



ETIC Opens Applications for the 2024 Mississippi Delta Film Academy

The Emmett Till Interpretive Center will be hosting the fourth annual Delta Film Academy for high school students June 17-28, 2024. Led by Dr. Davis Houck and Dr. Pablo Correa, students in the program receive hands-on instruction in filmmaking as they shoot, produce, and edit their own documentary film. They learn about Emmett Till and the Civil Rights Movement, interview local leaders, and develop project management skills as they collaborate on the final product. Participants receive free meals and a stipend for their work.

"Completing the film academy not only once, but twice, has definitely paved the way to my own self discovery of talent and communication," said Myeisha Wright. "The academy helped me find a voice and unlock a part of me that I never knew was there. As a small town girl, it made me voice my big opinions about racial topics and historical figures. My experience was great and it has connected me to people that help me with the challenges of life. It is a program for film but it plays more than that role for me."

<u>Applications are open now</u> and must be submitted by **May 10th.**

This year's film academy is funded in part by the National Park Foundation's ParkVentures program. However, the grant does not cover the full cost of hosting 22 students in the two-week program. If

you're interested in supporting the Delta Film Academy, you can make a donation by visiting us at emmett-till.org/donate.

APPLY HERE

Watch the film produced by the 2021 Delta Film Academy below.



ETIC and the Community Foundation of Northwest Mississippi Announce the Mrs. Florida May Hentz Casey Scholarship Fund

The Emmett Till Interpretive Center is partnering with the <u>Community Foundation of Northwest</u> <u>Mississippi</u> to create the <u>Mrs. Florida May Hentz Casey Scholarship Fund</u>. Each year, the fund will provide a one-time \$500 scholarship to a Mississippi Delta High School student to attend a 2-year or 4-year university. The recipient will be selected based on their commitment to academic excellence and servant leadership through civic engagement in their local community.

This endowed scholarship was created through a generous donation from Ms. Beauvais McCaddon. "We are thrilled to be partnering with the Emmett Till Interpretive Center to realize our dream of honoring Florida May Hentz Casey," said Ms. McCaddon. "Mrs. Casey would have cherished the opportunities that the Center provides for students of all ages and abilities."

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Mrs. Florida May Hentz Casey (1910-1982), above all, valued an education. She was born in Batesville, Mississippi, and moved with her family around the Delta. Forced into the cotton fields at an early age, she only completed the third grade. But what she lacked in formal education, she made up for in wisdom, hard work, and innate intelligence. Mrs. Casey eventually left the Delta for St. Louis as part of the Great Migration. Even today her unforgettable letters, archived in the Missouri History Museum, form part of a living past.

ETIC Says Goodbye to Renee Ombaba, Our Advancement Officer

We are sad to announce that Renee Ombaba, our Advancement Officer, is leaving the Emmett Till Interpretive Center, effective April 5th.

Renee stated, "Mrs. Mamie Till-Mobley once said, 'There is no way I can tell the world what I've seen. They will have to look at this and help me tell the story.' It has been a privilege to tell Emmett Till's story and continue Mrs. Mamie Till-Mobley's legacy with such a dedicated team. I am grateful for the opportunities for growth and collaboration during my time."

We have greatly appreciated the commitment and passion Renee brought to our work for the past two years as our organization has grown. She has left an indelible stamp on the Emmett Till Interpretive Center and our mission to share this story with the world. She will be greatly missed by the team.

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