

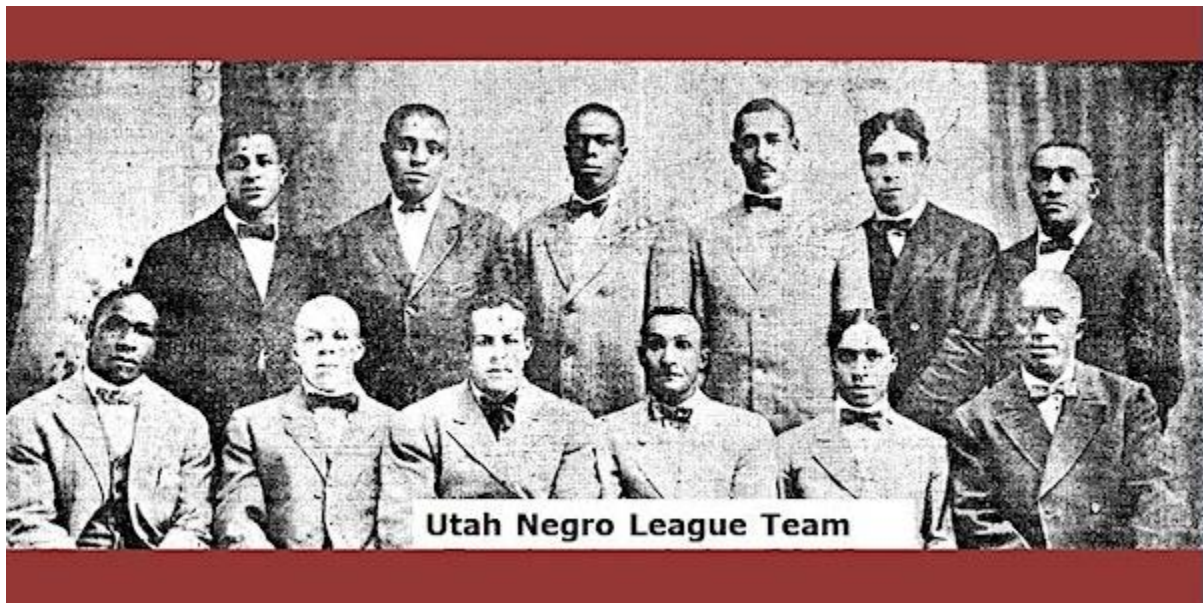
2023 8th Annual Tell the Story Black History Conference

This event is part of the [Ancestral Remembrance and History Celebration 2023](#) collection

Conference Theme:

“Framing Truth: Reclaiming Black Images From Stereotype”

This year we remove falsehoods of Black American images & secure truth in its place



Saturday, September 16 • 10am - 4pm MDT

Community Opportunity Center

2530 South 500 East South Salt Lake City, UT 84115

See map for parking and entrances.

Refund Policy: No Refunds

About this event

- **6 hours**
- **Mobile eTicket**

Check-In and Same-Day Registration: 9:30 am - 9:50 am

Check-In for pre-registered attendees and same-day registration for walk-ins. We highly recommend pre-registration to make the process smoother and cost less for you. Same-day registration costs: Full Conference With Lunch = \$100; Full Conference Without Lunch = \$90; Single Class = \$40.

Conference Hours: 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

The 8th Annual Tell the Story Black History Conference will take place at the newly remodeled and re-named South Salt Lake Community Opportunity Center. FREE parking is provided.

For our 8th year we change from the break-out sessions style to a single-room presentation style. Each presentation will be done as a crucial community conversation in which the speaker presents the topic and we all discuss it together, questions are answered, and suggestions for how to implement the information are provided. At the end of the day renowned Utah therapist Dr. Niece Jones will guide us through a calming session to prevent any difficulty picked up during the day from lingering inside and to affirm a positive experience of removing historical falsehood and replacing it with historical truth. Learning the truth of history can be grueling. We want your journey to be less painful.

The entire day will be live-streamed. The attendance options are: Full Conference In-Person, Full Conference Virtual, Singular Presentation In-Person, and Singular Presentation Virtual.

PRESENTATIONS & CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

10:00 am – 10:25 am

Welcome by Robert Burch, Executive Director of Sema Hadithi Foundation

Description: Our Executive Director will give a Welcome speech.

10:30 am – 11:15 am

Introduction of The Kate Holbrook Black American History Advocate Speech

“Creating & Embracing Good DEI Change in Publishing” - Barbara Jones Brown, Director, Signature Books

Description: Barbara Jones Brown became Director of Utah's local Signature Books, a book publishing company that has specialized in publishing the history of the West / Mountain West and LDS Church history. Coming from her job as Director of Mormon History Association, Barbara had a great vision for Signature Books which involved changes to the styles and types of history books published. In one short year her plan has been highly successful. She will share her vision with us on creating and embracing change using a diversity-equity-inclusion method and why this is significant within Signature Books, where only men have previously been the director. We think Barbara's pattern of creating change is something that everyone can use within their business and organization. Discussion will be along the truth of what diversity-equity-inclusion are with an effort to displace and replace falsehoods with that truth.

11:15 am – 11:25 am

Break & Prep for next presentation

11:30 am – 12:15 pm

“Blackface Within Mormonism in Utah in the 20th Century” – Grace Soelberg, former Collections Assistant, Brigham Young University Special Collections

Description: During the 1900's using blackface was a common comedic routine in the traveling shows and local performances put-on by the LDS Church. Grace Soelberg will present the history of blackface within Utah sharing specific shows, performances, and locations. This discussion will include why this is not only offensive, but how it impacts us individually, us as a society, us as a state, and our relationships with one another.

12:15 pm – 12:50 pm

Lunch -- catered by Papa Stew's Kitchen

12:50 pm – 12:55 pm

Setup & Prep for the next presentation

1:00 pm – 1:50 pm

“The Mammy Mythology & the Sammy Story” – Emily Deason, History Consultant, LDS Church History Library

NOTE: A display accompanies this presentation which will be available from 9:30a – 4:00p

Description: Down through time there has been a gross misunderstanding and mis-imaging of the Black American woman and the Black American man within the framework of enslavement: that of the happy-go-lucky woman tending all the children and family and that of the happy-go-lucky-ever-whistling man. These created stereotypes have taught falsehoods that have lingered with us as the reality of what White Americans perceive to be real and inspired inaccurate family histories written and recited by slave-holding families and their descendants. Emily's presentation will clearly show the beginning of these falsehoods, share images, and share how these stereotypes have distorted history.

1:50 pm – 1:55 pm

Setup & Prep for the next presentation

2:00 pm – 2:45 pm

“Utah’s Own Negro Leagues” – Chris Hansen, Preservation Planner, Utah State Historical Preservation Office

NOTE: A display accompanies this presentation which will be available from 9:30a – 4:00p

Description: Did you know that a separate baseball league existed for Black American men who desired to play ball? Have you heard of the Negro League? Did you know that Utah had its own Negro League, including several all-Black American baseball teams? - Chris will be discussing the Ogden Assembly Baseball Club and their 1905 season and the history of the many Black American baseball teams in Utah that were established between 1897 - 1947. He will examine the turn of the 20th century Black American population of Utah through the lens of baseball, talk about who organized these teams, and why they were created. What was the broader cultural and social construct and history? Chris will take a close look at the men who played ball, where they were from, and why they made their way to Utah and ended up playing on all-Black American baseball teams. These players and teams left a lasting legacy in Ogden and Utah, and to understand Ogden and Utah history one need not look further than baseball history.

2:45 pm – 2:55 pm

Transition - Setup & Prep for Calming Session

3:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Calming Session with Dr. Niece Jones, Ph.D., LMFT

Description: Dr. Niece Jones is all about healing and meaning-making. Skilled in narrative, behavioral, and experiential therapies, Dr. Niece uses her gifts of empathy and sensitivity to energy in her community work and in creating spaces of trust, curiosity, and connection for the purpose of healing. In this session, she will guide us through the processing of any difficult information we have received during the day for the conclusion of making this day's learning sessions more productive toward our own individual growth and progress that we can each go forward to make our society a better and more inclusive one filled with truth.

TICKET EXPLANATIONS & PRICES

Due to our venue this year, we can only accommodate 50 in-person attendees. There is no limit to virtual attendee accommodation.

- In-Person Full Conference WITH LUNCH: \$90
Time: 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. This option gives you the Welcome by our Executive Director, The Kate Holbrook Black American Advocate Speech, ALL presentations, and lunch.
- In-Person Full Conference WITHOUT LUNCH: \$70
Time: 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. This option gives you the Welcome by our Executive Director, The Kate Holbrook Black American History Advocate Speech, and ALL presentations. Please provide your own lunch and join us in the lunch room.
- Virtual Full Conference: \$70
Time: 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. This option gives you the Welcome by our Executive Director, The Kate Holbrook Black American Advocate Speech, and ALL presentations. Lunch is not provided with this option.
- IN-PERSON Welcome & The Kate Holbrook Black American History Advocate Speech ONLY: \$30
Time: 10:00 am - 11:15 am.
- VIRTUAL Welcome & The Kate Holbrook Black American History Advocate Speech ONLY: \$30
You will be able to participate in the conversation, ask questions, etc. as each presentation will have a Presentation Assistant assigned to manage the virtual connection.
- IN-PERSON "Blackface Within Mormonism in Utah in the 20th Century" ONLY: \$30
- VIRTUAL "Blackface Within Mormonism in Utah in the 20th Century" ONLY: \$30
- IN-PERSON "The Mammy Mythology & the Sammy Story" ONLY: \$30
- VIRTUAL "The Mammy Mythology & the Sammy Story" ONLY: \$30
- IN-PERSON "Utah's Own Negro Leagues" ONLY: \$30
- VIRTUAL "Utah's Own Negro Leagues" ONLY: \$30

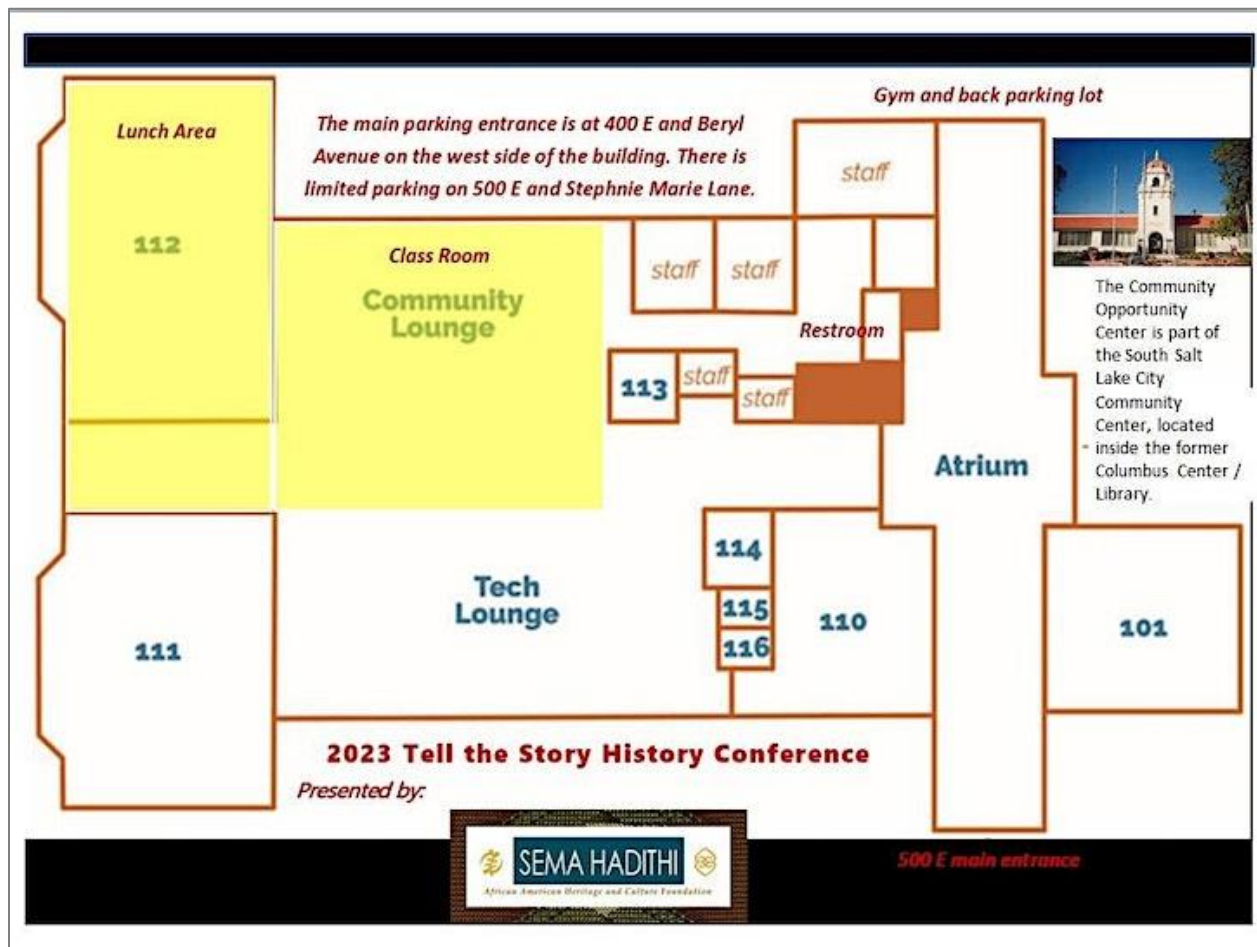
PLEASE NOTE: The Calming Session with Dr. Niece Jones, Ph.D., LMFT is not available as a singular selection. It is only available when combined with another presentation whether in-person or virtual.

It is highly recommended that you pre-register. Same-day registration costs are: Full Conference With Lunch = \$100; Full Conference Without Lunch = \$90; Single Class = \$40.

****NO REFUNDS****

Your purchase of ticket(s) to attend this event in-person means that you have read and accept South Salt Lake Community Center's Code of Conduct. Please read below. Your attendance at this event means you understand that your photograph may be taken and used as part of the saved photographs from this event.

Have questions? Need assistance registering? Contact our Conference Director at SemaHadithi@outlook.com or 801-755-4172. Please note that telephone assistance is available **ONLY 10:00 am - 7:00 pm Mountain Time.**



South Salt Lake Community Opportunity Center Waivers for Sema Hadithi

Co-Op Code of Conduct



Community Opportunity Center Code of Conduct

The purpose of this Code is to promote a safe, comfortable and productive environment for all who visit the Co-Op. Please observe this Code, or you may be asked to change your behavior, leave the Co-Op or forfeit your membership. All Columbus Center rules and the *Internet Access and Use Policy* also apply. We thank you for your cooperation.

Expectations:

Safety – Our community center’s first responsibility is to protect the safety of all who enter. Actions that compromise anyone’s safety are cause for removal. Children under the age of 12 may not be left unattended in the Co-Op. You are personally responsible for the security of your personal items.

Accountability – You must check in each time you visit and you may be asked your purpose for your visit.

Productivity – This is a place for work, study, meeting, and learning. Peace, quiet and politeness are expected.

Professionalism – This is a professional environment, please behave as you would in a library or workspace. Eating and drinking in designated areas only.

Privacy – Everyone here has a right to privacy. Taking photos, videos or recordings without first obtaining the person’s permission is prohibited. Sharing on social media or other media also requires the same permission. Watching or following a person in a way that disturbs their comfort is prohibited.

A Place for Everything:

Phone calls: Phones should be kept on silent. Please take phone calls in a Connect Room, Atrium, or outside the building.

Conversations: Please have conversations that may “disturb the peace” in a private Connect Room or Classroom.

Meetings: Please schedule your group meeting into a large Connect Room or Classroom to keep Co-Op peaceful and help your group be more productive.

Zoom meetings and appointments: Please take private appointments, such as interviews, doctor’s meetings (Telehealth), legal meetings, video calls and conference calls in a Connect Room to protect your privacy and the quiet for others.

Events: The Community Room can be booked for a larger training or event. If a group has booked this space, they take precedence. You may continue to use the adjacent Tech Lounge silently or are encouraged to use a private Connect Room if you must have a conversation or need quiet.

Secure Lockers: You may rent a locker to keep your personal items secure. The Co-Op is not responsible for any personal items lost, stolen or damaged within the Columbus Center.

COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITY CENTER

**2530 South 500 East
South Salt Lake City, UT 84115**

VENUE LOCATION



South Salt Lake Community Opportunity Center
2530 South 500 East, South Salt Lake City 84106

formerly the Columbus Center / Columbus Library

2023 CONFERENCE SPONSORS



CHURCH HISTORY
LIBRARY



OUR CATERER . . .



His name is Ramesus. Affectionately he is called "Papa Stew." He grew up sitting at his great-grandfather's table, eating whatever he was fed. They called him Poppa;; this is where the name "Papa" Stew originated.

Whether it was with his mom or his Aunt Thelma, he was in the kitchen wanting to know how something was made.

"I spent 10+ years in the restaurant industry learning how to make flavorful meals. Cooking and food are my life. Now I want to share my love for amazing food with YOU!"

About the organizer

Organized by

[Sema Hadithi African American Heritage and Culture Foundation](#)



Much of our history has been lost or hidden or destroyed, both in the state of Utah and in this country. Sema Hadithi African American Heritage & Culture Foundation is Utah's premiere Black history organization and is dedicated SOLELY to the research, discovery, preservation, and telling the story of Utah's Black history. This is achieved through these means:

- * FREE Crucial Community Conversations
- * FREE Community Presentations
- * FREE Community Events
- * A few of our past Events:
 - June 2022 Soil Collection Ceremony for two Black men lynched in Salt Lake County
 - June 2022 partnered mural of four influential and prominent Black women (Mignon Barker Richmond, Jane Elizabeth Manning James, Elizabeth "Lizzie" Taylor, and Elnora Dudley) installed in the Mignon Barker Richmond Park in SLC
- * Professional history speaker (\$500 per engagement)
- * Annual Ancestral Remembrance Celebration -- held the Friday evening prior to the annual history conference as 1/2 of the annual fundraiser
- * Annual Tell The Story History Conference -- the 2nd half of the annual fundraiser, an entire Saturday of Black history classes
- * Annual Buffalo Soldier Day event
- * View more
 - o [Facebook profile](#)
 - o [Organizer website](#)
 - o [Organizer email](#)