

*****PRELIMINARY PROGRAM SUBJECT TO CHANGE*****

ACH 2026 Conference Program
57th Annual Conference of the Association of Caribbean Historians
“Slavery, its Legacies, Labor, and Maritime History in the Caribbean”
Jamaica, Kingston, May 24-29, 2026
Venue: Jamaica Conference Centre (Downtown Kingston)

SUNDAY, MAY 24

- Registration
- Panel #1 (Local Organizing Committee Panel): TBA
- Opening Ceremony and Welcome Reception

MONDAY, MAY 25

Morning session

Panel #2: Maritime Economies and Trade in the Early Modern Caribbean

Chair: TBA

- Jamie L.H. Goodall, “The Piracy/Slave-Trade Nexus: Maritime Outlaws and the Atlantic Slave Economy, 1580-1720”
- Keith Richards, “Creole Economies and the Illicit Slave Trade in Eastern Cuba, 1662-1691”
- Zach Myers, “Navigating (Un)Freedom: Mobility and Re-Enslavement in the Southern Caribbean, 1834-1854”
- David Wheat, “The Maritime Economy of Spanish Jamaica, c.1560-1650”
- Andrew Williams “Rediscovering the “Drogher”: The Coastal Trade of Jamaica, 1700–1900”
- Lisa Lawlor Feller, “Bahamian islanders on the maritime highway: Wrecking to make a Reckoning”

Coffee Break

Panel #3: Enslaved Maritime and Urban Labor

Chair: TBA

- Alba Giménez-Sánchez, ““Walls of Resistance: Enslaved Africans and the Making of Seventeenth-Century Havana”
- Mary Draper, “Enslaved Pilots and Sea-Lanes in Eighteenth-Century Kingston”
- Kevin Dawson and Viviana Quintero Márquez, “Enslaved Underwater Divers and Maritime Rebels in Eighteenth-Century Atlantic and Caribbean”
- Gabriel José Rivera Cotto, “Maritime transportation work and slavery in San Juan, Puerto Rico”

Lunch Break

Afternoon session

Panel #4: Fugitivity and Marronage in the 18th–19th-Century Caribbean

Chair: TBA

- Fernanda Bretones Lane, “An Afro-Brazilian Community in Seventeenth-century Puerto Rico”
- Louise Salaün, “Writing a comparative history of women’s marronage based on plantation papers (Jamaica and Saint-Domingue, 18th century)”
- Felicia J. Fricke, “Fugitive Motherhood: Women Running from Slavery with their Children in the Eastern Caribbean, 1770s-1870s”
- Tayzhaun Glove, ““They were Anything and everything but field laborers”: Martinican Fugitives and Emancipation in Dominica and St. Lucia, 1833-1848”
- Yevan Terrien, “Marronage, Unfreedom, and Customary Rights in Caribbean New Orleans”
- Rasmus Christensen, “Freedom at Sea? Navigating freedoms and dangers in the Caribbean Sea.”

Coffee Break

Panel #5: Women, Labor, and Religion in the Caribbean

Chair: TBA

- Gillian Downes-Alleyne, “Touched by the ‘Brush: White Women & their Coloured Children during the Last Fifty Years of Slavery 1784-1834”
- Evelyn Powell Jennings, “Motherly Love and the Business of Slavery in Nineteenth-Century Cuba”
- Natália da Silva Perez, “Discourses on Enslaved Women’s Labour between Cuba and Brazil”
- Gaëlle Antiste, “Creole, especially Creole nuns, are only good when cooked» : Religious formations among the sisters of Notre-Dame de la Délivrante in Martinique, XIXth century (1868-1902)”
- Loverne Jacobs-Browne, “Women of Vision: Gender, Faith, and the Early Development of the University of the Southern Caribbean, 1930s–1960s

TUESDAY, MAY 26

Morning session

Panel #6: Enslaved Childhood and Resistance in the Caribbean

Chair: TBA

- Jenny Shaw, “From St. Kitts to England: Enslaved Childhood on Land and at Sea in the Britain’s Georgian Empire”
- Zakiya Doyle, “‘I learned the art of running away to perfection’ – Enslaved children and resistance in Barbados 1780-1834”
- Sarah Brokenborough, “Visible Labor, Valued Work: Enslaved Girls’ Needlework on Jamaican Plantations”
- Taylar Carty, “Amelia Frances and the ‘Wicked Incendiary’: Centering enslaved Black girlhood in Caribbean Resistance”

Posters session

Chair: TBA

- Rebecca Goetz, Henderson Carter, and Donnamarie Barnes “The Sylvester Manor and Constant and Carmichael Plantation Collaboration”
- Jade Lindo, “Tasting Resistance: Breadfruit and the Gendered Politics of Caribbean Food”

Coffee Break

Panel #7: Enslaved Rebellions and Empire in the Caribbean

Chair: TBA

- Justin Pope, “The St John Slave Rebellion of 1733, or The Last Stand of an African Empire in the Americas”
- Graham Kerr, “The Royal Navy - Slavery, its Legacies, Labor, and Maritime History in Jamaica” (18th–19th c.) (naval power was integral to the maintenance of slavery and the suppression of freedom)
- Lissa Bollettino, “The British Army’s “Sable Arm” in Takyi’s Revolt: A Battle of the Seven Years’ War”
- Marley Lix-Jones, ““Some place to live in”: Fugitive Homemaking in the Archives of Slave Rebellions, 1816-1832”
- Gelien Matthews, “Antislavery Rebellions and Imperial Transitions in the British Caribbean, 1816-1831” (British abolitionists appropriated to their anti-slavery campaign the revolts)
- Elena Schneider, “Deported ‘Back to Africa’: Afro-Cuban Soldiers and Spanish Race Baiting During Cuba’s Independence Wars”

Lunch Break

Afternoon session

Panel #8: Claiming Freedom, Shaping Rights? Caribbean Trajectories of Enslavement

- Chair: Prof. Anne Eller (Yale University)
- Fara Dabhoiwala, “Race, Slavery, and Citizenship in the early 18th-century Anglo-Atlantic World: The Williams Family of Jamaica”
- Hannah Katharina Hjorth, “Moving between Slavery and Freedom on St. Thomas, 1780-1810”

- Ramona Negrón & Camilla de Koning, “Half-Slavery and Half-Freedom in the Eighteenth-Century Dutch Guianas”
- Tessa Murphy, “Expanding the Archive of Maronnage: A glimpse from Slave Registers in St. Lucia & Trinidad, 1813-1833”
- Mary-Anne Nicolaas, “New Citizens, Old Rights?”
- Adriana Chira, “‘Somos precariato del estado’: Communal land ownership in Cuba in the long nineteenth century”

Coffee Break

Panel #9: Revolution and Post-Emancipation Haiti

- Chair: Jeffrey R. Kerr-Ritchie (Howard University)
- Giulio Talini, “Une république de cultivateurs: Freedom, Land, and Abolition in Revolutionary Saint-Domingue (1793-1794)”
- Marvin Chochotte, “Inheriting Subdivided Land after the Haitian Revolution: Moral Labor and Family Héritage, 1804-1915”
- Andrew Maginn, “Haitian Trade by Haitian Merchants: Inter-Coastal Commerce in the Nineteenth Century”
- Emmanuel Lachaud, “‘Like our Brothers in the South’: Black Publics, Informal Politics, and Post-Emancipation in Haiti, 1840-1848”
- Tiffany Momon, “Listening for the Quiet: Craft, Flight, and Black Artisanry in Slavery’s Archive”

WEDNESDAY, MAY 27

Morning session

Panel #10: Institutions of Control in Caribbean History

Chair: TBA

- Domitille de Gavriloff, “‘Catholics without a bishop. The influence of religious structures on the agency of enslaved Africans in the French Caribbean (17th-18th centuries)”
- Morgane Honoré, “Against alliances. Control and management of urban populations in Martinique and French Guiana in the early 19th century”

- Gad Heuman, “The Apprenticeship System in the Caribbean: The World of the Enslavers”
- Curtis Wallace. ““Keeping Watch By Day and Night”: The Jamaica Constabulary Force, Surveillance and Social Control in Jamaica, 1867-1962”
- Fiona Rajkumar, “The Homeschooling Association of Trinidad and Tobago and Parental Resistance to Colonial Legacies in Education”

Coffee Break

Panel #11: The Carceral Caribbean: Labor, Ideology, and Resistance Across Imperial Lines

Chair: TBA

- Estherine Adams, “The Other Unfree Labour: Prison Work in Post-Emancipation British Guiana”
- Ale Pålsson, “Labor ideology, incarceration and interimperial policing in post-emancipation Swedish St Barthélemy”
- Kiran Mehta, ““An Object of Fear’: Prison Labour and Colonial Violence in the nineteenth-century British Empire”
- Liz Egan, “The Story of a West Indian Policeman: Writing race and justice in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century Jamaican Constabulary Force”
- Jonathan Nash, “Unruly Confinement: Resistance and the Fragility of Incarceration in the Colonial Bahamas, 1950s-1970s”

Coffee Break

Panel #12: Health, Environment, and the Politics of Power in the Caribbean

Chair:

- Kristen Block, ““Evils... without remedy”: Transcultural Healers and the Public Good in the Early Colonial Administration of Bath in St. Thomas”
- Kevin Dawson, “A Culture of Cleanliness: Hygienic Practices in the African Diaspora”
- Amanda Herbert, “Colonization and the Spa: Black and White Bathing in Nevis, c. 1600-1800”

- Shavagne Scott, “‘A Peculiar Dread’: Fugitivity and the Wetland Geographies of Colonial Jamaica”
- Renee A. Nelson, “No good shutting the gate after the horse is out”: Jamaica and the Great Influenza Epidemic, 1918-1920”

In the tradition of the Association of Caribbean Historians Conference, Wednesday afternoon is left unscheduled to allow participants the opportunity to explore the historic sites and cultural opportunities of Jamaica.

THURSDAY, MAY 28

Morning session

Panel #13: State, Citizenship, and Black Politics in the Twentieth-Century Caribbean

Chair: Kaysha Corinealdi

- José Andrés Fernández Montes de Oca, “Customary Rights and State Control: Afro-Caribbean Smallholders in Costa Rica’s Caribbean (1930s)”
- Philip A. Howard, “‘The Lid Blows Off’: Reassessing the Labor Disturbances of Jamaica, 1936-1940””
- Willie Mack, “‘Les Noirs Americains, Un Peuple Frere,’: Haitian Revolutionaries, the US Black Power Movement, and Global Subaltern Politics”
- Llana Barber, “Anti-Duvalier Rebels in the Bahamas and the Contested Roots of the Haitian “Refugee”
- Jan Bant, “‘Patriotism, Flag, Tourism’: Little League Baseball and National Identity on Curaçao”

Coffee Break

Panel #14: The Political, Economic and Social Implications of Transforming Former Colonies into French Overseas Departments (1946-1985)

Chair: TBA

- Clara Palmiste, “Administrative Purges in Martinique and Guadeloupe: from Joining the Free French Forces to Departmentalisation (1943–1947)”

- Marie-Christine Touchelay, “The Departmentalisation Act Put to the Test by the Sugar Industry in Guadeloupe, (1943–1952)”
- Edenz Maurice, “How Did Prefects View Overseas Prefects? (1946–1985)”
- Claire Palmiste, “Juvenile Justice in French Guiana a Decade after Departmentalization”

Lunch Break

Afternoon session

Panel #15: Contesting Caribbean Space: Ecology, Empire, and Power

Chair: TBA

- Carla Gardina Pestana, “Learning the Caribbean Seascape”
- Zakiya McKenzie, “Lignum Vitae: Botanical Legacies of Maritime Expansion and Enslavement”
- Nyala Thompson Grunwald, “No Man's Land': Mangrove lands, waters and the histories of marine zones between Trinidad and Tobago”
- Antonio Gaztambide Géigel, “Auge y decadencia de la Doctrina Monroe: Del expansionismo, al imperialismo, a la hegemonía”
- Anneel Bain, “The Eagle and the Caribbean Basin: US Cold War Military Manoeuvres-Resolutions, Reactions and Responses”

Panel #16: Digital humanities, public history and heritage

Chair: TBA

- Diana Paton, “A spatial approach to Jamaican obeh prosecutions, 1890-1980”
- Melissa Morris and Peter Walker, “Legacies of Codrington: A Digital Archive of Anglican Slavery”
- Thunnis van Oort, “The Suriname Time Machine : A Multi-User Approach to Linked Historical Data in the Caribbean”
- Ida Lizette, TBA
- Joseph F. Starr, “Preserving the Legacies of Slavery: Sustainable Management of Cultural Landscapes in Jamaica”

- David LaFevor, “What the Archive Forgot: Corruption, Silence, and Recovery in Nineteenth-Century Cuba”

Coffee Break

- **Annual General Meeting**
- **Conference Dinner and Fete**

FRIDAY, MAY 29

- **Optional Field Trips**