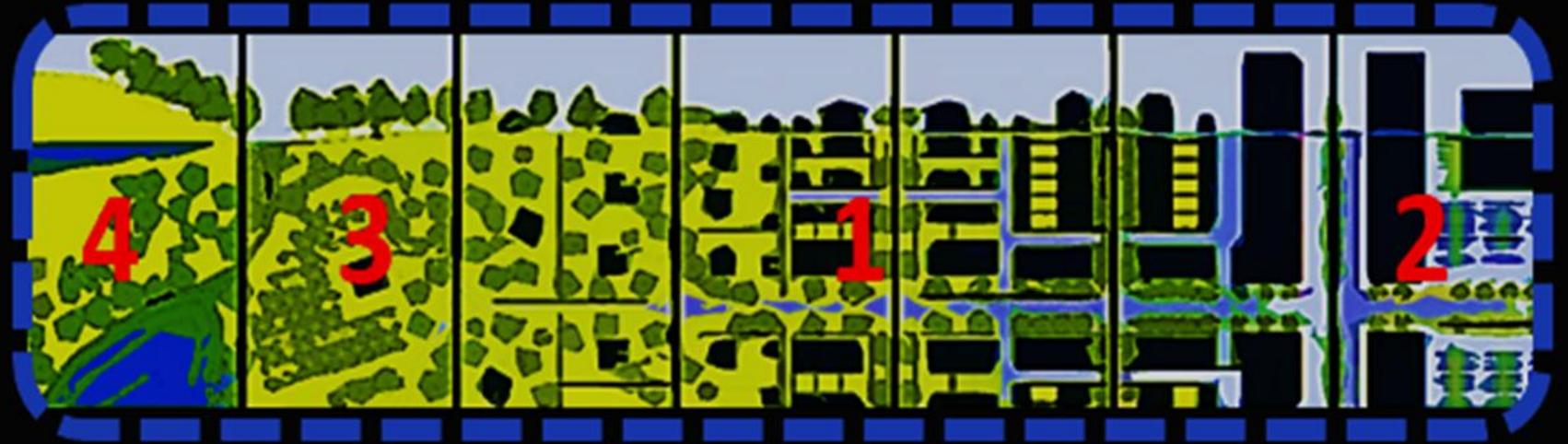


THE AFRICATOWN INTERNATIONAL DESIGN IDEA COMPETITION



jury pool

16 jurors :

8 designers/
historians

8 descendants/
community
activists

Prichard

AFRICATOWN CULTURAL MILE

Mobile

4 sites

1



HISTORIC AFRICATOWN



- A. A WELCOME CENTER@CEMETERY
- B. MOBILE COUNTY TRAINING SCHOOL
- C. 30 SMALL HOUSE INFILLS
- D. GATEWAY 1

2



JOSEPHINE ALLEN SITE



- A. AFRICATOWN MUSEUM
- B. BOATHOUSE CLOTHILDA REPUCA
- C. MARITIME RESIDENTIAL HOUSING
- D. GATEWAY 2

3

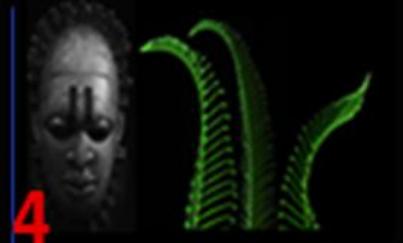


AFRICATOWN BLUEWAY



- A. AFRICATOWN YACHT CLUB/SCUBA
- B. WATER TRANSIT SYSTEM
- C. 15 PAVILLIONS
- D. GATEWAY 3

4



AFRICATOWN USA STATE PARK

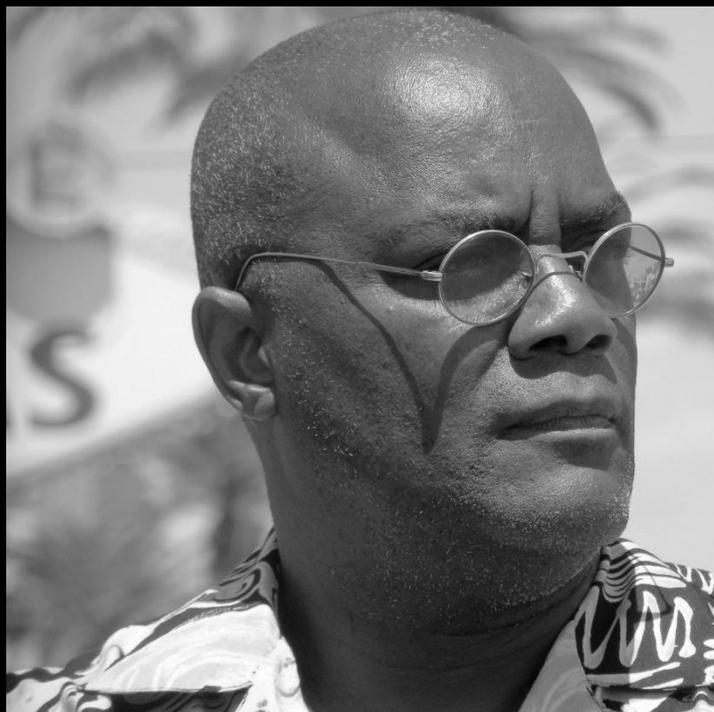


- A. BENIN HOUSE/AFRICAN MUSEUM
- B. SPA HOTEL/CONVENTION CENTER
- C. ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE CTR
- D. GATEWAY 4

16 venues

jury pool - professional

THE AFRICATOWN INTERNATIONAL DESIGN IDEA COMPETITION **JURY CHAIR**



CONFIRMED **Programming: African Architecture Aesthetics**

Jack Travis FAIA, NOMAC, Architect. Jury Chair,

Africatown International Design Idea Competition

Author: African American Architects: In Current Practice

Jack Travis established his namesake design studio in June, 1985. Since that time Jack Travis, FAIA NOMAC has completed proposals or has been involved in over 100 projects of varying scope and size. To date the firm has completed several residential interiors projects for such notable clients as Spike Lee, Wesley Snipes and John Saunders of ABC sports. Commercial and/or retail interiors clients have included: Giorgio Armani SPA, Cashmere Cashmere of New York as well as the Sbarro family of the famed pizza parlors. Mr. Travis encourages investigation into Black history where appropriate and includes forms, motifs, materials and colors that reflect this heritage in his work. Travel throughout the United States, Europe, the Caribbean to West and South African countries has given Mr. Travis a most unique focus. Through his work, he continues to make a distinctive and definitive enrichment to the existing American design vocabulary. Mr. Travis' interests have broaden in recent years to include design issues not only concerning cultural content but sustainability in environmental design as well as alternative educational practices that seek to insure the entrance of more students of color into the profession. In 1992, Travis edited, African American Architects: In Current Practice the first publication to profile the work of black architects in the United States.

jury pool - professional



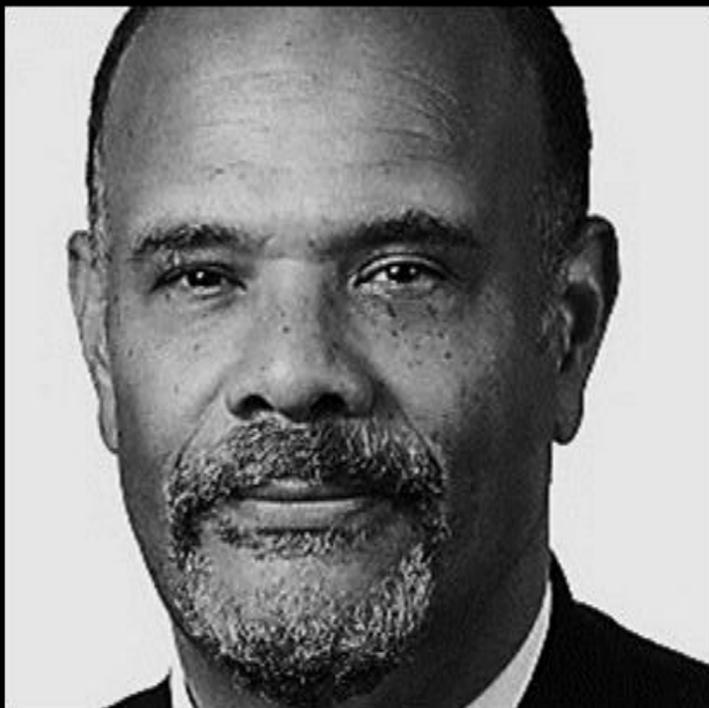
CONFIRMED **Programming: African Architecture Aesthetics**

Mario Gooden, AIA, B.S., M.Arch

Author: Dark Space: Architecture Representation Black Identity.

Mario Gooden is principal of Huff + Gooden Architects whose practice is dedicated to the creation of architecture as an exploration of culture and knowledge. Gooden is an award winning architect and his firm's work has been featured in journals and publications including Architect Magazine, Architectural Record Magazine, Metropolis, Wallpaper, The New York Times, Architecture & Urbanism (A+U) and ARTFORUM International Magazine. Huff + Gooden Architects work has been exhibited nationally and internationally including the International Exhibition of Architecture Biennale in Venice, Italy, the Netherlands Architecture Institute (NAi), the National Building Museum in Washington, DC, and the Municipal Arts Society in New York. His firm is currently designing the California African American Museum in Los Angeles. He previously worked in the offices of Zaha Hadid in London and Steven Holl in New York. Gooden is also a Professor of Practice at the Graduate School of Architecture Planning and Preservation (GSAPP) of Columbia University where he is the co-director of the Global Africa Lab (GAL). Gooden's work, writings, and lectures frequently examine art + architecture and the spatial politics of race, class, gender, and technology. His urban and cultural theory research was published at the Dubai Initiative's Urbanism in the Middle East: A Search for New Paradigms in 2011 and Layered Urbanisms (Yale University, 2008). He is the editor of Global Topologies: Converging Territories (Columbia University, 2013). Gooden teaches advanced architectural design and theory at Columbia University where his studios focus on global topics and cultural theory. He is a 2012 National Endowment for the Arts Fellow and a MacDowell Colony Fellow.

jury pool - professional



CONFIRMED

Programming: Africatown Urban Planning/Implementation Initiatives

William A. Gilchrist, FAIA Architect

Aga Khan Foundation Fellow:

EXPERT: Vernacular Coastal Architecture In Africa

William Gilchrist is a former director of the Birmingham Department of Planning, Engineering and Permits, having served as the city's chief planner from 1993 to 2008. Gilchrist earned his bachelor of science in architecture at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1977. He continued there and earned a master's in architecture in 1982 as well as a second master's in management. He also has a degree from Harvard's Kennedy School of Government. Gilchrist has received the Chandler Prize for Design from the Boston Society of Architects and won a traveling fellowship from the Aga Khan Foundation to document vernacular coastal architecture in Kenya. Gilchrist is a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects and chaired two national committees for design assistance. He is also a trustee of the Urban Land Institute, and a member of the board of directors for Operation New Birmingham and the advisory board for the Auburn University Center for Architecture and Urban Studies. He was Director of Place-Based Planning for the City of New Orleans, appointed by Mayor Mitch Landrieu in August 2010. He now serves as the chair of the Public Private Partnership Blue Flight for ULI and has served on numerous ULI Panel Advisory Services. Mr. Gilchrist served on, including the ULI Advisory Panel on Bringing Back New Orleans in 2005 Two Months After Hurricane Katrina. Mr. Gilchrist Serves On The Departmental Visiting Committee Of The MIT School Of Architecture And Served For Ten Years On The Advisory Board To Auburn University's Center For Architecture And Urban Design. He Has Consulted In Romania And Ukraine In Establishing Public Processes For Urban Development. William Gilchrist Recently Joined Oakland's Government In September 2018.

jury pool - professional



CONFIRMED

Programming: African American Architecture Aesthetics

**Kwesi Daniels, PH.D Head Of Architecture Department
at Tuskegee University**

**Former Editor NOMA (National Organization of Minority
Architects) Magazine**

Kwesi Daniels, a 2002 graduate of Tuskegee University, heads the university's Department of Architecture in the Robert R. Taylor School of Architecture and Construction Science. After earning his bachelor of architecture degree from Tuskegee, he completed a master's degree in architecture at the University of Illinois at Chicago and a master's degree in sustainability management at Columbia University. He currently is finishing a Ph.D. in geography and urban studies at Temple University. His 15-year professional career has included teaching architecture and sustainability principles at the university level at Tuskegee University, Columbia University, the University of Illinois at Chicago, Temple University and New York University. Through his professional practice, he has garnered expertise in the areas of affordable housing development, historic preservation, sustainability, community outreach and urban design. He developed his abilities in design, project management, and financial feasibility analysis through more than a decade of teaching, architecture, affordable housing development, and community service experience around the country. His passion is creating sustainable communities.

jury pool - professional

CONFIRMED

Programming: African Architecture Aesthetics

NMADILI OKWUMABUA Urban Planner, African Architecture Historian

Founder: Community Planning & Design Initiative Africa Competition (CPDI Africa)

Nmadili Okwumabua is CEO of Southern Sahara, a consultancy service she established in 2005, for the research and development of a modern architectural language for Africa. Her development of the Community Planning & Design Initiative Africa (CPDI Africa) annual design-build competition was born from her belief that this evolution of African architecture develop as the result of collaborative efforts by built environment professionals. Her professional experience in the built environment spans 20 years, covering community planning, residential design, interior design, facility management, real estate brokerage and portfolio management. She is a licensed Realtor in the state of Georgia and Certified Property Manager with Broll CBRE South Africa. She holds a masters degree in African Studies from Clark Atlanta University where her research findings in contemporary Nigerian Architecture inspired the design brief for CPDI Africa. Ms. Okwumabua consults internationally, mainly in the US and Nigeria where she continues to inspire the future shapers of Africa's built environment.



jury pool - professional



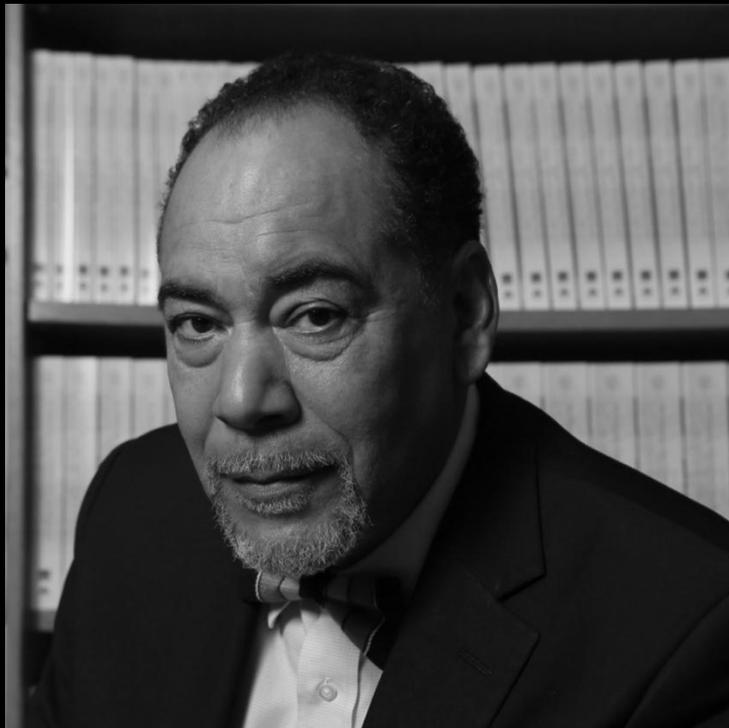
CONFIRMED

Programming: Historic Africatown Overview

**Dr. Natalie S. Robertson, Historian, Scholar Author:
The Slave Ship Clotilda and the Making of AfricaTown USA**

Natalie S. Robertson is a magna cum laude graduate of the University of Detroit where she received a Bachelor of Arts degree in History. As a Patricia Roberts Harris Fellow, she obtained a Master of Arts degree in Museum Studies from Hampton University; and, she holds a Master of Arts degree (and Ph.D.) in American Studies from the University of Iowa. Dr. Robertson is an award-winning scholar who has held several teaching and research appointments at prestigious institutions in the United States and in Britain, including the Smithsonian's National Museum of African Art, the United States National Slavery Museum (by appointment of The Honorable L. Douglas Wilder), and the Advanced Studies in England Program, in association with University College, Oxford. Dr. Robertson is also the recipient of the National Endowment for the Humanities Faculty Research Award that facilitated her field and archival research in the Republic of Benin, Senegal, and Nigeria, in preparation for publishing her provocative book entitled *The Slave Ship Clotilda and the Making of AfricaTown, U.S.A.: Spirit of Our Ancestors*, nominated for a Library of Virginia Literary Award. Currently, Dr. Robertson is an Associate Professor at Hampton University where she teaches courses in African and African-American history.

jury pool - professional



CONFIRMED

**Programming: Site 1: HISTORIC AFRICATOWN
Memorial Pavilion @ Cemetery**

**MICHAEL BLAKEY, PhD. Scholar Bio Archaeologist,
NYC African Burial Ground**

**Author : The Rubric: Engaging Descendant Communities
in the interpretation of Slave History**

Michael Blakey obtained his B.A. in Anthropology from Howard University in 1978, and an M.A. (1980) and a Ph.D. (1985) from the University of Massachusetts Amherst. He served as president of the Association of Black Anthropologists from 1987 to 1989. Blakey was the director of research for the New York African Burial Ground Project, now the African Burial Ground National Monument. According to Blakey, the existence of this burial ground in what is now Lower Manhattan (where between 10 and 20 thousand people of African descent were buried in the eighteenth century) was evidence of "false historical representation" and exposed as a myth the idea that New York and the northern states were not slave-owning areas. Of the 400 sets of remains uncovered, his research team examined 27 skeletons that had filed or "culturally modified" teeth, which was considered a strong indication of African birth. Previously, only nine such skeletons had been discovered in the Americas. It is likely that these individuals had come to New York previous to 1808, when the importation of slaves from Africa was banned. Blakey's team examined more than 1.5 million artifacts discovered at the site, which included everything "from pottery and glassware to tools and children's toys". His research determined that approximately half of the African people buried at the site were children. After his research was completed, the skeletal remains were reinterred at the site in 400 hand-carved mahogany coffins in a 2003 ceremony described as "joyous and bitter all at once." Discussing a museum exhibit about race at the Science Museum of Virginia, Blakey criticized the contemporary reluctance to discuss racism, maintaining that "it has become illegitimate to talk about racism" and that failing to do so is "the new racism."

jury pool - professional



Confirmed

Programming Site 2: Clotilda Boathouse/Africatown Yacht Club
Programming Site 3: Africatown Connections Blueway

**Kamau Sadiki, President Black Scuba Divers Association,
Diving with a Purpose**

Expert: Slave Wrecks Project/Clotilda Investigation

Kamau Sadiki, US Army Corps Engineers, Retired, is world class research diver member of Diving with a Purpose (DWP), a leading international organization that provides education and training programs, mission leadership, and project support services for submerged heritage preservation and conservation projects worldwide, with a focus on the African Diaspora. DWP is a group of African American divers who have made it their mission to find and document slave wrecks. DWP works in collaboration with George Washington University's Slave Wrecks Project and federal partners, including the Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History and Culture (NMAAHC). Last year, DWP member dived to the São José Paquete Africa, a Portuguese slave ship that sank near Cape Town, South Africa, after leaving Mozambique in 1794. An estimated 212 of the 500 slaves on board died. Items salvaged from the wreck will be displayed at the African American history museum. In Mozambique in 2015, before their journey to the São José, DWP and representatives from George Washington University and the Smithsonian met with chiefs from the local tribes. The slaves who perished in the wreck came from those tribes, and the chiefs had a mission for them; one took a handful of dirt, a symbol of home, and poured it into a cowry shell. The chief asked Lonnie Bunch, director of the NMAAHC, to deposit the soil on the remains of the São José. Later, Mr. Sadiki and two African divers returned the dirt to the slave wreck site. "This is not just divers going down and observing. They've got a stake in this," says Jones. "What you're doing is, you're recovering history. And not just our history. This is world history. It's America's history. "You're paying honor and homage to the people who made the ultimate sacrifice."

jury pool - community



CONFIRMED

Programming Site 1: 30 Small House Infill Prototypes
Programming Site 2: Maritime Multi-family Housing

**K. WYKING GARRETT, President/CEO Africatown
Community Land Trust in Seattle, WA**

Expert: Land Banking and Community Redevelopment

Recognized by Seattle Times as one of the 13 influential people of the decade, K. Wyking Garrett is a third generation community builder, social entrepreneur and current President and CEO of Africatown Community Land Trust in Seattle, WA. Wyking designs programs and initiatives that inspire, mobilize and activate communities for sustainable social impact. He has been a co-catalyst for numerous ventures including the Africatown Seattle community development initiative, Liberty Bank Building, Umoja PEACE Center, Hack The CD, Black Dot, Umoja Fest, Africatown Center for Education Innovation and King County Equity Now. Wyking was an inaugural member of the Seattle Music Commission and a past fellow with national advocacy organization, Green For All. He has been honored with the Center for Ethical Leadership Legacy Leadership Award, Tabor 100 Crystal Eagle Award and recognized as Seattle Magazine's most influential people of 2019.

jury pool - community



CONFIRMED

**Programming Site 3: Africatown Connections Blueway
Africatown Yacht Club/15 Pavilions/Water Transit System**

Liz Smith-Incer, National Park Service

**Director of the Mississippi Field Office of Rivers, Trails
Expert: Africatown Connections Blueway**

Liz Smith-Incer heads the Mississippi Field Office Director at National Park Service's Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program. In that capacity, she has helped Africatown and nearby areas organize the Africatown Connections Blueway under a NPS Technical Assistance grant initially awarded in 2016 that has been extended. She facilitates the Blueway's Leadership Team and has helped develop the partnerships that that will enhance water and land trails across the south. The community sees Africatown Connections Blueway as a way to both celebrate its connection to the water as well as a tourism tool that adds to Africatown's redevelopment potential. There is no shortage of stories to tell in Africatown, and the NPS program wants to help bring these stories to a larger audience through the Blueway, which connects points of interest from Africatown along Three Mile Creek, to the Mobile River to Chickasaw Creek, which flows through the City of Chickasaw and the City of Prichard to the north. People could access the waterways via paddling in kayaks or canoes. Ms. Smith-Incer says the organizers' goal is to connect community members with their ancestors and the rest of the world to Africatown, starting with Mobile, via its waterways.

jury pool - community



CONFIRMED

Programming: Africatown Descendant History Engagement/Gateways

JOYCELYN DAVIS , Clotilda/Africatown Descendant, Organizer /Founder, Spirit of Our Ancestors Festival, Co-Founder The Clotilda Descendants Association

Joycelyn Davis is a sixth-generation granddaughter of African captive Charlie Lewis, also known as Chief Oluale, and his wife Maggie Lewis. Both of them were survivors of the last known documented slave ship from the United States to Africa and back, the Clotilda. Her ancestors were among the 110 people who were kidnapped in West Africa, sold into slavery by the King of Dahomey shipped to the U.S., all on a bet by Mobile plantation owner Timothy Meaher that he could skirt the federal ban on importing African natives to America for the purpose of slavery. Ms. Davis felt a calling to carry on the family legacy and carry out the celebrations and festivals she attended as a child with her father. She was inspired to organize the first Spirit of Our Ancestors Festival in Africatown in February 2019. The festival name is taken from the subtitle of historian Natalie S. Robertson's book, *The Slave Ship Clotilda and the Making of AfricaTown, USA*. Five families were involved in the festival's initial planning, and interest in it mushroomed once word got out. Ms. Davis said descendants who once were ashamed to say their ancestors were sold into slavery are finding new pride in their heritage, which could breathe new life into Africatown. She says, "I am so proud to say I am a descendant. That wasn't a word that I used maybe 10, 15 years ago. It was shameful as a child."

jury pool - community



CONFIRMED

Programming Site 2: Museum/Performing Arts Center Gateways / Africatown Descendant Engagement

DARRON PATTERSON, Clotilda/Africatown Descendant, Founder: The Clotilda Descendants Association

A native of Plateau, Africatown's main neighborhood, Darron is a direct descendant of co-founder Pollee Allen, one of the last Africans to be illegally enslaved in America. He is a graduate of Mobile County Training School and of the University of Texas in El Paso. After college, he became a sports writer, the first African American at the Mobile Press Register, and wrote for The Detroit News covering the city's four major sports teams and NASCAR. Upon returning to Mobile, he began a career as a technical and now works at Airbus in Mobile. He is very active in several Mobile's civic and fraternal organizations. Darron is co-founder and currently President of the Clotilda Descendants Association, which is dedicated to finding and telling the stories of other Clotilda survivors.

jury pool - community



CONFIRMED

**Programming: Site 4: Africatown Park USA/
Benin House/Spa Hotel/Intl Trade Center/
Environmental Center/Gateway**

MAYOR JIMMIE GARDNER, CITY OF PRICHARD

EXPERT: Africatown USA State Park / Benin House

Jimmie Gardner has spent his entire career, more than 35 years, protecting and serving the communities he loves in the City of Prichard. His mission as Mayor is to ensure that the City receives the recognition that it deserves as a community of strong, resilient people who care about their neighbors and want to see our city move in a positive direction. He joined the city's police department in 2005 after serving nearly 16 years at the Mobile County Sheriff's Office; he served three years as its police chief, first as interim until his appointment in 2010. He said the key to his success was going out to meet many people in the community, and in doing so, develop relationships that can make policing easier even when times are tough. He ran for mayor 2016 and won a second term in 2020. His goals for Prichard include: increasing economic opportunities for families –sustaining jobs, enhance development and growth of small businesses and strengthen workforce development in in-demand industries such as construction, and health care; improving public services and public safety; increasing quality of life through arts and culture, parks and neighborhood upkeep, and promoting partnerships that create opportunities that prioritize innovative city redevelopment and neighborhood. Gardner has also served as Mobile's NAACP chapter president.

jury pool - community



CONFIRMED

Programming: Site 1: HISTORIC AFRICATOWN:

Mobile County Training School Expansion

Programming Site 3: Africatown Connections Blueway

Anderson Flen , President Mobile County Training School

Alumni Association

Expert: Mobile County Training School

A native of Magazine Point (a neighborhood in Africatown), Anderson Flen graduated from Mobile County Training School where he was a star football quarterback and student body leader. He left Africatown in 1968 to attend St. Paul's College in Virginia. He lives in Atlanta where for many years he was the Health Planner/Educator at the Georgia Department of Human Resources, from which he retired. In the past 22 years, he has travelled back and forth between Atlanta and Mobile, eventually becoming President of the Mobile County Alumni Training School Association, leading the organization to bring much-needed resources to both the school and the Africatown community. Anderson, along with long-time Africatown Resident Ruth Ballard and Joe Womack, are co-founders of the Africatown Heritage Preservation Foundation, which last year received a \$50,000 grant from National Trust for Historic Preservation's African American Cultural Heritage Action Fund.

jury pool - community



CONFIRMED

Programming Site 1: HISTORIC AFRICATOWN

Programming Site 2: JOSEPHINE ALLEN SITE

Programming Site 3: AFRICATOWN CONNECTIONS BLUEWAY

**Joe Womack, Executive Director, Africatown
Community Organization, CHES**

Expert: Africatown/Environmental Justice Activist

A fourth-generation native of Plateau, Joe also graduated from Mobile County Training School. He honorably served the country for 20 years in the United States Marine Corp, and retired as a Major. Upon returning to Mobile, he noticed a decline in the neighborhood and plans for further commercialization of the community when he visited his mother. Major Joe's fight for the country turned into a fight to save his community. He joined a group of environmental activists alarmed at plans to create a huge storage tank farm for dangerous tar sands in Africatown along the Mobile River front. He formed Africatown-C.H.E.S.S. (Clean, Healthy, Educated, Safe, and Sustainable) to serve as a watchdog against industrial encroachment through zoning changes, and to help clean up the Africatown community. Major Joe is CHES' President and CEO.

jury pool - community



CONFIRMED

Programming: Financial Planning/Implementation Initiatives
Sidney King, President/CEO, Commonwealth National Bank
Expert: Finance, Community Banking and Redevelopment

Sidney King is the President and CEO of Commonwealth National Bank in Mobile, Alabama. Before returning to Commonwealth, Mr. King served twelve years as the Kansas City Regional President for Liberty Bank and Trust, nine years as President and CEO at Commonwealth and five years as President and CEO at First American Bank in Jackson, Mississippi. His banking career started in 1982 at Harris Trust and Savings Bank in Chicago, Illinois where he successfully completed their formal credit training program. Mr. King then served 10 years in various increasingly responsible lending positions at the Independence Bank of Chicago. Prior to his banking career, Mr. King was employed for five years with a medium-sized Chicago-based public accounting firm. During this time, he earned the accreditation as a certified public accountant. He is a graduate of DePaul University in Chicago where he received a degree in accounting. Mr. King has served in various leadership positions on numerous civic and community boards throughout his career.