

# HOFSTRA CULTURAL CENTER

presents a symposium

## From the Emancipation Proclamation to the Election of Barack Obama and the Death of Trayvon Martin

A symposium and series of events commemorating the anniversaries of the Emancipation Proclamation, Gettysburg Address and the March on Washington

In 1903, the 40th anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation, W.E.B. DuBois wrote, "the problem of the Twentieth Century is the problem of the color-line" (*The Souls of Black Folk*). At the 1963 March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom commemorating the 100th anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation, Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. declared: "But one hundred years later, we must face the tragic fact that the Negro is still not free. One hundred years later, the life of the Negro is still sadly crippled by the manacles of segregation and the chains of discrimination." This year marks the 150th anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation and Gettysburg Address, and the 50th anniversary of the March on Washington. As Americans commemorate these anniversaries, we contemplate how far the nation has come in its quest to become a more equal society.

**ALL EVENTS ARE FREE** and open to the public.  
Registration is encouraged; visit [hofstra.edu/culture](http://hofstra.edu/culture).

Tuesday, November 5, 2013, at 7 p.m.

Student Center Theater, Mack Student Center, North Campus



NAACP Hofstra Chapter presents

**On the Front Line With the Little Rock Nine:  
A Conversation With Ernest Green**

Civil Rights Activist and 1958 Graduate of Little Rock Central High School

THE SYMPOSIUM - Student Center Theater

Sondra and David S. Mack Student Center, North Campus

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2013

9:35-11 a.m., Session I: What Does John F. Kennedy's Call to Public Service Mean for American Youth Today?

Panel discussion on presidential leadership and public service.

- ▶ **Howard B. Dean III**, Chairman, Democratic National Committee, 2005-2009  
Senior Presidential Fellow, Peter S. Kalikow Center for the Study of the American Presidency, Hofstra University
- ▶ **Edward J. Rollins**, Political Strategist  
Senior Presidential Fellow, Peter S. Kalikow Center for the Study of the American Presidency, Hofstra University
- ▶ **Scott D. Reich**, Associate, Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP  
Author, *The Power of Citizenship: Why John F. Kennedy Matters to a New Generation*

Presented by the Peter S. Kalikow Center for the Study of the American Presidency

11:15 a.m.-12:45 p.m., Session II: Slavery on Long Island, Part I

Panelists:

- Claude J. Magnum**, Professor Emeritus, Fordham University
- Joysetta and Julius Pearse**, African American Museum and Center for Education and Applied Arts
- Kathleen Velsor**, SUNY Old Westbury
- Debra A. Willett**, Hofstra University

1-2 p.m., LUNCH (on your own)

Session III: Film Showing – *The March*

*The March* is the feature documentary on the renowned and historic 1963 March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom. A watershed moment of the civil rights movement, the march brought together a huge coalition of powerful and revered civil rights organizations, labor unions, and civil rights leaders. It was to become the biggest civil protest in American history.

2:30-4 p.m., Session IV: Film Showing – *Slavery and the Law*

*Slavery and the Law* is a captivating documentary that follows a group of Brooklyn youth as they work to create a wall mural that commemorates the shift from enslavement to the Civil Rights Movement. The legal implications of slavery are documented in the film by looking at the Three Fifths Compromise in the United States Constitution and the Fugitive Slave Act.

Commentary:

- Gloria Browne-Marshall**, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, CUNY
- Joan B. Gabbidon**, Kings County District Attorney's Office
- Alan Singer**, Hofstra University

4:30-6 p.m., Session V: Slavery and the Law:

**From Emancipation Proclamation to Barack Obama to Trayvon Martin**

The panel addresses the continuing racial disparity in America pertaining to the justice system, including the recent decision in the Voting Rights Act and the new forms of slavery.

Panelists:

- Jonathan Lightfoot**, Hofstra University
- Gloria Browne-Marshall**, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, CUNY
- Randolph M. McLaughlin**, Pace University
- Grant Hayden**, Maurice A. Deane School of Law

6-7:30 p.m., DINNER BREAK (on your own)

Session VI: Film Showing – *The Abolitionists*

Radicals. Agitators. Troublemakers. Liberators. Called by many names, the abolitionists tore the nation apart in order to make a more perfect union. Men and women, black and white, Northerners and Southerners, poor and wealthy, these passionate antislavery activists fought body and soul in the most important civil rights crusade in American history. What began as a pacifist movement fueled by persuasion and prayer became a fiery and furious struggle that forever changed the nation.

Introduction: **Andor Skotnes**, The Sage Colleges

7:30 p.m., KEYNOTE ADDRESS

(100)50 Years: At the Crossroads of Jobs, Freedom and Equality



**Roslyn Brock**

Chairman, National Board of Directors

National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2013

10-11:30 a.m., Session VII

Introduction: **Cheryl Mwaria**, Hofstra University

**History and Impact of the Emancipation Proclamation**

**Andor Skotnes**, The Sage Colleges

**Lincoln and Gettysburg**

**Alan Singer**, Hofstra University

11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. LUNCH (on your own)

Session VIII: Film Showing – *Underground Railroad: The William Still Story*

*The William Still Story* tells the dramatic story of one of the most important yet largely unheralded individuals of the Underground Railroad. Still was determined to get as many runaways as he could to "Freedom's Land," smuggling them across the U.S. border to Canada. In his 14 years in the service of the Underground Railroad, he helped nearly 800 former slaves escape.

Introduction: **Roosevelt Smith**, Hofstra University

12:45-2:15 p.m., Session IX: Slavery on Long Island, Part II

**Cheryl Mwaria**, Hofstra University

**Lynda Day**, Brooklyn College, CUNY

**Alan Singer**, Hofstra University

**Representative**, African American Burial Ground in NY (invited)

Wednesday, November 13, 2013, 11:15 a.m.-12:40 p.m. (Common Hour)

**Leo A. Guthart Cultural Center Theater, Axinn Library, First Floor, South Campus**

Hofstra University Latin American and Caribbean Studies Program

presents a panel discussion

**The Challenges of Emancipation in the Atlantic World**

Participants:

- ▶ **Benjamin Talton**, Temple University  
*Defending the Political Kingdom: Capitalism, Humanitarianism and the Limits of African Sovereignty in the 20th Century*
- ▶ **Enrique Martino**, Humboldt University of Berlin  
*Enduring Atlantic Economies in the 20th Century: Nigerian Indentured Labour on the Plantation Island of Fernando Po*
- ▶ **Christopher Schmidt-Nowara**, Tufts University  
*Defending Slavery in an Age of Emancipation: Spain, Cuba, and Puerto Rico in the Early Nineteenth Century*

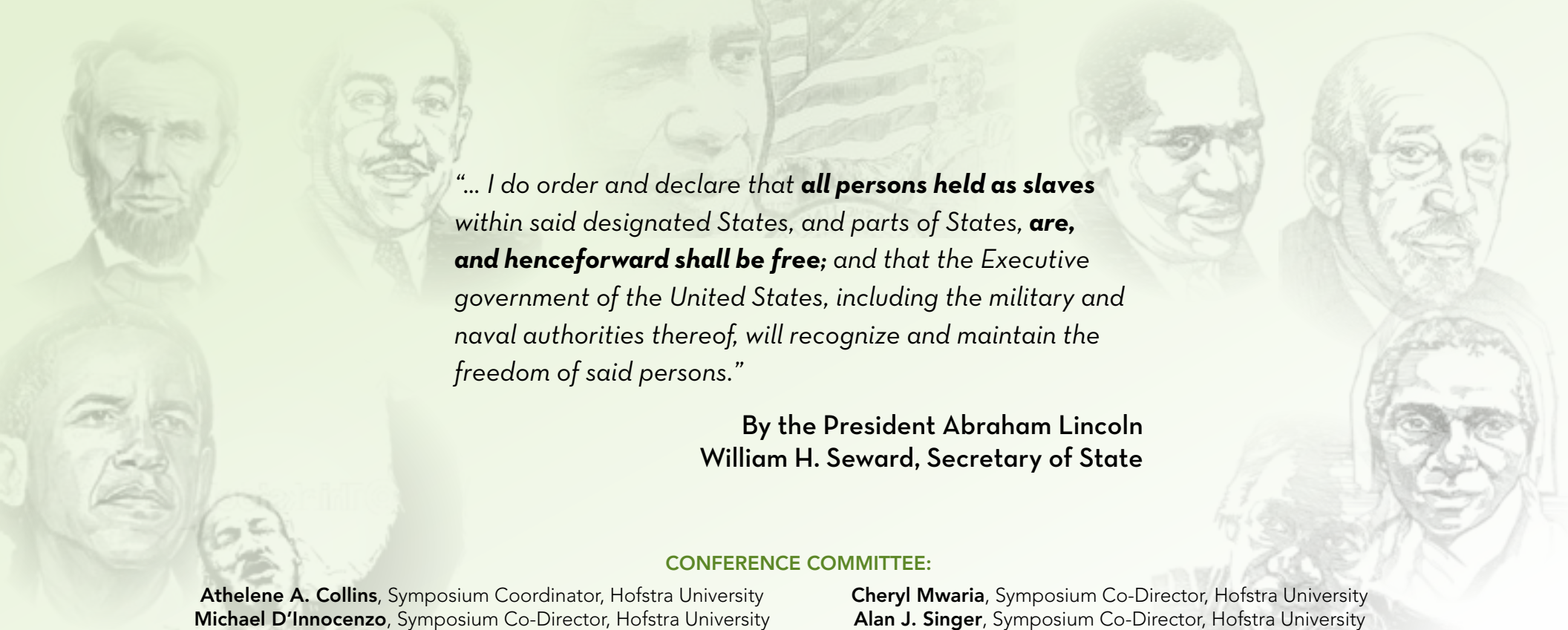
Contact: **Benita Sampedro** at [benita.sampedro@hofstra.edu](mailto:benita.sampedro@hofstra.edu)

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“... I do order and declare that **all persons held as slaves** within said designated States, and parts of States, **are, and henceforward shall be free**; and that the Executive government of the United States, including the military and naval authorities thereof, will recognize and maintain the freedom of said persons.”

By the President Abraham Lincoln  
William H. Seward, Secretary of State

**CONFERENCE COMMITTEE:**

**Athelene A. Collins**, Symposium Coordinator, Hofstra University  
**Michael D’Innocenzo**, Symposium Co-Director, Hofstra University

**Cheryl Mwaria**, Symposium Co-Director, Hofstra University  
**Alan J. Singer**, Symposium Co-Director, Hofstra University

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# From the **Emancipation Proclamation** to the **Election of Barack Obama** and the **Death of Trayvon Martin**

Thursday and Friday, November 7 and 8, 2013



Vinnie Bagwell  
(American, born in 1957)  
*Frederick Douglass Circle*, 2008  
Bronze  
53.5 x 33 x 28.25 in.  
Hofstra University Museum Collections  
University Purchase, HU 2008.5  
© Vinnie Bagwell

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