



GWINNETT COUNTY
PUBLIC LIBRARY

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MEDIA ALERT

BLACK HISTORY MONTH: TRACE YOUR ROOTS

WHAT: In celebrating Black History Month, the Gwinnett County Public Library is offering its popular "Trace Your Roots" program. Attendees learn how to start their African American genealogy research and learn how to navigate challenges like incomplete or non-existent records.

The presentation starts by going over basic genealogy research through Ancestry (census records, vital records, military records, and family trees). If you are looking for specific African American collections we talk about the 1860 Slave Schedules, Slave Insurance Policies 1640-1865, Slave Records 1719-1820, Slave Manifest 1807-1860, the African American Newspaper Collection 1829-1947, the African American Photo Collection 1850-2000, various state's freed peoples records, and the Freedmen's Bureau records.

WHEN: Wednesday, February 8th, 7:00pm to 8:00pm

Gwinnett County Public Library
OneStop Centerville Building
3025 Bethany Church Rd.
Snellville, GA 30039

Saturday, February 25th, 2:00pm to 3:00pm

3025 Bethany Church Road
Snellville, GA 30039

WHY: Genealogy interest has exploded with the ease and availability of

online research. As demand has increased the Gwinnett County Public Library has become an invaluable resource in assisting our community with finding information about their ancestors. African American genealogy has its own unique set of challenges and obstacles. During this program learn how to use Ancestry Library Edition and HeritageQuest to start your family research while addressing the distinct difficulties faced by African Americans.

WHO: Centerville Branch Manager Joshua Beasley is the facilitator of this highly popular program. He was recently inducted into the Gwinnett Preservation Hall of Fame for his work in supporting the preservation of Gwinnett history.

He is also currently co-chairing our grant-funded Teaching Primary Sources project, *Present in the Past*, which delivers supplementary curriculum related to Civil Rights units in middle schools.

In 2022, Joshua presented that same program at the Georgia Libraries Conference.

At the Public Library Association Conference in 2020, Joshua presented African American Genealogy Programming.

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