

The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation P.O. Box 1776 Williamsburg, VA 23187-1776 www.colonialwilliamsburg.com

MEDIA INVITATION

Special Black History Month Community Discussion to Follow Feb. 17 Presentation of Original Program "Journey to Redemption"



Colonial Williamsburg Actor-interpreter Jamar Jones (on left), Artistic Director of Actor-interpreters Katrinah Lewis and Actor-interpreter David Catanese in the original program "Journey to Redemption." A special community panel discussion, "Our Shared Journey: Race and Education through Public History," follows the 2 p.m. Friday performance; both are free to students, faculty and staff of the College of William & Mary.

WILLIAMSBURG, Va.— Members of the media are invited to a performance of Colonial Williamsburg's powerful original live program "Journey to Redemption" at 2 p.m. Friday, Feb. 17 at the Kimball Theatre, followed at 3 p.m. by a special Black History Month community discussion, "Our Shared Journey: Race and Education through Public History."

The event is free for students, faculty and staff of the College of William & Mary with college ID and \$5 for the general public. Colonial Williamsburg admission is not required.

Journey to Redemption depicts the challenges Colonial Williamsburg actor-interpreters embrace in their portrayals of the enslaved and slaveholders of 18th-century America, with cast members breaking character to engage their audience directly.

The community panel will address the role of public history in engaging the public with the scope and complexity of African-American history. Scheduled panelists are:

- Antoinette Brennan, Colonial Williamsburg actor-interpreter and Journey to Redemption cast member
- Rev. Dr. Reginald Davis, pastor of the historic First Baptist Church
- Jamar Jones, Colonial Williamsburg actor-interpreter and Journey to Redemption cast member
- Julie Richter, interim director of the National Institute of American History & Democracy at the College of William & Mary
- Stephen Seals, Colonial Williamsburg nation builder and community liaison (moderator)
- Ari Weinberg, graduate assistant for the Lemon Project at the College of William & Mary

The Kimball Theatre is located at 428 W. Duke of Gloucester St. in Colonial Williamsburg's Merchants Square. Tickets are available by calling 855-296-6627, and the day of the event at the Kimball Theatre box office.

Additional information about Colonial Williamsburg Black History Month programming is available at <u>colonialwilliamsburg.com</u> or by visiting Colonial Williamsburg on <u>Facebook</u> and @colonialwmsburg on <u>Twitter</u> and <u>Instagram</u>.

Members of the media planning to cover the event RSVP to <u>acordle@cwf.org</u> before 3 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 16.

Media contact: Anna Cordle

757-220-7571 acordle@cwf.org

The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation preserves, restores and operates Virginia's 18th-century capital of Williamsburg. Innovative and interactive experiences highlight the relevance of the American Revolution to contemporary life and the importance of an informed, active citizenry. The Colonial Williamsburg experience includes more than 500 restored or reconstructed original buildings, renowned museums of decorative arts and folk art, extensive educational outreach programs for students and teachers, lodging, culinary options from historic taverns to casual or elegant dining, the Golden Horseshoe Golf Club featuring 45 holes designed by Robert Trent Jones Sr. and his son Rees Jones, a full-service spa and fitness center managed by Trilogy Spa, pools, retail stores and gardens. Philanthropic support and revenue from admissions, products and hospitality operations sustain Colonial Williamsburg's educational programs and preservation initiatives.

- CWF -

If you no longer wish to receive news releases from The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation Office of Marketing Communications, please reply to this message with UNSUBSCRIBE in the subject line. Thank you.