



# Hampton

CONVENTION & VISITOR BUREAU

**Media Alert!**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## *Congressman Scott Confirmed as Event Speaker*

### **REMEMBRANCE: 8th Year The Sankofa Projects Honoring the African Ancestors of the 'Middle Passage' at Buckroe Beach June 8**

**Hampton, VA** - For the 8th year in a row, The Sankofa Projects will host its annual International Day of Remembrance ceremony on Saturday, June 8, 2019 at 11:00 a.m. on Buckroe Beach in Hampton, VA. The ceremony will be to the left of the Main stage at North 1st and Pilot Avenue, at the far end of the beach.

On Thursday, June 6 it was confirmed that Congressman Bobby Scott, 3<sup>rd</sup> District – Virginia, will provide remarks at the event. Also, the Sankofa Project will be given a proclamation by Hampton Mayor Donnie Tuck.

The program of Remembrance will include educational presentations, traditional African dancing and drumming, community presentations, tributes dedicated to Native

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Americans/First Nations people, Bay Shore Beach and the innocent slain and Freedom Fighters who lost their lives in the global pursuit of justice. The Honorable Dr. Mary T. Christian will give the keynote.

Throughout the program, there will be theatrical presentations, poetry, meditation, and traditional African and African American spirituals. The program features a Kemetite Opening, a Drum Call to the Ancestors, musical and dance performances and a Communal Offering dedicated to the Ancestors.

At 12:00 noon an International Libation for Remembrance will be orchestrated by Baba Orimalade Ogunjimi of Ile Nago. Occurring simultaneously across the United States and internationally, Communal Libations will take place in the cities where Remembrance and Tributes to the Ancestors are held.

Event sponsors include the Hampton, VA 2019 Commemorative Commission, Hampton History Museum and the City of Hampton Parks, Recreation and Leisure Services. This event is free and open to the public. Attendees are asked to respect the sanctity of the sacred ceremony. Traditional African attire and/or white clothing is encouraged. Organizers suggest that attendees bring beach chairs and umbrellas to provide. Those wishing to participate in the Communal Offering to the Ancestors should bring fresh flowers.

Partially bordered by the Hampton Roads harbor and Chesapeake Bay, Hampton, with the 344,000 sq. ft. Hampton Roads Convention Center and the award-winning Hampton Coliseum, is located in the center of Coastal Virginia and the Hampton Roads metropolitan area. Hampton is the site of America's first continuous English-speaking

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settlement, the site of the first arrival of Africans in English North America, and is home to such visitor attractions as the Virginia Air & Space Center, Fort Monroe National Monument, Hampton History Museum, harbor tours and cruises, Hampton University Museum, The American Theatre, among others.

During 2019, Hampton commemorates the 400th anniversary of the first African landing in English North America at Hampton's Old Point Comfort on Fort Monroe National Monument. In addition to honoring the men and women who arrived in 1619, the city will also celebrate the contributions of African Americans have made to our city, state and nation. A commission has planned events across the entire year to recognize and celebrate African American impact, including a three-day long Commemoration event, August 23-25.

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