

## Earl L. Ijames

### Professional Experience

2008- Present: Curator, North Carolina Museum of History [earl.ijames@ncdcr.gov](mailto:earl.ijames@ncdcr.gov)  
2000-2008: Reference Archivist, North Carolina Office of Archives and History  
1994-2000: Photograph Archivist, North Carolina Office of Archives and History  
1993- Present: Farmer, Johnston County, NC [lakeshorepalm@aol.com](mailto:lakeshorepalm@aol.com)  
1994- Present: Owner/ Manager, Towne and Country Books and Coffee, Wendell, NC [www.tcbes.com](http://www.tcbes.com)  
1990-1994: Archives Reference Clerk, North Carolina Division of Archives and History  
1989-1990: Legal Researcher at North Carolina Supreme Court, Dept. of History, N.C. State University

1994-1998: President, East Wake Kiwanis Club

1996: Chairman Economic Development- Wendell (NC) Chamber of Commerce

1997: Wake County Historic Preservation Commission

1997-2004: Boys and Girls Coach, Upward Bound Youth Basketball

1998-2008: President & VP, Board of Directors- East Wake Academy, Zebulon, NC

2000: Vice President, North Carolina Palm Tree Society [www.thelakeshorepalms.com](http://www.thelakeshorepalms.com)

2003-2012: Coach, Zebulon (NC) Youth Football

2008- Present: North Carolina Freedom Park Advisory Council

2009- 2012: North Carolina 1812 War Bi Centennial Committee

2009- 2015: North Carolina Civil War Sesquicentennial Committee

2010- 2012: North Carolina World War I Centennial Committee

2013-15; Curator- NC Dept. Cultural Resources 2014 *13<sup>th</sup> Amendment Juneteenth Tour*;

2015- Society of Independent Southern Historians

2015- Present Consultant on the Historic Preservation of the Congressman George Henry White Memorial Center- Bladen County, NC

<https://www.spauldingfamily.org/single-post/2012/06/18/George-Henry-White-Community-Memorial-Center#!>

2016- Present: Board Member, Preservation North Carolina

2017- Present: UNC-TV (BIF) Advisory Board

2018- Present: Member Black Farmers Cooperative  
2019- 2022: Board Member on the Africa to Carolina Commission  
2019- Present: Vice Chair- Capital City Juneteenth Celebration Committee (Raleigh)  
2019- Coach, Wendell (NC) Parks and Recreation Youth Basketball  
2020- Present: Board- Dorothea Dix Park, Sites of Consciousness  
2022- Present: Board- Edward Cheek House, Historic Halifax, NC

### **Education**

1987 Graduate: George Washington Carver High School, Winston-Salem, NC  
1991 Graduate: North Carolina State University, Degree in History; Minors in Economics, English and African American Studies

### **Experience**

In 1996, moved a Victorian Ranch House from Zebulon, NC to Wendell, NC. I currently reside in it.

**1999:** Voice of a Confederate Laborer in the salt works for Civil War Exhibit, N.C. Museum of History.

**2001:** Awarded Jefferson Davis Medal for Historical Research by the United Daughters of the Confederacy

**2004:** Played the role of John Day in the film *Exploring the World of Thomas Day*, filmed at Old Salem, NC.

**2005-** Panelist United States Colored Troops Symposiums.

**2008:** Subject Matter Expert/ Consultant to Dr. Henry Louis Gates for the film, *Looking for Lincoln*.

**2009:** Host/ Panelist African American Genealogy and History Forum/ National Genealogical Society Conference, *From Roanoke to the West*; Recipient of the Judah P. Benjamin Certificate of Award for Historical Research; Host/ Panelist Veterans Day Program- *Duty, Honor, Country, Sacrifice* North Carolina Museum of History; Interview WUNC-TV Black Issues Forum, *North Carolina in the 1930's. Circa- Last Interview with Dr. John Hope Franklin*

**2010:** W.W. Law History Lecturer for the 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Savannah Black Heritage Festival, Savannah State University City of Savannah; Interviews Tar Heel Talk, WRAL-TV/ Radio 101.5; WFXC Foxy 107.1/104.3; WUNC-TV Black Issues Forum for *Behind the Veneer, Thomas Day: Master Craftsman*; Full Length PBS Promotion of *Behind the Veneer, Thomas Day: Master Craftsman, The Woodwright's Shop with Roy Underhill*; Co-Host/Actor in the Ossie Davis Play, *The People of Clarendon County*, with

Alliance for Art & Ethics, NYC. [The “Durham Manifesto” turns 68 – NC Miscellany \(unc.edu\)](#) by Earl L. Ijames

**2011:** Consultant, Subject Matter Expert, BBC film production of *Bleeding Pines of Turpentine*, Southern Pines, NC; Interview with Pioneer Civil Rights Attorney, Julius Chambers, Charlotte, NC

**2012:** Black History Month Host for “*Return to Tradition*” and Researcher for Sons of American Revolution Induction of First African American in North Carolina History

**2013:** WUNC-TV Black Issues Forum- *Freedom Coming, Freedom For All* the Emancipation Proclamation in NC; Keynote Lecturer, Ruffin Camp Sons of Confederate Veterans, Richmond, VA

**2014:** North Carolina Now- *Created Equal* Film Series; WUNC-TV *Our State Magazine* The Elizabeth Keckley Story of Slavery in North Carolina; Panelist North Carolina Museums Conference; Writer, Producer and Researcher for film *Earl Ijames’ Colored Confederates...* debut at Atlanta Cyclorama & Civil War Museum, Historic Grant Park, GA;

**2015:** Keynote, Georgia Civil War Sesquicentennial; Presenter CW150 Historic Bennett Place- Durham NC; Author, *Understanding the War Between The States* Ch. 26 Presenter 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Union Melungeon Conference, Warren Wilson College- Asheville NC; Presenter- Abraham Lincoln Funeral Train, NC Transportation Museum; Speaker- 150<sup>th</sup> Commemoration of 13<sup>th</sup> Amendment, North Carolina State Capitol; 2016 Panelist- SD Lee Institute, Reconstruction Symposium, Columbia, SC; curator, *Eastern North Carolina and the Birth of Funk* [Music Lecture by Earl Ijames - YouTube](#)

**2016:** Black Film Festival- Atlanta, GA; Speaker- Wake Co.NC Hist. Soc.; Kinston Civil War Roundtable; Long Leaf Pine Festival, Wake County; Panelist Abbeville Institute- Charleston, SC <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FfGWEaF9PN8> Homomkwo Fest, Old Salem, NC *From Africa to America to Your Plate*

**2017:** MLK Day Time Warner Cable Broadcast: *Selma to Montgomery*, see: <http://twcne.ws/2AAAcL> ; Keynote Daughters of American Revolution Black History Month; 2017 Diversity Month Speaker, Nash Community College; Keynote, Lee County (NC) NAACP Black History Month; [www.wral.com](http://www.wral.com) 2017 Black History Month- 135<sup>th</sup> United States Colored Troops; 2017 Women’s History Month, Daughters of War of 1812; Keynote, AARP Women’s History Month; Keynote Speaker 2017 Re-dedication of 1925 City Cemetery in High Point, NC; Vendor, Presenter 2014-2017 @ Long Leaf Pine Festival, New Hill NC; Presenter: [Research Your Civil War Ancestor, Tryon Palace- New Bern, NC](#); [Keynote Speaker, Sons of American Revolution, Piney Grove AME Zion Church, Harlowe, NC](#); [Presenter, 2017 Preservation North Carolina Conference- Charlotte, NC](#) 2017 Preservation NC Conference- Charlotte,

NC; 2017 Opening Plenary- *Naval Stores: The Real Tar Heels and the Economic Origins of Slavery in the South* AND Presenter: Speaker- *Communities of Color from Colonial Era to the Reconstruction*;

**Consultant to Princeville, NC- Nation's Oldest Town Incorporated by Freedmen Historian for**

**2017 *Princeville, NC* film by Skanska International**; Opening Plenary: Return Voyage, 40<sup>th</sup> African American Genealogy Historical Society Conference- Nassau, Bahamas;

**2018:** Black History Month Contributor for *Spectrum News*; Host and Presenter Civil War Living History- Goldsboro, NC; Presenter- **Black Communities Conference** Durham, NC; Historian for 2018 film *An Extraordinary Man, Dr. Dennis Branch of Newport, Tennessee*; Historian for the Equal Justice Initiative, Wake County Community Remembrance Project: *The 1918 Lynching of George Taylor*.

**2019:** Black History Month SME on *The Green Book* and North Carolina Museum of History; Black History Month North Carolina Capitol Read-In; Advisor for the *Africa to Carolina* Research Group; Presenter and Panelist for *The Freedom Roads and the Underground Railroad* Conference, Historic Halifax, NC; Presenter at Inaugural Tar Heel Day (2019), Campbell University; Keynote Presenter 154<sup>th</sup> Commemoration at Historic Bennett Place, Durham Co., NC; Keynote Speaker 2019 Long Leaf Pine Festival- **Gone with the Wind! *The Real Tar Heel Story of the 1865 Battle of Bentonville and the Destruction of the Long Leaf Pine Forest***; Presenter: Inaugural Juneteenth Festival- Cary, NC *United States Colored Troops in North Carolina*; Presenter: Roanoke Canal Museum Juneteenth Commemoration- Halifax County, NC; Spectrum News Interview: the exhibit *Freedom! A Promise Disrupted: North Carolina, 1862- 1901*; Consultant/ Researcher Princeville, NC Mobile Museum; Charter Member- North Carolina Branch Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH); Speaker- 150<sup>th</sup> Pitt Family Farm Reunion- Edgecombe Co, NC; Panelist- African Diaspora 400<sup>th</sup> Year of Commemoration- 2019

**2022 Emmy Award Winner for “Preserving the Long Leaf Pines”**

<https://spectrumlocalnews.com/nc/triangle-sandhills/politics/2021/04/07/preserving-north-carolina-s-longleaf-pine-trees>

**Consultant, Historian for 2023 Emmy Award Nominated film [George H. White: Searching for Freedom](#) | PBS**

**Narrator for the 2022 North Carolina Symphony [Juneteenth Celebration](#) | [Booth Amphitheatre North Carolina Symphony - Freedom Celebration in Tarboro \(audienceaccess.co\)](#)**

[North Carolina Symphony - Freedom Celebration in Chapel Hill - Earl Ijames \(audienceaccess.co\)](#)

**2022 Annie Casey Foundation Lecturer, - Atlanta, GA**

[North Carolina Abolishes Slavery - December 4, 1865 - YouTube](#)

**2023 Black Farmers Conf. at White House and U.S. Senate**

**Historically Black Colleges and Universities in 2 minutes by Earl L. Ijames**

[\(12\) Excellent little video featuring our... - Cultivator Bookmobile | Facebook](#)

[This Black History Month, learn the holiday's origins and its NC history roots \(aol.com\)](#)

**2024** Curator for exhibit *Saving Our Savannah: History of the Long Leaf Pine Forest*, North Carolina Botanical Gardens <https://ncbg.unc.edu/visit/exhibits/saving-our-savannas/> Genealogist- Historic Hayti (Durham, NC) Youth Arts Enrichment Program <https://hayti.org/events-programs/> ; OLLI Instructor, NC State University; Historian, Capital City Juneteenth Celebration at Dix Park (Raleigh); Keynote 2024 Rocky Mount Juneteenth Celebration.