

The 2023

PRESERVE

EDUCATE



CELEBRATE

HISTORY

www.northcarolinaricefestival.org

MARCH 4, 2023

Historic Brunswick Town/Fort Anderson

Winnabow, Brunswick County, North Carolina



2023 North Carolina Rice Festival Vendors & Exhibitors

Arts & Crafts

Amtul Badi's Original Black-Eyed Pea Dolls
Awl Made Here
Bea's Retreat
The Dizzy Weaver
Ginger Lily Shoppe
Linda Doyle
Lowcountry Gullah
Repurposed Once
Sfraga Earth Art

Health/Beauty & Wellness

Cozmic Beauty
Mama's Secret Skincare
Novant Health
Queen Ester Teas
Sudsation LLC

Food

Ah'Yanna's Italian Ice
Daddy Fresh Hot Dogs
Moses Fabulous Cakes
Tidewater Grain Company
Webo's Food Truck

Outdoor Adventures

Adventure Kayak
Mahanaim Adventures Kayak Tours

Community Service

American Legion Post 68
League of Women Voters
WHQR Public Access TV
You Can Vote

Local Culture & History

Burgwin-Wright House and Gardens
Fort Fisher State Historic Site
Gullah Geechee Blueway/Greenway Trail
Gullah Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor
Commission
Moore's Creek Battlefield Park Historic Site
North Carolina Department of Natural and
Cultural Resources
North Carolina Maritime Museum of Southport
Old Baldy Lighthouse and Smith Island Museum
Poplar Grove Plantation Historic House and
Museum
Reaves Chapel Church



2023 Stage Presentation Schedules

The Gullah Geechee Corridor Stage

- 10:00 am** **Welcome**
George Beatty, *Chair, The North Carolina Rice Festival, Inc., Board of Directors*
- 10:05 am** **Opening Remarks**
Victoria Smalls, *Executive Director, Gullah Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor Commission*
- 10:20 – 11:00 am** **Jim McKee**
“The History of Brunswick Town and Its Connection to Rice Growing and Gullah Geechee Culture”
As Site Manager for the Brunswick Town/Fort Anderson Historic Site and author of a pictorial history detailing this year’s North Carolina Rice Festival location, who better to acquaint Festival attendees with the “lay of the land” of this historic but frequently disputed site?
- 11:05 – 11:35 am** **HT (Tyrone) Hill**
“My Journey to Discovering My Gullah Ancestry and Heritage”
Local artist and musician, HT Hill will paint a visual memory of the lives lived by his ancestors, the Gullah Geechee who grew rice on Eagles Island in the Cape Fear River.
- 11:40 – 12:30 pm** **Sunn m’Cheaux, aka “The Gullah Professor”**
This artist, activist, and social commentator, who teaches the Gullah language in the African Language program at Harvard University, will explain why proper representation and preservation of Gullah Geechee culture, language, and heritage are integral parts of his work.
- 12:30 – 1:30 pm** **LUNCH BREAK**
- 1:35 – 2:05 pm** **Gullah Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor Executive Director Victoria Smalls, with Commissioners Michelle Lanier, Sean Palmer, and Dionne Hoskins Brown**
“The Status of the Gullah Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor in North Carolina”
The public is welcomed to “listen in” to the Commissioners as they discuss important previous and upcoming initiatives focusing on the unique North Carolina Gullah Geechee experience.
- 2:10 – 2:55 pm** **Amadu Massally**
“Wuh Mek Oonuh Gullah Geechee?” (“What Makes *You* Gullah Geechee?”)
Massally is the Founder and CEO of *Fambul Tik*, (“Family Tree,” a community organization that seeks to reconnect the people of Sierra Leone with descendant populations in her Diaspora. He will discuss the very real linkages between his own and Gullah Geechee culture, language, diet, and more.
- 3:00 – 3:45 pm** **John Jeremiah Sullivan**
“Gullah by Another Name: Problems and Opportunities of Cultural Preservation at the Northern Edge of the Gullah-Geechee Rice Field Corridor”
This Wilmington resident, historian, award-winning writer, and Guggenheim Fellow has long focused his research on raising awareness about the 1898 Coup in Wilmington. His talk will focus on the impact of that event on the lived experiences of African Americans raised in Brunswick and surrounding counties.

—more—



2023 Stage Presentation Schedules (continued)

The Come Hear NC Stage (Live Entertainment)

10:30 am	Blues DeVille
11:40 am	Eclipse Reggae Band
12:30 pm	Aunt Pearlle Sue and <i>The Gullah Kinfolk</i>
2:40 pm	Ian Daviz Band
3:00 PM	Parlay Band
4:00 pm	Blackwater Rhythm & Blues Band

The Brunswick & North Carolina Arts Councils' Children's Stage

11:00 am	Marva Moore, <i>Storyteller</i>
11:30 am	Joan Leotta, <i>Storyteller</i>
12:00 pm	Aunt Pearlle Sue, <i>Storyteller</i>
2:10 pm	Sunn m'Cheaux, "The Gullah Professor"

See You Next Year!  March 1-2, 2024