CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Emory University Symposium

In the Wake of Slavery and Dispossession: Emory, Racism and the Journey towards Restorative Justice

Wednesday, September 29 - Friday, October 1, 2021

In Fall 2021, Emory University will host a symposium on slavery and dispossession to highlight ongoing efforts and research in this area, to encourage creative interpretations and dialogue, and to reckon with Emory’s legacy of racism and its ongoing enduring effects. Sessions will focus primarily on the perspectives of Black, Native American, and Indigenous peoples, but other perspectives and experiences will be welcome.

To this end we call on students, staff, artists, scholars, and community members at Emory and the broader community to contribute to and participate in a creative space of active learning, dialogue, and collaboration in pursuit of healing and restoration.

This symposium seeks to produce dynamic interactive programming that moves participants through three angles of reflection and engagement: the history of slavery and dispossession, racism, and activism at Emory, throughout the region, and at other universities; the impact and legacies of slavery, dispossession, and racism at Emory and in the community; and pathways toward healing and restorative justice.

Examples include:

- Performances, such as dance, spoken word, or music
- Artwork or photography, either solo or in collaboration with a topic, dialogue, or presentation
- Video or film
- Presentations, panels, conversations, counterarguments
- Digital representations
- Sessions that combine more than one of the aforementioned may or may not include food and fellowship

Venue: Emory University’s Atlanta and Oxford campuses

Hybrid format: in-person, virtual, physical and digital exhibits

Key dates:

- Proposal submission deadline EXTENDED: June 21, 2021, 11:59 pm EST
- Notification of accepted proposals: June 30, 2021
- Conference registration opens soon.
We acknowledge that Emory University was founded in 1836 on the historic lands of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, 15 years after the First Treaty of Indian Springs (1821) dispossessed the Muscogee of land including both Emory campus locations. We also acknowledge that Emory University’s founders were slaveholders, and the Oxford campus was originally constructed by enslaved people. To these peoples and their descendants, we acknowledge the grave injustices inflicted on them, and we recognize the indelible mark of their labor on the creation of the university.

EO/AA/Disability/Veteran Employer