



FIRST AFRICAN ARRIVAL AT OLD POINT COMFORT, VIRGINIA, IN 1619

MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Gen-Z Experience seeking talent showcase participants

--July 16 youth event partnership of Hampton Citizens Unity Commission and Hampton 2019 Commemorative Commission--

Hampton, Virginia- On Tuesday, July 16, 2019 the Hampton 2019 Commemorative Commission and the Citizens' Unity Commission will host *Gen-Z Experience: The Evolution of 400 Years of Music, Art, Dance, and Culture*. The free evening of talent presented for and by Hampton Roads' youth, is a public event that is particularly dedicated to ages 9-24.

Participants are encouraged to bring items for a time capsule. The Gen Z container will be filled, sealed, and buried until its 2069 anticipated opening. A *digital* time capsule activity is also included on the schedule. During that time, attendees are encouraged to use their social media platforms and their phones to share the evening with future generations by using the hashtag #GENZ400STRONG.

Individuals who wish to perform during the event are encouraged to contact Imara Diaz, Program Coordinator with the Citizens' Unity Commission, at Imara.diaz@hampton.gov. Gen Z Experience will be held 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. at the Hampton Roads Convention Center, located at 1610 Coliseum Drive. Hampton, VA 23666. Light Refreshments will be served.

The Citizens' Unity Commission is a department within the City of Hampton; its mission is to ensure that Hampton will be a city that is welcoming, supportive, and inclusive of all citizens, regardless of race, color, class, religion, age disability, ethnicity, sexual orientation, or gender identity.

Hampton, Virginia is the oldest, continuous English-speaking city in our nation, and many pivotal moments in American history occurred here. The Hampton 2019 Commemorative Commission designated by Hampton City Council seeks to commemorate the 1619 landing of Africans at Point Comfort in English-occupied North America and to educate people about its role as a critical national turning point through programs, events, exhibits, and other opportunities for reflection. A highlight of the commemorative calendar is the August 23-25 First African Landing Commemoration at Fort Monroe and other sites throughout Hampton.

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