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2024 EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION PARADE



“Charleston's Festival of Freedom”

January 1, 2024

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ABOUT OUR PARADE

From the first days of the Civil War, slaves had acted to secure their own liberty. The Emancipation Proclamation confirmed their insistence that the war for the Union must become a war for freedom. It added moral force to the Union cause and strengthened the Union both militarily and politically.

Today marks the 161st anniversary of President Abraham Lincoln's signing and announcing the "Emancipation Proclamation" on January 1, 1863. The signed document "forever freed all slaves in Southern States." The document also allowed Black men to join the Union Army and Navy which resulted in the liberated becoming liberators.

The Emancipation Parade has been celebrated in the City of Charleston since 1866. Our city will be recognized for sponsoring the Annual Celebration of 158 years. Additionally, Charleston hails in hosting the most consistent Annual Parade in the United States.

This recognition is a direct result of the commitment from churches and community groups to keep this very important and historic event in the lives of enslaved African Americans alive. There is so much more to learn and be proud of as descendants of men and women whose suffering and faith allowed us to live as we do today. Thank you in advance for your continued support and commitment to keeping this historical time in the lives of Black History alive.



DR. VASHTI DIXON KILLINGBECK-WASHINGTON



Dr. Vashti Dixon Killingbeck - Washington, a proud 1971 graduate of Charles A. Brown High School, formerly in the city of Charleston. The school is now Trident Technical College-Palmer downtown Campus. It is through her high school preparation and experiences that propelled her successful career in the field of education. Dr. Washington is a graduate of Charleston Southern University-BA: The College of Charleston-M.Ed.; the Citadel-30 plus; Nova Southeastern University-Ed.D. and completed the prestigious Harvard University's PELP-Public Education Leadership Project. Her education preparation provided her with an opportunity to serve as a classroom teacher, building Administrator, central administrator in Charleston, Berkeley, Colleton, and Dorchester Counties. In 2015, Dr. Washington retired as the Superintendent of Schools for the Jasper County School District. She was the county's first female superintendent and served for six years. Dr. Washington has received numerous awards through- out her 40 years of service in public education, but the two most recent awards that she is most proud of is the South Carolina Alliance of Black School Educators (SCABSE) Lifetime Achievement Award, 2023 and she was newly elected to a national position as the secretary for the Higher Ed Commission for the National Alliance of Black School Educators (NABSE). She will be sworn in with other officers in News Orlean, LA. In November. In 2015, Dr. Washington received the Administrator of the year Award from the South Carolina Association of Office Professionals and the Paul Harris Service Award from Rotary International. Dr. Washington currently serves as an associate professor in the Department of Educational Leadership at South Carolina State University in Orangeburg, SC.

ORDER OF EVENTS

Host	Rev. Earline Nelson
Opening Prayer	Rev. Calbert Brantley Pastor, St. Matthew Baptist Church
Introduction of Emancipation	King Michal Crosby Queen Candice Brantley
Gullah Geechee Heritage Corridor	Angel Parson, Program Coordinator
Intl African American Museum	Dr. Tonya Matthews
Negro National Anthem	
History of the Emancipation	Michael Allen Former Commission Chair, NPS Park Svc Representative
Reading of the Emancipation Proclamation	Mayor Enoch Dickerson, Town of Lincolnville
Mayor Elect Reggie Burgess	North Charleston, SC
Acknowledgements/Grand Marshalls	Dr. Vashti Washington Katrina McClain
Introduction of Orator	
Orator	Dr. Nelson B. Rivers III, Pastor Charity Baptist Church
Closing Remarks	Deacon Robert Crawford
Family / Entertainment	
Poetry – Joseph P-Nut Johnson	
Deninufay Dance and Drumming group	
Song	Di'servhea Washington

ANNUAL KING AND QUEEN PAGEANT

Our annual king and queen pageant is a fund-raising activity of the Emancipation Association, Inc. The funds help to defray the cost and to carry out the organization's goal and to keep the association significance in the forefront of our community. The king and queen pageant gives young men and young women an opportunity to learn a little more black history, oratorical teachings and opportunities to visit historical sites of significance.

If you would like to participate in this pageant your church or organization must be a member.



The Annual King and Queen Pageant was held on Monday, October 16, 2023, at Jerusalem Missionary Baptist Church in downtown Charleston. The children did an awesome job displaying their talents. The reigning King and Queen, Michael Crosby and Candace Brantley, from St. Matthews Baptist Church, North Charleston, will hold onto their titles. First Place runners up are Davion and Divine Gibson, Charity Missionary Baptist Church, North Charleston. Congratulations to all the young people who participated in the pageant. If you are wondering about the next generation, these children are shining stars.

KATRINA McCLAIN



Katrina McClain grew up in Charleston, South Carolina, where she attended St. Andrews High School. In her senior year, she helped lead the team to a 30–0 record, including a state championship.

Katrina began her career at the University of Georgia, where she was a two-time All-American (1986, 1987) and won varsity letters all four years. In her freshman year, she was named to the Freshman All-American team, and was the first ever SEC Freshman of the year. She went on to become the National Player of the Year in 1987. While she was at Georgia, the team won the SEC twice. The team earned invitations to the NCAA Tournament every year in each of her four years, reaching the Sweet Sixteen twice, the Elite Eight once, and finishing as the national runner up in 1985.

McClain is the holder of several single season records that still stand:

- Points (796)
- Points per game (24.9)
- Field goals made (310)
- Free throws made (176)
- Free throws attempted (240)

Over her four-year career, she hit 62% of her field goal attempts, a school record. In NCAA Tournament games, she holds the record for best field goal shooting percentage, hitting 60 of her 84 attempts in the 12 games she played (1984–1987). In the 1985 NCAA semi-final game against Western Kentucky, she hit 10 of 12 field goal attempts, a record field goal percentage for NCAA semi-final games.

Georgia compiled a record of 116–15 while McClain was on the team. She ranks second on Georgia's all-time career charts with 2,195 points (17.6 ppg) and 1,193 rebounds (9.5). Her jersey number (#32) was retired, making her one of only three Lady Bulldogs to receive that honor.

EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION ASSOCIATION, INC

WHAT IS THE EMANCIPATION ASSOCIATION?

The Emancipation Proclamation Association of Charleston is a very old organization that was founded to keep alive the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation by President Abraham Lincoln which declared that from January 1, 1863, henceforth all slaves would be free. The Association consists of members from various churches in greater Charleston and surrounding areas. The association is non-profit.

OUR MISSION

We are a volunteer-based organization that works to promote education, service, and the history of the Emancipation Proclamation, signed by President Abraham Lincoln, and became effective on January 1, 1863.

On December 21, 1860, as a direct consequence of Abraham Lincoln's election as President, the state of South Carolina formally seceded from the Union – an act that ignited the flame that would become the War between the States. Seven states joined South Carolina to form the Confederacy, four more joined after the war began in April 1861.

DID YOU KNOW

There were many colored troops who fought during the civil war. Just to list a few:

First South Carolina Volunteers
Tenth US Cavalry Regiment
The Twenty—Ninth Connecticut Infantry
The 54th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT



I find our organization, the Emancipation Proclamation Association Inc., to be one of purpose and need in this time of 2024. Today, many are enslaved mentally to a variety of issues and circumstances. One of the greatest attributes of the civil war was Black men now able join the Union Army and Navy to fight for the freedom of their families and loved ones. The significance of the signing of the

Emancipation Proclamation is it opened the door for black men to join the military. Black Men, young and old, now were able to join the military as soldiers and not walk behind as contraband. Black men wearing brass US insignia, carrying a musket helped change the outcome of the civil war and the fate of their families. Stories of women, Harriet Tubman and others teaching reading or serving as a nurse bandaged up the wounded. These efforts and sacrifices opened the doors to citizenship for the blacks in America. I thank everyone who preceded us for their support and gifts for the cause of justice and freedom.

We, the Association, are forever grateful to the brave men and women who opened doors to many basic needs and pleasures that we are afforded today. My goal is to learn from the best, listen, share our rich heritage, and serve with a purpose to help others, educate, and build a program that is pleasing, acceptable and valued as an institution. We have an opportunity to improve the conditions of this world when we work together to help those that are less fortunate.

Be Blessed

Robert Crawford
President, Emancipation Proclamation Association Inc