

## **TAM Conference Schedule**

### **Wednesday, March 15**

8:00 am-4:00 pm

#### **Conference Registration and Information**

10:30 am

#### **Regional Meet Ups**

11:15 am

#### **Humanities Tennessee Scholarship Winners Pre-Conference Meeting – Tennessee Ballroom**

12:00 pm-1:15 pm

#### **Welcome to TAM 2023 Luncheon – Central Ballroom**

#### **African American Music and Unfinished Revolutions in Memphis**

Jeff Kollath, CEO of the Stax Museum, will share the story of Stax Records and the larger interpretation of the history of African American music in Memphis. He will also discuss how musical connections within black communities help historians better understand how music functioned as social-cultural-political expression in black urban communities like Memphis during the 20th century.

12 pm-4:30 pm

#### **Silent Auction Open for Bidding**

1:15-4:30 pm

#### **Punch Your TAM Passport! Exhibit Hall Open**

1:30 pm-2:30 pm SESSION ONE

#### **Hidden Histories of Black Women in Radio and Musical Pioneers of Memphis, Circa 1950 – 1979**

*Central Ballroom*

This panel will discuss the ways in which we study and interpret the history of African American music in Memphis by looking at pioneering Black women radio personalities and musical performers. Dr. Jenkins and Mrs. Hamdan will present the work of radio hosts Willa Monroe, Martha Jean Steinberg, and Novella Smith of Memphis. This panel will also study musical pioneers, such as opera icons Madame McCleave and Vera Little, jazz innovators Alberta Hunter, Lil Harden Armstrong, and Stax hit songwriter Bettye Crutcher. These pioneers contributed significantly to the musical culture and creative life of Memphis, while receiving little recognition for their life's work.

*Dr. Earnestine L. Jenkins, Professor of Art History, University of Memphis; Leila I. Hamdan, Collections Manager and Archivist, Stax Museum of American Soul Music*

#### **Memphis Proud, Now and Forever: Curating an Exhibit about LGBTQ+ History in the South**

*Overton Ballroom*

The exhibit *Memphis Proud: The Resilience of a Southern LGBTQ+ Community* tells the story of an underexamined community and explores how Memphis's LGBTQ+ community has forged bonds and been sustained over decades. It unearths the city's largely undocumented LGBTQ+ history and illustrates

how organizations and individuals strive to create a more welcoming Memphis. By exhibiting these stories and facing criticism for moving the Museum in new directions, the Memphis Museum of Science and History became a part of an unfinished revolution in Memphis started by LGBTQ+ community members in their quest for recognition.

*Dorothy Svgdik, Curator of Exhibits, Memphis Museum of Science and History; Raka Nandi, Director of Exhibits and Collections, Memphis Museum of Science and History; Moth Moth Moth, Programs Director, Focus Center Foundation and Local Drag Artist*

### **Talk Some 'Cents' to Me**

*Tennessee Ballroom*

Do you know what it costs you to care for an artifact? An active awareness of collection management costs allows for institutions to better discern what they are and are not capable of achieving with their collection. This presentation seeks to analyze the cost of storing a typical object in a typical museum's collection. Join staff from the Tennessee State Museum as they discuss how to achieve this by evaluating multiple case studies and industry standard estimates for a variety of additional expenses  
*Nicole Nomany, Assistant Registrar, Tennessee State Museum; Caleb Williams, Curatorial Assistant, Tennessee State Museum*

### **The Rosenwald Schools of Tennessee, A Community-Focused Exhibit**

*Shelby Ballroom*

This session focuses on an upcoming (June 2023) community-focused exhibit at the Tennessee State Museum in partnership with the Franklin Library at Fisk University focusing on the history of Rosenwald Schools in Tennessee. This session will focus on the importance of community-focused exhibits, exhibit and research strategies, and the importance and the history of Rosenwald Schools and the work done by alumni and local communities in preserving them.

*Matthew Gailani, Museum Curator, Tennessee State Museum; Tranae Chatman, Curator of Social History, Tennessee State Museum*

2:30-3:15 pm **BREAK AND POSTER SESSION** – *Back Center Foyer*

3:15 pm-4:15 pm **SESSION TWO - Roundtables**

As TAM gathers in Memphis for our 2023 conference, we are just three years away from the 250th commemoration of the United States. Many revolutions still simmer unfinished in the city on the Mississippi River and across the state. There are fights raging over the truths of history, the appropriateness of books in school libraries, gender roles, and political differences. How can we document these ongoing battles and fill a need in our communities? What creativity can we bring to the public square to illuminate these struggles and encourage conversation? What do we need to do to prepare for the upcoming semisecular centennial so museums are at the table in planning and fighting for an inclusive commemoration that deals with our past through a lens of diversity and inclusion?

Join roundtable moderated by TAM Board Members to discuss these questions with your peers or bring your own questions and use the group to crowdsource solutions.

- **Collections/Curators** – *Central Ballroom*

- **Directors/Administration** – *Tennessee Ballroom*
- **Educators/Interpreters** – *Shelby Ballroom*
- **Volunteers/Docents** - *Overton Ballroom*

5-10 pm

### **Evening Event – Awards Night**

5 pm - Buses will depart from hotel and head to the Memphis Brooks Museum of Art for a reception (1934 Poplar Ave, Memphis, TN 38104, approx. 9-minute drive).

6:30 pm - Buses will depart from the Memphis Brooks Museum of Art and head to Davies Manor Historic Site for dinner and the awards presentation (9336 Davies Plantation Rd, Bartlett, TN 38133, approx. 23-minute drive).

9:30 pm Buses will depart from Davies Manor Historic Site and head back to hotel (3700 Central Ave, Memphis, TN 38111, approx. 21-minute drive).

### **Thursday, March 16**

8:00 am-4 pm

**Conference Registration and Information**  
**Silent Auction Open for Bidding**

8 am-4 pm

**Punch Your TAM Passport! Exhibit Hall Open** – *Back Center Foyer*

8:30-9:30 am – **SESSION THREE**

#### **Creating Inclusive Children's Programs**

*Overton Ballroom*

Come learn from the Tennessee State Museum as we explore the tools that can help institutions create inclusive children's programming. How can things like social narratives, visual schedules, and task analysis be used to create new and innovative programming for your organization's youngest visitors?

*Morgan Byrn, Public Programs Manager, Tennessee State Museum*

#### **Deaccessioning: More than "Tidying Up"**

*Tennessee Ballroom*

This session will discuss essential details about the deaccessioning process and how to ethically remove artifacts from a collection. Attendees will learn about creating a deaccessioning policy and how to communicate with the non-museum community about this aspect of our work. Lastly, they will hear from presenters about the how to handle some of the unique problems museums face when it comes to

deaccessioning artifacts.

*Sarah Griffin, Director of Grants Management, Tennessee Arts Commission*

**You Say You Want a Revolution! Revolutionizing Historic House Museums at Historic Castalian Springs**  
*Shelby Ballroom*

Do you want to revolt against your historic house museum's mission statement? Or gain independence from the "dead old white guy" narrative? Learn how Historic Castalian Springs is revolutionizing their historic house museums and expanding narratives to include historically marginalized peoples and how you can do it too!

*Tonya Staggs, Executive Director, Historic Castalian Springs; Catie Latham, Collections Manager, Historic Castalian Springs*

9:30 am-10 am

**Coffee and Conversation with Exhibitors** – *Back Center Foyer*

10 am-11 am – **SESSION FOUR**

**Handling and Care of Firearms and Edged Weapons Within a Collection**

*Overton Ballroom*

This session will highlight the proper care of firearms and edged weapon within a museum's collection. Safety, materials, exhibitions, storage, and monitoring will be discussed with the goal of teaching people, of all skill sets, new information necessary for collections care.

*Lawrence Dahl, Conservation Technician, Bynon Art Services LLC*

**(R)Evolution in Museum Education: Reimagining Old Programs to Fit New Needs**

*Tennessee Ballroom*

In 2020, Belle Meade's education department created "Family Tours" from old field trips, a program that won a TAM Award of Excellence and is now our highest revenue generator. Join us as we pull back the curtain on each stage of this program's development, inspiring you to rewrite your existing programs to fit new needs. Learn specific tools for embracing revolutionary changes in audience and objectives while staying true to your site's values and mission.

*Rachel Gibson, Vice President of Programs and Education, Belle Meade Historic Site & Winery*

**Steal This Idea: Projects from AASLH's 2022 Awards to Inspire Your Work**

*Shelby Ballroom*

This session shares ten examples of award-winning projects from AASLH's 2022 Leadership in History Awards that are relevant and replicable for Tennessee history institutions of all sizes and budgets. These projects from around the country will spark ideas for attendees who may want to try something similar at their sites. We'll discuss collaborations with Native American tribes, exhibits covering grief, technology initiatives for rural communities, cemetery research, interpretation focused on workers and craftspeople, and more.

*Aja Bain, Program and Publications Coordinator, American Association for State and Local History*

11:15 am-1 pm

### **Business Luncheon and Responding to Issues Plenary Session**

*Central Ballroom*

Tennessee museums have faced unprecedented challenges over the last year. Questions have arisen over events, exhibits, inclusion, and even hosting weddings. How do we deal with issues of safety, censorship, and being non-neutral in a community who may not be ready for it?

*Moderator: Bethany L. Hawkins, Chief of Operations, AASLH*

*Panelists: Dr. Rosamund Garrett, Chief Curator, Memphis Brooks Museum of Art; Dr. Noelle Trent, Director of Interpretation, Collections, and Education, National Civil Rights Museum; Kevin Thompson, Executive Director, Memphis Museum of Science and History*

1:30 pm-2:30 pm **SESSION FIVE**

### **Programming for Civics Season and Constitution Day**

*Tennessee Ballroom*

This session encourages museums to develop programming around Civics Season, Constitution Day, and other events related to the Constitution and Bill of Rights. Speakers will share information about Civics Season from the national level and local focusing on the Discovery Park of America's 2022 event with the Freedom Forum, and how museums can use these tools and examples to create their own programming.

*Bethany L. Hawkins, Chief of Operations, American Association for State and Local History; Scott Williams, President and CEO, Discovery Park of America*

### **Revolution as a Base for Resuscitation: Exhibiting an Appalachian Festival's Bicentennial Boost**

*Shelby Ballroom*

This session examines use of the American Association for State and Local History (AASLH)'s Semiquincentennial field guide, *Making History at 250*, to create the temporary exhibit *FolkFest: Exhibiting Appalachian Tradition*. In 1974, Cumberland Gap, Tennessee residents created *FolkFest* to capitalize on the nation's bicentennial fascination. The festival revived the town but was not sustained. The 2022 exhibit documented this history by using the field guide to direct community conversations on the festival's resurrection and sustainability.

*Natalie Sweet, Program and Education Coordinator, The Abraham Lincoln Library and Museum*

3:00 pm-4:00 pm **SESSION SIX**

### **10 Ways to Engage Your Board in History Work**

*Tennessee Ballroom*

Most board members in history organizations have no idea what the staff really do on a day-to-day basis. They understand the business part of our work (paying bills, filing sales tax, hiring employees), but lack knowledge about the history profession and how it has standards, ethics, and requirements. During this session, hear about 10 things you can do at your next board meeting to help connect your board to your history work.

*Bethany L. Hawkins, Chief of Operations, American Association for State and Local History*

### **Collaborative History: Creating a Community-Based Juneteenth Program**

*Overton Ballroom*

Since Juneteenth became a federal holiday in 2021, more cultural institutions are working to implement programs highlighting the history of African Americans across the nation. During this session, we will describe how a community-based approach to planning and development can lead to a successful Juneteenth Celebration. Attendees will consider whose stories and histories are told, and how cultural institutions can work to amplify silenced voices.

*Stephanie Davis, Community Engagement Educator, Tennessee State Museum; Mamie Hassell, Community Engagement Educator, Tennessee State Museum*

### **Exhibition Development through a Social Justice Lens**

*Shelby Ballroom*

The Memphis Brooks Museum of Art has undertaken a yearlong process to overhaul the way it develops exhibitions, as well as the accompanying educational programs and community engagement strategies, all through the lens of social justice. Presenters will share their work to develop a detailed exhibition development timeline that outlines key milestones and strategies for accomplishing them, as well as examples of newly created documents that will guide their exhibition development process going forward.

*Kathy Dumlau, Director of Education and Interpretation, Memphis Brooks Museum of Art; Rosamund Garrett, Chief Curator, Memphis Brooks Museum of Art*

### **Connecting Past to Present through Innovative Sources: Approaches to Sharing Local History and Inspiring Activism Today**

*Central Ballroom*

From the balcony of the Lorraine Motel, to protest photos of the 1968 Memphis Sanitation Workers Strike, to albums from STAX musicians, museums can use objects from past to illuminate the history of resistance and the African American fight for freedom in Memphis. We will explore ways to share visual arts, music, historic photographs, and artifacts of all kinds into teaching about the past, in ways that inspire learners to want to be upstanders today.

*Dory Lerner, Museum Educator, National Civil Rights Museum*

5-10 pm

### **Evening Event – Auction Night**

5 pm - Buses will depart from and head to The Metal Museum for a reception (374 Metal Museum Drive, Memphis, TN 38106, approx. 19-minute drive).

6:30 pm - Buses will depart from The Metal Museum and head to the Stax Museum of American Soul for dinner and the live TAM Auction (926 E. McLemore Ave. Memphis, TN 38126, approx. 8-minute drive).

9:30 pm - Buses will depart from the Stax Museum of American Soul and head back to hotel (3700 Central Ave, Memphis, TN 38111, approx. 14-minute drive).

**Friday, March 17**

8:00 am-11:00 am

**Conference Registration and Information****Punch Your TAM Passport! Exhibit Hall Open** – *Back Center Foyer***Auction Items Payment and Pick Up**8 am-9:30 am **BREAKFAST AND CLOSING KEYNOTE**

Steve Murray, Director of the Alabama Department of Archives & History, will speak to us about the big picture of museums as we prepare for the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the United States, the new challenges facing museums in 2023, and inspire Tennessee's museums to action as we prepare for a possible Tennessee museums advocacy day on the hill in Nashville as part of our 2024 conference.

9:30-10 am – **BREAK**10:30-11:45 am **ADVOCACY PLENARY****Setting the Table: A Roundtable Discussion Regarding Advocacy for Tennessee Museums***Shelby Ballroom*

How can Museums across Tennessee connect through advocacy for our field? Join the Advocacy Committee for a participatory discussion to engage and mobilize our museum community to champion and implement a comprehensive advocacy plan for Tennessee Museums. This session will also share data regarding museums across our state and provide tips on connecting with your elected officials. *Ashley Howell, Executive Director, Tennessee State Museum; Warren Dockter, Ph.D., President and CEO, East Tennessee Historical Society; Maureen Vaughan, Museum Curator, Belle Meade Historic Site & Winery*

**Arrive Early and Stay Late:**

Come to Memphis a bit early or stay after the conference ends on Friday to take advantage of free or discounted admission (just show your conference badge) to the following institutions:

The Metal Museum, 374 Metal Museum Dr, Memphis, TN 38106 – Free Admission

Blues Hall of Fame, 421 S Main St, Memphis, TN 38103 – Discounted Admission of \$4.00

Fire Museum of Memphis, 118 Adams Ave, Memphis, TN 38103 – Discounted Admission of \$5.00

Slave Haven, 826 N 2nd St, Memphis, TN 38107 – Discounted Admission of \$10.00

Stax Museum, 926 E McLemore Ave, Memphis, TN 38126 – Discounted Admission of \$9.00

W.C. Handy Museum, 352 Beale St, Memphis, TN 38103 – Discounted Admission of \$5.00