

Donate to the Emmett Till Interpretive Center



Jessie Jaynes-Diming (left) and Dr. Matt Switliski are the newest members of the ETIC staff.

Jessie Jaynes-Diming and Dr. Matt Switliski Join ETIC Staff

We at the Emmett Till Interpretive Center are proud to announce two recent additions to our staff: Jessie Jaynes-Diming is our new Special Projects Coordinator, and Dr. Matt Switliski is our new Grants Management Coordinator. We're excited for them to join the team and contribute their experience and talents to the work of the Center!

Jessie Jaynes-Diming has long been involved in community work, both in Chicago and Tallahatchie County. In Chicago she was involved with Head Start, a program supporting early childhood learning, and served on the board of directors for a health clinic. Once she moved to Mississippi, she was taken under the wing of the late Jerome Little, the organizing force behind the Emmett Till Memorial Commission. "His passion became my passion," she said, as she became one of the Commission's founding members.

Jessie also previously worked for the AmeriCorps VISTA program and at the Emmett Till Historic Intrepid Center in Glendora. She helped organize the initiative to establish the historical markers around Tallahatchie County and collaborated with Neshoba County on the Emmett Till Student Exchange Tour, in which students visited civil rights sites in both counties to learn about their local history.

More recently, she gave tours of the ETIC building and Tallahatchie County Courthouse before being

hired as the Special Projects Coordinator. She says she is especially looking forward to seeing the Emmett Till Multipurpose Complex become the kind of community center Mr. Little envisioned. Her hope is the space would allow for workforce development, artistic endeavors, and communal gathering. “There is so much need and opportunity within the community, and we need a building that can house all of that,” she said.

“ETIC is making a difference,” she said. “I’m grateful to the powers that have allowed me to walk this path and to continue to walk this path. It’s not all been great to be on this path, but it is a very good path to walk.”

Dr. Matt Switliski has been involved with education and writing for the majority of his professional career. He earned his PhD in English at the University of New Hampshire and has contributed material to newspapers, magazines, academic journals, and websites. He has also served as an editor across a range of publications.

Dr. Switliski has worked with college writers since 2008 as both a classroom instructor and a writing center staff member. He’s eager to apply his skills in communicating effectively, editing prose, and asking thoughtful questions to the work of ETIC.

“Like every other writer, I’m a storyteller,” Dr. Switliski said, “so working for an organization with such a powerful story to tell is a natural fit. Plus, I earnestly believe in education’s ability to change hearts and minds, however slowly. ETIC is doing important work in public education, and even if it looks different from my previous experience, I’m looking forward to taking on the challenge.”

We at ETIC are grateful to see our team grow, and we believe their presence will only enhance our work now and in the future.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

Monuments & Justice Webinar on the Till National Monument Broadcasting on July 25, 2024

On July 25, 2024, the National Trust for Historic Preservation is broadcasting a webinar on Monuments & Justice discussing the creation of the Emmett Till & Mamie Till-Mobley National Monument. The panel, held in November 2023, was moderated by Dr. Elizabeth Alexander, President of the Mellon Foundation. Panelists included Dr. Marvel Parker, Executive Director of the Emmett Till and Mamie Till-Mobley Institute; Tiffany Tolbert, Senior Director of Preservation for the African American Cultural Heritage Action Fund; Patrick Weems, Executive Director of the Emmett Till Interpretive Center; and Dr. Justin Hopkins, Psychologist at Hopkins Behavioral Health.

Register [here!](#)

REGISTER HERE

"Markers and Mississippi's Civil Rights History" at the Two Mississippi Museums

The Two Mississippi Museums are hosting a talk by Modupe Labode of the National Museum of American History and John Spann from the Mississippi Humanities Council. Part of the History Is Lunch series, the talk, entitled "Markers and Mississippi's Civil Rights History," will be held on Wednesday, June 12th, from 12-1 PM Central in the Neilsen Auditorium of the Two Mississippi Museums. You can stream the event on the Mississippi Department of Archives & History [YouTube channel](#) or [Facebook page](#).



EVENT DETAILS

More News

**Emmett Till and Mamie Till-Mobley
National Monument Hiring
Park Manager in Sumner, MS**

Prof. Brandon Erby Discusses Mamie Till-Mobley's Legacy on C-SPAN 2

Dr. Brandon Erby, Professor of Writing, Rhetoric, and Digital Studies at the University of Kentucky, talks about Mamie Till-Mobley and her fight to raise awareness

The Emmett Till and Mamie Till-Mobley National Monument is hiring a full-time Park Manager for the site in Sumner. Applications close June 17th.



of racial injustice following Emmett Till's murder. Part of the Lectures in History series, the piece aired on C-SPAN 2.



WATCH THE VIDEO

READ MORE

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