



July 22, 2011

Media only: Marcia Baird Burriss (202) 633-4876; (202) 320-1735 (cell)
bairdburrism@si.edu

Media website: <http://newsdesk.si.edu>; anacostia.si.edu (media room)

Media Advisory

WHAT: “All Things Gullah: Family Day” at the Anacostia Community Museum featuring record breaking Gullah ring shout plus crafts, music, marketplace and last days viewing of Word, Shout, Song” exhibition.

WHEN: Saturday, July 23, 2011 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

WHERE: Smithsonian’s Anacostia Community Museum
1901 Fort Place S.E.
Washington, D.C.

Media please call to RSVP for parking/shuttle info. Lobby check-in. After 10:45 a.m. Saturday, call: 202.320-1735 (cell) 202.633.4821(lobby front desk)

WHO:

Camille Akeju, museum director; Alcione Amos, museum/exhibition curator; Griffin Lotson, Geechee Gullah Ring Shouters (GA); Ms. Frankie Quimby, Sea Island Singers (GA); Frances Moore, Santa Barbara Ring Shout Project (CA); Charles Hall (GA) and Veronica Gerald (SC) commissioners, Gullah Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor; Sherry Suttles, Gullah Geechee Group (FLA) and **UPDATE:** Ron Daise (SC) commissioner, Gullah Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor and creator of the popular “Gullah Gullah Island” TV show.

The Smithsonian’s Anacostia Community Museum presents the free program with indoor /outdoor activities for the whole family closing out the acclaimed exhibition “Word, Shout, Song: Lorenzo Dow Turner Connecting Communities through Language” on the African roots of Gullah and Afro-Brazilian culture. Among the event highlights are arts and crafts activities, a Gullah dress-up opportunity, a growing up Gullah oral history presentation, a marketplace which includes Gullah sweet grass baskets, Gullah storytelling and self-guided tours of the exhibition. The day will culminate with shouter-group led demonstrations then presentation of the Gullah Ring Shout to which the event attendees are invited to join to set a record gathering.

“Word, Shout, Song” features Turner’s foundational 1930s work which established that people of African heritage, despite slavery, had retained and passed on their cultural identity through words,

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SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION MRC 777 PO Box 37012 Washington DC 20013-7012 Telephone 202.633.4820 Fax 202.287.3183

music and story wherever they landed. The exhibition focuses on his research on the Gullah/Geechee community in South Carolina and Georgia, the African descendents in Bahia, Brazil and the connection of both to Africa. It is based almost entirely on the museum's rich collection of Turner's work and will close on July 24 to re-emerge as a traveling display. # # #