



## **SC African American Heritage Commission**

### **February Newsletter**

Welcome to the SC African American Heritage Commission newsletter. In it you will find updates about their activities and events pertaining to African American History in South Carolina!

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# **Thank You!!!**

Thank you to everyone who attended the 2024 SCAAHC Conference on Feb.22! We had a great turnout and are grateful for the engaging and interesting discussions had about African American History throughout the day. Please consider filling out the feedback survey below and be entered to win (one) free registration to the next SCAAHC Conference!

**Scan or Click the QR to be taken to the survey!**

# 2024 SC African American Heritage Commission Conference Evaluation



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## Quarterly Report from the Commission Chair

### **November 30, 2023: SCAAHC Special Meeting**

Commission Members met in-person and online to discuss upcoming projects which include: the 2024 Conference, a Speaker Series, the Green Book publication, and a historical marker grant program/consultant.

### **December 13, 2023: Three New Appointments**

Three new members were appointed to the Commission: Dr. Melencia Johnson, Rhonda Midgette, and Wilfred Pace.

### **December 16, 2023: SC Legislative Black Caucus Retreat**

Charmaine Clowney and Thad Daise gave presentations during the annual South Carolina Legislative Black Caucus regarding the Commission's accomplishments, current projects, and activities. Their presentations were well-received.

**January 24, 2024: Commission Historical Marker Program Announced**  
The Commission announced the Historical Marker Funding Program. The program will fund 15-20 state historical markers relevant to African American History.

**February 10, 2024: Afro-American Genealogical Society Presentation**

Ayanna Goines, representing the Commission and State Historic Preservation Office, gave a presentation on how to use online Archives' resources to research African American genealogy. Over 50 people were present, and feedback was outstanding.

**February 14, 2024: Douglass Day**

Ayanna Goines spoke and participated in the Douglass Day transcribe-a-thon at the South Carolina State Museum. In this event, students from high schools and HBCUs from across the State met to transcribe Frederick Douglass' papers available on the Library of Congress website. Ayanna gave a presentation to students about careers in Public History and Historic Preservation.

**February 22, 2024: SCAAHC 2024 Conference**

After months of planning, the Commission hosted their first annual conference at the SC Archives & History Center. Over 100 participants attended and based on feedback received the conference was tremendous success.

**February 24, 2024: Irmo's Black History Celebration**

Ayanna Goines had the pleasure to speak at the African American Historical Society of Irmo's Black History Celebration where she spoke on the importance of preserving Black History in South Carolina and ways that local communities can participate in that preservation.

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**Rosenwald School Day will be February 28, 2024.**  
**As the result of a challenge-grant fund established by Julius Rosenwald and Booker T. Washington, 486 Rosenwald Schools were built in South Carolina. African American communities matched Rosenwald funds to ensure education for their children and these buildings serve as an invaluable cultural resource. See below for the full**

## Senate Resolution.

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## A SENATE RESOLUTION

TO DECLARE FEBRUARY 28, 2024, AS “ROSENWALD SCHOOL DAY” IN THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

Whereas, a challenge-grant fund established by Julius Rosenwald and Booker T. Washington, which ran from 1912 to 1923, built schools for African American students across the Southeast, with the resulting schools known as Rosenwald Schools; and

Whereas, four hundred eighty-six Rosenwald Schools were built in South Carolina, at least one in every county, and over one third of African American students in the South attended a Rosenwald School in the first half of the twentieth century; and

Whereas, African American communities in South Carolina matched Rosenwald Fund donations with money raised by the community and with land they owned to ensure education for their children; and

Whereas, Rosenwald Schools also served as community meeting spaces and were an important gathering space for the Civil Rights Movement in South Carolina; and

Whereas, despite the integral role Rosenwald Schools played in African American education and the Civil Rights Movement, most buildings have fallen into disrepair or have been demolished, their land and stories being lost with them; and

Whereas, the remaining Rosenwald School buildings and school sites are invaluable cultural resources worthy of being protected, restored, and interpreted for their role in the history of South Carolina and for our posterity. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, declare February 28, 2024, as “Rosenwald School Day” in the State of South Carolina.

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# New African American Listings in the National Register of Historic Places



## McGhee Block

McGhee Block, located in Aiken County went to the South Carolina State Review Board November 17, 2023 to be considered for inclusion on the National Register and was listed January 20, 2024. Built in 1920 by prominent Black contractors William and Albert McGhee, this block served as their headquarters and was where African American doctor C.C. Johnson established a drug store that catered to both white and black citizens.

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## Hettie Anderson Monument Dedication at Elmwood Cemetery

Join state and local leaders on **Thursday, March 14, 2024 at 11 am** for a dedication event for the cemetery monument for Hettie Anderson. Hettie Anderson was born in Columbia around 1873 and later moved to New York City where she was one of the most sought after models for sculptors such as Augustus Saint-Gaudens, Daniel Chester French, and John LaFague. Notable works for which she posed include Central Park's William T. Sherman Monument and the Saint-Gaudens \$20 double eagle gold coin. Anderson died in 1938 and was buried at Elmwood Cemetery but her grave site did not have a monument until recent efforts by the SC African American Heritage Commission, and the South Carolina Numismatic Association.

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## Grant Opportunities from SCAAHC & SCDAH!

Is there a building, structure, or site in your town/city/county with historical African American significance that deserves to be recognized? Is your organization interested in a State Historical Marker but lack the funds to purchase the marker itself? The SC African American Heritage Commission would like to help! Please see the flyer below to learn more. Email Ayanna Goines, [agoines@scdah.sc.gov](mailto:agoines@scdah.sc.gov) with any questions!



**South Carolina African American Heritage Commission  
FY 23-24 Historical Marker Funding Program**

The South Carolina African American Heritage Commission is pleased to announce a new program to fund state historical markers that focus on African American historic places during state fiscal year FY23-24.

State historical markers mark and interpret places important to an understanding of South Carolina's past, either as the sites of significant events, or at historic properties such as buildings, sites, structures, or other resources significant for their design, as examples of a type, or for their association with institutions or individuals significant in local, state, or national history.

Between 15 and 20 applications will be eligible to have the cost of the marker paid for by the SC African American Heritage Commission. The Commission will be listed as a co-sponsor of the marker along with the sponsoring organization.



To be considered for funding, send a South Carolina [Historical Marker Application](#), a cover letter stating interest in this program, and all required supplementary materials to the SC Department of Archives and History Marker Program by **April 30, 2024**. Proposed marker topics must meet the marker Program Criteria and Guidelines listed in the application to be eligible for funding. (Please include a check for the \$250 Marker Research Fee with the application. Applications selected for funding will have their check returned as the fee will be paid on behalf of the applicant by the SC African American Heritage Commission. Applications not selected for funding will be notified and given the option to continue to have the application reviewed or request its return.)

Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis until all available funding has been committed.

A sponsoring organization will be eligible for the cost of ONE historical marker in FY23-24. Additional costs such as paying for marker installation or holding a dedication event are not covered. Please note that individuals are not eligible to be a sponsoring organization.

Sponsoring organizations will be responsible for proposing and securing a location for the marker and installing the marker. If a dedication event is held, the SC African American Heritage Commission will be notified and invited to participate.

Questions? Contact Ayanna Goines, 803-896-8256, [agoines@scdah.sc.gov](mailto:agoines@scdah.sc.gov).

**Federal Historic Preservation Subgrants:** Click the flyer for more information.  
Contact Brad Sauls, [bsauls@scdah.sc.gov](mailto:bsauls@scdah.sc.gov), for more information


## 2024 GUIDE TO FEDERAL GRANT PROJECTS




South Carolina Department of Archives & History  
State Historic Preservation Office  
8301 Parklane Rd.  
Columbia, SC 29223

Brad Sauls  
Supervisor of Survey, Registration, & Grants  
(803) 896-6172  
[bsauls@scdah.sc.gov](mailto:bsauls@scdah.sc.gov)

**SC State Historical Records Advisory Board Historical Records Regrant:**  
Click the flyer for more information and contact [Erin Lowry](mailto:scshrab@scdah.sc.gov), SHRAB Coordinator at [scshrab@scdah.sc.gov](mailto:scshrab@scdah.sc.gov) or 803-896-6128 with questions and to register for a Virtual Information Session or the Digital Planning Class.



South Carolina State Historical Records Advisory Board (SC SHRAB)  
Historical Records Regrant Program



**2024-2025 GRANT OPPORTUNITY**

**GRANT FUNDS FOR HISTORICAL SOUTH CAROLINA RECORDS**

The National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) awarded to the SC State Historical Records Advisory Board (SC SHRAB) an \$80,000 grant to conduct a regrant project for South Carolina's local governments, historical records repositories (e.g. historical societies, colleges and universities, museums, public libraries, churches) and professional organizations. The type of projects to be funded include:

- Access: Arrangement and Description  
Identifying, organizing, and improving access to historical records.
- Preservation  
Implementing solutions to the challenges of preserving records with permanent historical value
- Program Enhancement  
Activities to expand and/or strengthen programs in the state's historical records repositories and local governments
- Archival Education and Training  
Workshops, seminars, and other means of instruction and information on archives practices and policies

Key Dates:

Virtual Information Sessions (**attendance at one is required**):  
to explain the regrant opportunity, the application process, and answer questions

- February 15, 2024 at 2:00pm
- March 12, 2024 at 10:00am
- April 10, 2024 at 2:00pm

Letter of Intent due (**required**): April 17, 2024

Draft Proposal due (optional): May 17, 2024

Final Applications due: June 28, 2024

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**Can't get enough of Conferences? Check out  
these upcoming ones!**

Click the flyers to learn more information.

# Landmark Conference 2024

South Carolina: Shaping History, Civil Rights Edition

March 21-23 ~ Orangeburg, SC



*Celebrating Local History Statewide*



# South Carolina Historic Preservation Conference 2024

Friday, April 26, 2024

PRESENTED BY



Join us for the South Carolina Historic Preservation Conference featuring a wide range of topics on South Carolina history, historic properties, and current historic preservation issues.

Conference Location:

SC Archives & History Center - 8301 Parklane Road - Columbia, SC 29223

The SC Archives & History Center is located near the intersection of I-20 and I-77. Find directions and a map at <https://scdah.sc.gov/about-us/how-find-us>. Free parking is available in the front and side parking lots.

For any assistance, support, or general questions  
please contact us.

Contact Us



# SC African American Heritage Commission

SC Archives and History | 8301 Parklane Rd, Columbia, SC 29223

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