

Community Historical User Group Member Biographies

Althemese Barnes

- Founder of Riley House Museum
- Spearheaded Smokey Hollow Memorial project
- Established The Florida African American Heritage Preservation Network, a statewide professional museum association in 1997
- Received the Evelyn Fortune Bartlett Award, the highest annual award from the Florida Trust for Historic Preservation, Inc.
- Education: Bachelor's in Music Education, Master's in Guidance and Counseling (FAMU)

John Due

- Civil Rights activist and attorney
- Graduate of FAMU law school
- Moved to Tallahassee in the early 60's to get involved in the Civil Rights Movement
- Husband of the late Patricia Stephens-Due, who spent 49 days in the old Leon County Jail in 1960 after refusing to pay a fine for sitting in a Woolworth's "White only" lunch counter in Tallahassee

Gerald Ensley

- Renowned Community Columnist for the Tallahassee Democrat
- Retired from the Tallahassee Democrat after 35 years but continues to contribute as Senior Writer with a specific focus on history
- The recipient of more than 50 state and national awards for his writing
- Graduate of FSU

Delaitre Hollinger

- Executive Director/CEO of the National Association for the Preservation of African-American History & Culture, Inc.
- President of Aquilina Howell Foundation
- Founding Curator and Associate Director of Taylor House Museum of Historic Frenchtown
- Published two award-winning books: *And This Too Shall Pass - The Story of Aquilina C. Howell* and *STAND UP!: 75 Young Activists Who Rock the World and How You Can Too!*

Dr. David Jackson

- Associate Provost for Graduate Education, Dean of the Graduate College and Professor of History at FAMU
- Author or editor of five scholarly books, including *Go Sound the Trumpet! Selections in Florida's African American History*

- Serves on the Board of the Florida Historical Society and was Chairman of the Board for the John G. Riley House Museum and Resource Center of African American History and Culture
- The recipient of multiple honors and awards for his leadership and academic contributions
- Education: Bachelor's in History Education, Master's in Public Administration (FAMU); Ph.D. in History (University of Memphis)

Dr. Jennifer Koslow

- Associate Professor of History at FSU
- Former Assistant Director of the Dr. William M. Scholl Center for Family and Community History at the Newberry Library in Chicago
- Community engagement includes work on Tallahassee Moderne; Tallahassee Civil Rights Memorial Sidewalk; nomination of Meridian Road to National Register of Historic Places; Smokey Hollow Historic American Landscape Survey Project
- Author of *Cultivating Health: Los Angeles Women and Public Health Reform*

John Lawrence

- Former science teacher at Leon High School and first African-American principal at Godby High School
- Former Bureau Chief of Adult and Community Education at the Florida Department of Education.
- Active in the community through numerous organizations, including the Council on Culture & Arts (COCA), Tallahassee Urban League, Leon County Housing Finance Authority, Leon County Investment Oversight Committee
- Holds a bachelor's degree in Biology from North Carolina Central University and two master's degrees from Florida A&M University

Alissa Slade Lotane

- Chief, Bureau of Historic Preservation, Florida Department of State
- Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer for Florida
- Former Supervisor, Historic Preservation Grants program at the Florida Department of State
- Holds B.S. in History (Troy University), M.A. in Anthropology (FSU), & Certificate in Museum Studies (FSU)
- Held fellowships at the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian, Ca'd'Zan at Ringling Museum of Art, and Appleton Museum of Art

James McAllister

- Ph.D. student of 19th century American history at FSU
- 21-year resident of Tallahassee
- Helped create Tallahassee Moderne website; completed research project on the Firestone building

Rev. Henry Marion Steele

- Civil Rights activist who was instrumental in desegregating the Tallahassee public bus system in the 1950s
- At age 16, was among the youngest to be incarcerated at the old Leon County Jail during the Civil Rights Movement
- The son of Civil Rights leader, Rev. C.K. Steele
- Retired from the pastoral ministry and works at the Tallahassee Senior Center
- Graduate of Morehouse College and Colgate-Rochester Divinity School

Dr. Melissa Stoller

- Executive Director of Tallahassee Trust for Historic Preservation
- Worked as consultant and preservation specialist conducting architectural survey and evaluation, National Register Nomination, historic context studies
- Holds M.S. in Historic Preservation (University of Oregon), Ph.D. in Design & Human Environment (Oregon State University)

Dr. Linda Teague

- Grew up in the Myers Park neighborhood
- Former Teacher at Leon High School for 36 years (History, AP Psychology, Student Government) and adjunct professor at FSU (Social Science Education)
- Member of Tallahassee Historical Society
- Played a significant role in the historical research of Leon High School and its placement on the National Register of Historic Places
- Author of *The Lions' Pride: A Pictorial and Anecdotal History of Leon High School*

