



THE VIRGINIA FORUM CELEBRATING 20 YEARS!

SHENANDOAH UNIVERSITY
WINCHESTER, VIRGINIA
MARCH 19-21, 2026

Thursday, March 19

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2:00-3:00 p.m. Registration, Shenandoah University's Feltner Building, 12-14 North Loudoun Street, Winchester, VA. Please note that this building is located on the downtown walking mall and is the starting point for the walking tour that begins at 3:00 p.m.

3-4:30 p.m. "They... Long to be Free": A Walking Tour Exploring Slavery & Resistance in Winchester with Jonathan A. Noyalas, Hugh & Virginia McCormick Chair in Civil War History, Shenandoah University.

5:00 p.m.--? Dutch treat dinner at Manoteles, 168 North Loudoun Street, Winchester, VA. Please note that the restaurant is located approximately one block north of the Feltner Building. Please note that

between 5:30 and 7:30 p.m., members of Shenandoah University's Center for Immersive Learning team will be at Manoteles to record brief video statements (approximately 30 seconds) from any attendee who wishes to share what the Virginia Forum means to them. These videos will be compiled and played during the banquet on Friday evening. For logistical reasons, this is the only time participants will have an opportunity to record their statements

Friday, March 20

8:00 a.m. Registration opens, Brandt Student Center, Ferrari Room. The Brandt Student Center is located on Shenandoah University's main campus.

8:45-9:00 a.m. Welcome remarks, Brandt Student Center, Ferrari Room

Additional Learning Opportunities at this Year's Virginia Forum

In addition to the sessions, please take advantage of the following opportunities while at this year's Virginia Forum.

- ◇ Visit exhibitors located in the Brandt Student Center hallway.
- ◇ Visit Shenandoah University's Center for Immersive Learning, located in the Pruitt Armory, to try out various immersive history experiences (augmented and virtual reality). This opportunity will be available on Friday only from 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
- ◇ Visit the recently installed art exhibition—"Oh, Shenandoah." This exhibition, featuring more than 200 original works by renowned artist Andrei Kushnir, is located on the main floor of Halpin-Harrison Hall. HHH is located next to the Pruitt Armory. When you enter HHH, you can take either the elevator or the stairs to the first floor. Once you reach the first floor, walk down the main corridor (restrooms will be located on your left and right) to the exhibition area outside of Stimpson Auditorium.
- ◇ Learn about Shenandoah University's history by exploring recently installed wayside markers around campus. A map of sign locations is included in your folder.

Concurrent Sessions I (9:00 a.m.-10:30 a.m.)

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| <p>Session 1: The Virginia Civil Rights History Digital Platform Collaboratory, Pruitt Armory</p> | <p>Session 2: Community, Memory, and Preservation: The Historic Schoolhouses of Northern Virginia BSC 118</p> |
| <p>Moderator: Brian Grogan, Hampden-Sydney College</p> <p>Cainan Townsend, The Robert R. Moton Museum Aubrey McAuliffe, Argot Nova, LLC Edward Coderre, The Digital Ark Corporation</p> | <p>Moderator: Jeff Clark, Fairfax County Public Schools</p> <p><i>Small Schools, Big History: Preserving Educational Heritage in Northern Virginia</i> Shelley Deutch, HSNVA Member, Greater Oakton Community Association</p> <p><i>Passport to the Past: Rediscovering Northern Virginia's One-Room Schoolhouses</i> Julie Maher, HSNVA Member, The Great Falls Grange Foundation</p> <p><i>Teaching Yesterday, Inspiring Tomorrow: The Historic Schoolhouses of Northern Virginia</i> Lauren Crum, HSNVA Member, Greater Oakton Community Association</p> <p><i>Preserving the Past for the Future</i> Ron Edwards and Shirley Edwards, HSNVA Members, Upper Pohick Community League & Friends of The Sydenstricker Schoolhouse</p> |
| <p>Session 3: Forting Up in the Backcountry BSC Ferrari Room</p> | <p>Session 4: On the Threshold: Winchester Women Navigating Their Civil War BSC 123 (BSAC) ALSO ON ZOOM</p> |
| <p><i>The Archaeology of Frontier Forts in the Greenbrier Valley</i> Kim Arbogast McBride, Greenbrier Valley Archaeology, Inc. W. Stephen McBride, Greenbrier Valley Archaeology, Inc.</p> <p><i>Resolutions vs. Reality: Wartime Experience in the Greenbrier Valley</i> Sarah E. McCartney, William & Mary</p> | <p>Moderator: Jim Broomall, University of Richmond</p> <p><i>"The Powells in Winchester": The Resistance of Two Confederate Women and Two Black Women Seeking Freedom</i> Alison Herring, Independent Researcher</p> <p><i>"This record of infamy": Redefining Boundaries and Social Power in 1862 Winchester</i> Sarah Kay Bierle, Independent Researcher</p> <p><i>"Equally helpless & unprotected": Freedom and Bondage in Mary Jackson Tuley's Household During the Civil War</i> Anne Marie Chirieleison, Independent Researcher</p> |

Break 10:30-10:45 a.m.

Concurrent Sessions II (10:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m.)

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| <p>Session 5: Histories and Legacies of Early Virginia BSC Ferrari Room</p> <p>Moderator: Jeff Looney, Monticello</p> <p><i>Mapping the Dragon: An Indigenous History of Bacon’s Rebellion</i> Edward DuBois Ragan, Bossier Parish Community College</p> <p><i>“Richly embroidered with...gold:” Staging ‘Virginian princes’ in George Chapman’s The Memorable Masque</i> Elizabeth Sharrett, University of Lynchburg</p> <p><i>Putting the 1716 Spotswood Expedition in Context: Before, During and After the “Knights”</i> Ann L. Miller, Virginia Transportation Research Council</p> <p><i>Alexander Spotswood and the Dog that Didn’t Bark</i> Lori Dixon, Independent Researcher</p> | <p>Session 6: Expanding Public Education in Virginia BSC 123 (BSAC) ALSO ON ZOOM</p> <p>Moderator: Dwana Waugh, Sweet Briar College</p> <p><i>The National University: Debates over the Establishment of an Educated Citizenry in the Founding Years of the United States</i> George D. Oberle III, George Mason University</p> <p><i>Revolutions of the Spirit: American Indian Boarding Schools in Virginia and the Struggle for Cultural Survival</i> Linda Sue Warner, San Carlos Apache College</p> <p><i>Competing Narratives of Disability and Race in the Founding of the Virginia State School for Colored Deaf and Blind Children in 1909</i> G. Jasper Conner, William & Mary</p> |
| <p>Session 7: The Slave, Freedman, and Enslaver: The Story of Monday Robinson BSC 118</p> <p>Moderator: Rebecca Ebert, Handley Library</p> <p>Char McCargo Bah, Finding Things for U, LLC Brenda Nelson, Independent Researcher Kristen Laise, Belle Grove Plantation</p> | <p>Session 8: Revealing Histories of Enslaved Virginians Collaboratory, Pruitt Armory</p> <p>Moderator: Lydia Neuroth, Library of Virginia</p> <p><i>Tracing the Unseen: A Collaborative Approach to Uncovering Enslaved Histories</i> Danielle Eady, Oak Spring Garden Foundation and Julie Fisher, Oak Spring Garden Foundation</p> <p><i>Tracing Freedom’s Lineage: Finding Descendants of Virginia’s Enslaved Communities</i> Shelley Viola Murphy, University of Virginia</p> |



Learn More about the host institution for this year’s Virginia Forum, Shenandoah University. What is today known as Shenandoah University was established in 1875 in Dayton, Virginia, by Rev. Abram Paul Funkhouser. The first eleven students met for the first time on February 12, 1875, in a log structure on Main Street in Dayton to study “elementary subjects.” Although the institution experienced steady growth into the early 1900s, it experienced a sharp decline in enrollment after World War II. In the late 1950s, the decision was made to relocate Shenandoah to Winchester. Today, nearly 4,500 students are enrolled at Shenandoah. The university offers 65 undergraduate degrees and 44 graduate degrees.

Lunch Sessions (12:30 p.m.-1:30 p.m.)

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| <p>Virginia Forum Board of Directors Meeting BSC 123 (BSAC)</p> | <p>Session 9: Historic Homes of Virginia: The Mary Ball Washington House Collaboratory, Pruitt Armory</p> |
| <p style="text-align: center;">ALL ARE WELCOME!</p> | <p>Michael Spencer, University of Mary Washington Trenton Hizer, Library of Virginia Mark Crutcher, Mutual Assurance</p> <p><i>Session includes a 27-minute showing of “Historic Homes of Virginia, The Mary Ball Washington House” with Q&A</i></p> |
| <p>Session 10: Comrade Edna Lewis: The Activist Roots of the Grande Dame of Southern Cooking BSC 118</p> | <p>Session 11: Accessibility, Memory, and Public Engagement BSC Ferrari Room</p> |
| <p>Moderator: Emma Ito, Virginia Humanities</p> <p>Anne McCrery, Library of Virginia Matthew Guillen, Independent Researcher</p> | <p>Moderator: Mary Virginia Currie, Independent Researcher</p> <p><i>Documenting Service: The VMHC Vietnam Oral History Project</i> Laura E. G. Stoner, Virginia Museum of History & Culture and Nicole Martorana, Virginia Museum of History & Culture</p> <p><i>In Their Own Words: Vietnam Veterans and the VWM Oral History Project</i> Sylvia Marshall, Virginia War Memorial</p> |



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McCormick Civil War Institute

Funding for the printing of this program was provided by Shenandoah University's McCormick Civil War Institute (MCWI). Established in 1992, MCWI, in conjunction with Shenandoah University's history department, offers an undergraduate certificate in Civil War Era Studies. Additionally, MCWI publishes *Journal of the Shenandoah Valley During the Civil War Era* annually. Throughout the year, MCWI also hosts a variety of events, including an annual fall seminar and tour that focuses on

some aspect of Shenandoah Valley Civil War-era history, and a spring conference. MCWI is also responsible for interpretive efforts at the University's River Campus at Cool Spring Battlefield. This 195-acre property, located approximately twenty minutes east of Winchester along the banks of the Shenandoah River, was once part of a 1,100-acre plantation owned by Judge Richard Parker. Today, MCWI interprets the site's role during the Battle of Cool Spring, July 18, 1864, the history of enslavement there, and the property's connections to the Underground Railroad. The site is open yearly, from sunrise to sunset, and is located at 1400 Parker Lane, Bluemont, VA. To learn more about MCWI, please visit su.edu/mcwi.

Concurrent Sessions III (1:45 p.m.-3:15 p.m.)

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| <p>Session 12: Virginia’s 20th-Century Political Revolution: How an Old South State Turned New with Two-Party Competition, a Multi-hued Electorate and Suburbanization BSC 118</p> | <p>Session 13: Mapping the Past, Understanding the Present: A Digital Humanities Workshop for Historical Thinking and Data Literacy Collaboratory, Pruitt Armory</p> |
| <p>Moderator: Nadine Zimmerli, University of Virginia Press</p> <p>Margaret Edds, Retired Columnist and Political Reporter, <i>Virginian-Pilot</i>; author, most recently, of <i>What the Eyes Can’t See: Ralph Northam, Black Resolve, and a Racial Reckoning in Virginia</i></p> <p>Frank B. Atkinson, Senior Advisor, McGuireWoods Consulting; author of, among other books, <i>The Dynamic Dominion: Realignment and the Rise of Two-Party Competition in Virginia, 1945-1980</i></p> <p>Jeff E. Schapiro, Scholar, University of Virginia Center for Politics; politics analyst, Virginia Public Radio; retired politics columnist, <i>Richmond Times-Dispatch</i></p> | <p>Annie Evans, University of Richmond</p> <p>Julian Maxwell Hayter, University of Richmond</p> |
| <p>Session 14: Confederate Memorials & Public Memory BSC Ferrari Room</p> | <p>Session 15: Virginia and Virginians in the Revolution BSC 123 (BSAC) ALSO ON ZOOM</p> |
| <p>Moderator: Tom Costa, University of Virginia Wise</p> <p><i>Building the Backlash: Space, Race, and Memory in Charlottesville from Emancipation to Disenfranchisement</i> Thomas Seabrook, George Mason University</p> <p><i>“Liberated by the People”:</i> <i>Activism on Richmond’s Confederate Landscape</i> Evie Terrono, Randolph-Macon College</p> <p><i>The Buried Cause: Unearthing Hidden History in the Lee Monument Cornerstone</i> Christina Vida, The Valentine</p> | <p>Moderator: Travis Shaw, Virginia Piedmont Heritage Area</p> <p><i>Just Recognition: The Service of the Virginia Continental Line in the South and Treatment of Veterans</i> John C. Settle, Independent Researcher</p> <p><i>“More Dead than Alive:” Prisoners of War During the American Revolution</i> Robert Nathan Garnett II, American Revolution Museum at Yorktown</p> <p><i>The Education of a General: Lafayette and the 1781 Virginia Campaign</i> John R. Maass, National Museum of the U.S. Army</p> |

Break 3:15 p.m.-3:30 p.m.

Concurrent Session IV (3:30 p.m.-5:00 p.m.)

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| <p>Session 16: Land, Liberty, and Loyalties: Indigenous Participation and Perspectives on the American Revolution in King William County Collaboratory, Pruitt Armory</p> <p>Moderator: Kate Egner, American Battlefield Trust</p> <p>Ashley A. Spivey, Kenah Consulting, LLC</p> <p>Katie R. Gibson, Kenah Consulting, LLC</p> | <p>Session 17: Continuing the Civil Rights Revolution: The ACLU and Virginian’s Battles for Race and Gender Equality in the Late 1960s and 1970s BSC Ferrari Room</p> <p>Moderator: Mari Julienne, Library of Virginia</p> <p><i>Lawyering Loving: The Thirteen-Year Battle from the Classroom to the Altar</i> Eric Caplan, Wesleyan University</p> <p><i>Protest and Police Action in Virginia’s ERA Movement</i> Megan Taylor Shockley, Shockoe Institute</p> <p><i>Social Change: Betsy Brinson and the ACLU Southern Women’s Rights Project</i> Jennifer Ritterhouse, George Mason University</p> |
| <p>Session 18: Hampden-Sydney College, The American Revolution, and the Early Republic BSC 118</p> <p>Moderator: J. Michael Utzinger, Hampden-Sydney College</p> <p><i>From Academy to College: Hampden-Sydney in the Revolution</i> John C. Coombs, Hampden-Sydney College</p> <p><i>Climbing the Hill: African American History at Hampden-Sydney College</i> Caroline S. Emmons, Hampden-Sydney College</p> <p><i>Between Athens and Jerusalem: Enlightenment Faith, Religious Revival, and the Shaping of Hampden-Sydney College, 1774-1820</i> J. Michael Utzinger, Hampden-Sydney College</p> | <p>Session 19: Teaching Virginia’s History and its Memory in the 21st Century BSC 123 (BSAC) ALSO ON ZOOM</p> <p>Moderator: Dwana Waugh, Sweet Briar College</p> <p>George Oberle III, George Mason University Michaella Fraser Freshour, Sweet Briar College Jules Harris, Sweet Briar College Kris Nohe, George Mason University Andrew Snowman, George Mason University</p> |

Banquet (BSC Ferrari Room)

5:30-6:00 p.m. Reception with cash bar

6:00-6:45 p.m. Dinner

6:45-7:15 p.m. Dessert and special musical presentation by Gregg Kimball

7:15-7:45 p.m. Reflecting on 20 Years of the Virginia Forum. Panel discussion with Warren Hofstra (Shenandoah University), Jeff Looney (Monticello), Mari Julienne (Library of Virginia), and Brent Tarter (Library of Virginia). Moderated by Jonathan A. Noyalas (Shenandoah University)

7:45-8:00 p.m. Concluding remarks

Saturday, March 21

8:00 a.m. Registration opens

Concurrent Sessions V (8:30 a.m.-10:00 a.m.)

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| <p>Session 20: Black Virginians in Resistance throughout the Long Nineteenth Century: Latest Books and Newest Trends BSC 123 (BSAC) ALSO ON ZOOM</p> <p>Organizer and Chair: Nadine Zimmerli, University of Virginia Press</p> <p>Moderator: Beth Colon Pizzini, University of Virginia Press</p> <p>Andrew Hammann, University of Richmond Warren Eugene Milteer, Jr., George Washington University Joseph P. Stinnett, Independent Researcher Daniel B. Thorp, Virginia Tech</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>This session is sponsored by UVA Press</i></p> | <p>Session 21: Revolutionary Loyalties and Landscapes Collaboratory, Pruitt Armory</p> <p>Moderator: Sarah McCartney, College of William & Mary</p> <p><i>The Mason Family Account Book and Revolutionary Loudoun County, 1774-1783</i> Anne Champlin, George Mason University</p> <p><i>Traitors and Traders: The Relationship Between History, Culture, and Anti-Scottish Sentiments in Revolutionary Virginia</i> Emily Matthews, Randolph-Macon College</p> <p><i>Revolutionary Crises, Plantation Slavery, and the New Politics of Housing the Enslaved</i> Douglas Sanford, Virginia Slave Housing Project</p> <p><i>“An Agreeable Companion, Prudent Mother, and Humane Mistress”:</i> Ann Eilbeck Mason as the “Planter’s Wife” in Eighteenth-Century Virginia Alessandra Brooks DeDonna, George Mason University</p> |
| <p>Session 22: The Civil War and its Legacies in and on Virginia BSC Ferrari Room</p> <p>Moderator: Jim Broomall, University of Richmond</p> <p><i>“Nature Seems Putting Forth All Her Powers This Spring”:</i> The Civil War Diary of Matella Cary Page Harrison as Environmental History Dana Getka, Clarke County Historical Association</p> <p><i>“Increased the Confusion”:</i> Sunlight, Darkness, and Tactical Vision on Virginia’s Civil War Battlefields Lucas Wilder, Cumberland Gap National Historical Park</p> <p><i>Reflections on the Civil War from Roanoke County</i> Elaine Powers, Virginia campus of the Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine</p> <p><i>The Price of Loyalty: The Southern Claims Commission in the Shenandoah Valley</i> Jonathan Tracey, Cedar Creek and Belle Grove National Historical Park</p> | <p>Session 23: Segregation Legacies in Education BSC 118</p> <p>Moderator: Brian Daugherty, Virginia Commonwealth University</p> <p><i>From Achievement Gaps to Opportunity: Reframing Education Inequality in Richmond, Virginia</i> Orley Estrada, Virginia Commonwealth University</p> <p><i>“It’s a Battle for Our Last Legacy”:</i> The Case of Preserving R. R. Moton Museum Dwana Waugh, Sweet Briar College</p> <p><i>Storytelling, Resistance, and the Ongoing Struggle for Educational Justice in Madison County, VA</i> Nicole Terry</p> |

Break (10-10:15 a.m.)
Concurrent Sessions VI (10:15 a.m.-11:45 a.m.)

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| <p>Session 24: Broadcasting the Revolution: How Do We Communicate Historical Insights to Virginians during the 250th? BSC 118</p> <p>Moderator: Nadine Zimmerli, University of Virginia Press</p> <p>Jim Ambuske, More Perfect: InPursuit.org Kate Egner, American Battlefield Trust Cynthia A. Kierner, George Mason University George D. Oberle III, George Mason University</p> | <p>Session 25: Virginia’s Buried History BSC Ferrari Room</p> <p>Moderator: Lynn Rainville, Hidden History Group</p> <p><i>Segregation to Congregation: Black Placemaking In and Around Richmond’s Chimborazo Park in the Early- to Mid-Twentieth Century</i> Laura Fretwell, Florida Atlantic University</p> <p><i>Samuel Tardy’s Shame: The Children Buried in Unmarked Graves beside Douglas Southall Freeman in Hollywood Cemetery</i> Kenneth Forest, Library of Virginia</p> <p><i>Unclaimed but No Longer Unnamed: Recovering the Identities of Prisoners Buried at Stoney Lonesome Cemetery</i> Amy Bertsch, Independent Scholar</p> |
| <p>Session 26: Race, Law, Conflict BSC 123 (BSAC) ALSO ON ZOOM</p> <p>Moderator: Peter Wallenstein, Virginia Tech</p> <p><i>Race, Gender, and Violence in Media Coverage of Virginia Lynching Victims: The Cases of Peb Falls and Charlotte Harris</i> Paige Magoto, George Mason University</p> <p><i>“There were revolvers pulled and talks of lynching”: The Ashland Riot of 1902</i> Shawn D. McAvoy, Independent Researcher</p> <p><i>When Law Failed: Exploring an 1887 Lynching in Surry County, Virginia</i> Paula Hannaford-Agor, William & Mary Law School</p> <p><i>Robert E. Blackwell and the Virginia Commission on Interracial Cooperation</i> Lynda W. Wright, Randolph-Macon College</p> | <p>Session 27: Manumission and Freedom Collaboratory, Pruitt Armory</p> <p>Moderator: Evie Terrono, Randolph-Macon College</p> <p><i>Revolutions and Resistance</i> Stephen A. Langeland, Liberty University</p> <p><i>Christian Witness through Manumission</i> Venture Ciccarelli, Liberty University</p> <p><i>Women’s Roles in Virginia Manumission</i> Sydney Gilbert, Liberty University</p> <p><i>Contradictions of Liberty: Sarah Strother’s Fight for Freedom</i> A. Nicholas Powers, Museum of the Shenandoah Valley</p> |

Lunch and Open Discussion on the Virginia Forum (11:45 a.m.-1:15 p.m.)
BSC Ferrari Room

Concurrent Sessions VII (1:15 p.m.-2:45 p.m.)

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| <p>Session 28: Shenandoah Regional Studies BSC 118</p> <p>Moderator: Alison Hering, Independent Researcher</p> <p><i>Born on the Wrong Side of the Blanket: Case Studies of Out-of-Wedlock Motherhood Shenandoah County, VA 1850-1875</i> Susan Hines, Independent Researcher</p> <p><i>Midwifery Renaissance in the Shenandoah Valley</i> D’Anne Graham, Independent Researcher</p> <p><i>“A Final Struggle for the Salvation of the Country”: The Battle for Control of the Methodist Church in Winchester, Virginia, during Reconstruction</i> Sean A. Scott, The Indiana Academy for Science, Mathematics, and Humanities</p> <p><i>“Gets His Wife in a Jail Cell”: Annie Brent, Bob Firth, and a Jim Crow Crime Ring</i> Melanie Garvey, Robert C. Byrd Center for Congressional History and Education</p> | <p>Session 29: Rebellion and Secession in Greater Virginia Collaboratory, Pruitt Armory</p> <p>Moderator: Barbara Batson, Library of Virginia</p> <p><i>“We Must Make the Best Use of Them”: The Virginia Military Institute and the Use of Black Confederate Troops</i> Bradford A. Wineman, US Marine Corps Command & Staff College</p> <p><i>“Wherever Our Country’s Banner Floats in the Breeze”: Secession, Restoration, and U.S. Citizenship in Civil War Virginia</i> Randall S. Gooden, Clayton State University</p> <p><i>“Hell no, we won’t go...back:” The Rockingham Rebellion of 1862</i> Dale F. Harter, Independent Researcher</p> |
| <p>Session 30: Historical Tourism then and Now BSC Ferrari Room</p> <p>Moderator: Sheri Huerta, George Mason University</p> <p><i>Patriotic Phantoms: How is Ghostlore Used to Commemorate the Revolutionary War</i> Lynn Rainville, Hidden History Group</p> <p><i>Haunting the Dead: Liminal Landscapes, Ghostlore, and the Politics of Public Memory in Virginia</i> Sharon Pajka, Gallaudet University</p> <p><i>Haunted by the Evidence: Ghost Stories, Cultural Memory, and the Search for Virginia’s Forgotten Cemeteries</i> An interactive discussion led by Lynn Rainville and Sharon Pajka.</p> | <p>Session 31: Uncovering New Virginia Biographies BSC 123 (BSAC) ALSO ON ZOOM</p> <p>Moderator: John Deal, Library of Virginia</p> <p><i>Spatializing Harriet Bell: Placemaking and Installing Legacies in Post-Emancipation Fairfax</i> Annabelle Spencer, George Mason University</p> <p><i>New Clues to the Early Life of Griffin Dobson, Free Man of Color</i> Catherine E. Saunders, George Mason University</p> <p><i>America’s Forgotten Patriots: African and Indigenous Americans of the American Revolution</i> Ric Murphy, Independent Researcher</p> |

Closing Plenary Session (3:00-4:30 p.m.)

Present in the Past: Exploring History with Immersive Learning Technologies. Nathan Prestopnik (Shenandoah University) and the Shenandoah Center for Immersive Learning (SCiL).

Informal 20th Anniversary After Party, George Washington Hotel (5:00 p.m.--?) 103 East Piccadilly Street, Winchester