiting coastalgeorgiahistory.org. A Zoom link will be sent the week of the lecture.

A Walk through Brunswick's Past



Follow in the footsteps of Brunswick's citizens of the late 19th and early 20th centuries on a walking tour of downtown Brunswick. Led by the historians of the Coastal Georgia Historical Society, the tour will explore the social, cultural, and religious life of the City-by-the-Sea during a time of booming economy and population. Learn about leading citizens, forgotten buildings, and even the city's first automobile!

The tour will take place on **Sunday, January 10, at 3 p.m.**, and is limited to 20 people. The tour will start in front of Old City Hall and last approximately 1 hour and 15 minutes. It will include two miles of walking. In case of inclement weather, the tour will be rescheduled. The cost is \$10 per

person; children under 12 are free. To register, visit coastalgeorgiahistory.org.

Jack & Anne Glenn Charitable Foundation Grant

Cultural Experiences for Underserved Families in Glynn County



The Coastal Georgia Historical Society recently received a generous grant from the Jack & Anne Glenn Charitable Foundation to reach underserved families in our community. Due to

the COVID-19 pandemic, Glynn County Public Schools have suspended or completely cancelled all field trips, including trips to the World War II Home Front and the St. Simons Lighthouse Museums. For many children in Glynn County, this eliminates the opportunity to visit a cultural institution during the 2020-21 school year.

The grant will make it possible for Society educators to implement a program that will bring Glynn County school children and their families to our sites free of charge. The pilot program will take place during the spring and summer seasons, when families are seeking opportunities to spend time together. A range of options will be explored to meet the needs of working parents. Our goal is to provide a memorable cultural experience for at least 1,000 local families.

Preserving an Historic Painting



A generous grant from the Friends of Coastal Georgia History recently funded the restoration of the Society's portrait of James Gould, the builder and first keeper of the St. Simons Lighthouse. The varnish and

paint layers had become discolored in several areas since the last major restoration in 1986. Conservator Catherine Rogers of Charleston, South Carolina, carefully removed the layers of varnish and old retouchings before inpainting to match surrounding areas and applying varnish with a UV filter to protect the painting. In 2018, she treated the World War II compass from the original Sea Island Administration Building to prepare it for exhibition at the Home Front Museum. We are grateful for the grant from the Friends of Coastal Georgia, which includes funding for archival containers needed to store artifacts donated to the Society over the past several years.

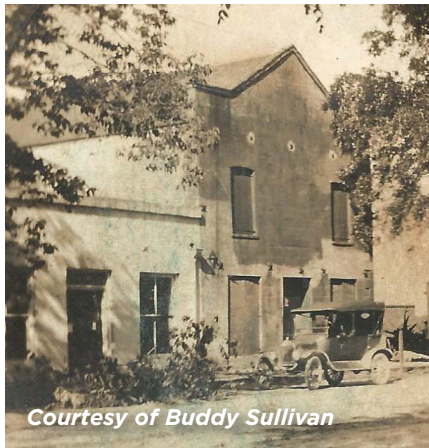
Museum News

Both Museums and Museum Stores will be closed for maintenance and inventory January 11-16.

Investigating the Adam Strain Building Site



In November, the Coastal Georgia Historical Society conducted an archaeological study at the early 19th century Adam Strain Building, now being restored in downtown Darien, Georgia. The Society's consulting archaeologist, Dr. Nick Honerkamp, served as principal investigator for the project, assisted by archaeologists Carolyn Rock, James Morgan, and Norma Harris. Areas both inside the building and on the riverside grounds were tested by the team. Artifacts ranging in date from Native American habitation 4000 years ago to



the present day were collected and will be processed at the Society's Archaeology Lab on St. Simons Island. Items from the colonial period as well as the Civil War years were found. Members of the Coastal Georgia Historical Society and the Lower Altamaha Historical Society were

invited to visit during the project, and forty-two took advantage of this opportunity to observe the work and talk to the archaeologists.

The Society wants to thank all those who gave so generously of their time. Myrna Crook, our Lab manager, supervised the project and worked as a volunteer. Also volunteering were Billy Bice, Melanie and Doug Cranford, Deana Davis, Alyssa Roeske, Mary Jo Townsend, and Paul White. We are very grateful that the owners of the building, Marion and Milan Savic, undertook this archaeological study to record and preserve the history of the site.

Calendar of Events

A Walk through Brunswick's Past

January 10

3 p.m., Old City Hall

\$10 per person; children under 12 are free

Museums and Museum Stores Closed for Inventory and Maintenance

January 11-16

An Overview of Coastal Georgia History

January 12-February 16

Buddy Sullivan

4 p.m., presented via Zoom

\$50 for CGHS members;

\$95 for non-members

Annual Meeting

January 21

"A Preview of Charleston's International African American Museum"

Elijah Heyward III, Ph.D.

6 p.m., presented via Zoom

Celebrating Black History Month

February 25

"Heart Full of Rhythm: The Big Band Years of Louis Armstrong"

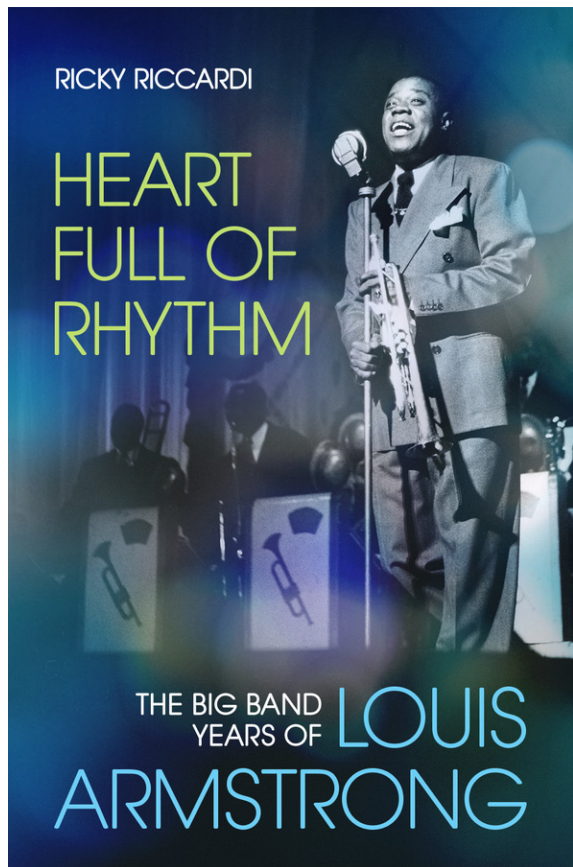
Ricky Riccardi

6 p.m., presented via Zoom

All Society events require pre-registration.

For more information on programs and the Society's hours of operation, please visit coastalgeorgiahistory.org.

CELEBRATING *Black History*



Heart Full of Rhythm: The Big Band Years of Louis Armstrong

A lecture by Ricky Riccardi

Thursday, February 25, 2021, at 6 p.m.

Presented via Zoom

In celebration of Black History Month, the Society will present a virtual program on one of America's most celebrated musicians, Louis Armstrong. 2021 marks the 50th anniversary of the death of this iconic artist who is known as the first "King of Pop." On **Thursday, February 25, at 6 p.m.**, historian Ricky Riccardi will join us via Zoom to discuss his recently released book, *Heart Full of Rhythm*, which examines the middle years of Armstrong's career. Between 1929 and 1947, the little-known trumpeter from Chicago broke through barriers and became an internationally acclaimed star. Riccardi will discuss the trumpeter's connections to Georgia, including some of his most famous songs, such as "Georgia on My Mind" and "Atlanta Blues."

Riccardi is Director of Research

Collections for the Louis Armstrong House Museum in Corona, New York. His new book is the second installment of a trilogy on the musician's life. An earlier book, *What a Wonderful World*, examined Armstrong's later life. Riccardi has been an Armstrong fan since the age of 15, when he saw the trumpeter perform in the 1954 movie *The Glenn Miller Story*. A pianist since the age of seven, Riccardi has been a lifelong collector of Armstrong memorabilia. He earned a master's degree in jazz history and research from Rutgers University in 2005 before acquiring his position with the Armstrong House Museum. He has co-produced many Armstrong album reissues and teaches a graduate course on the trumpeter at the Louis Armstrong Archives, located at Queens College, City University of New York.



This virtual program is free and open to the public. Registration is required by visiting coastalgeorgiahistory.org. A Zoom link to the lecture will be sent the week of the event.

Buddy Sullivan's Local History Course

Senior Historian Buddy Sullivan's six-week history course chronologically traces Georgia's coastal history from Native American culture through 20th century events, including World War II. While covering the coast from Savannah to St. Marys, the focus of the course is on St. Simons, Jekyll, and Brunswick. The course will be presented virtually on **Tuesday afternoons January 12 – February 16, 2021, at 4 p.m.** The cost is \$50 for Society members and \$95 for non-members. To register, visit coastalgeorgiahistory.org.



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Home Front Museum
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Consulting Archaeologist: Nick Honerkamp, Ph.D.

Let us hear from you!

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Online: Visit coastalgeorgiahistory.org
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