

EMMETT TILL INTERPRETIVE CENTER

RACIAL RECONCILIATION BEGINS BY TELLING THE TRUTH

Mississippi Delta Film Academy Gets Spotlight on NPR

The Gulf States Newsroom—a collaboration between National Public Radio and Mississippi Public Broadcasting, WBHM in Alabama, and WWNO and WRKF in Louisiana—published a recent feature story on the Mississippi Delta Film Academy hosted by the Emmett Till Interpretive Center.

Reporters accompanied the Film Academy students on their bus trip to various sites connected to the Emmett Till story. The published piece chronicles the contrasts between the picturesque landscape and the injustices that happened there. Jessie Jaynes-Diming, ETIC's Special Projects Coordinator, is interviewed, as are Film Academy student Myiesha Wright and instructor Dr. Pablo Correa.



The 2024 Mississippi Delta Film Academy cohort gathers before the Fannie Lou Hamer statue in Ruleville.
Photo credit: RJ Fitzpatrick

The article also acknowledges the National Park Foundation's role in supporting the Film Academy and other ETIC initiatives, drawing attention to historical exclusions across the nation. We are grateful to NPF for their support of the Film Academy and our other work.

Read the full article [here](#).

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Mississippi Delta Film Academy Student Featured by National Park Foundation

Myiesha Wright, a student who has been involved with the Mississippi Delta Film Academy for several years, was centrally featured in a story on the National Park Foundation website. Wright (pictured below) previously attended the Film Academy and returned this year as a student intern, serving as a mentor to the new participants.

The article reports on the power of stories that affected her: Emmett Till's, Mamie Till-Mobley's, and Fannie Lou Hamer's. These stories, coupled with the confidence she gained thanks to her new filmmaking skills, found their ultimate expression in Wright's film, "The Winona Project," which focuses on Hamer's life.



The article goes on to describe the efforts of the Emmett Till Interpretive Center to educate the public about the Till story and, with the support of organizations like the National Park Foundation, to foster a new generation of storytellers. Jessie Jaynes-Diming, ETIC's Special Projects Coordinator, said, "We hope that we can empower the young people who participate in the film academy to understand the power of narrative and how young people can make a difference."

Read the full article [here](#).

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ETIC Sponsors Quitman County Arts Crawl

The Emmett Till Interpretive Center was one of several sponsors for the Quitman County Arts Crawl and Back to School Jamboree on July 26th. The event, held in Marks, MS, was organized by the Quitman County Arts Council & Culture Center. Its purpose is to bring together community members, local organizations, and attendees of the Culture Center's summer camps focused on arts, literacy, and STEM. It also gave a platform to camp participants to display their artwork and gain exposure.



Jessie Jaynes-Diming, ETIC's Special Projects Coordinator (pictured above), represented our organization, sharing information about the [August 31st commemoration of Emmett Till](#). Entertainment included a live DJ, art exhibitions, food vendors, and interactive activities. Dayo Johnson, a daughter of a Freedom Rider, displayed her art and gave an artistic demonstration. This year's jamboree was the first of what should be an annual event.

If you would like to help us support other local events, please visit our website to [donate](#).

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A vendor showcases artwork during the community event.
Photo courtesy of Bernice Sykes

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