

# **PENN CENTER, INC.**

**NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK DISTRICT**

## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

### **2009**

**Penn Center, Inc.  
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St. Helena Island, SC 29920**

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**Website: [www.penncenter.com](http://www.penncenter.com)**

## January *Dr. Martin L. King, Jr. Celebration*

- 1 New Year's Day – York W. Bailey Museum closed
- 9 “Traditions” Art Exhibit by Amiri Farris closes
- 18 Martin L. King, Jr. Celebration – “Songs of Freedom”  
*The Echoes of Penn - In Concert*  
7:00 p.m. – Frissell Community House (Open to the public)
- 19 Martin L. King, Jr. Day – (Beaufort events); York W. Bailey Museum (open)

## February *Black History Month*

- 1-28 On Exhibit - Sankofa Museum on Wheels - Darrah Hall  
Angela Jennings, Curator & Founder  
“Experience S.C. African American History” – over 200 collectibles comprise this exhibit -- from the 54<sup>th</sup> Massachusetts Regiment to Dr. Martin L. King, Jr.  
*“A must see for all ages!”*  
Tickets: \$7-adults; \$6-seniors; for both the Sankofa and the York W. Bailey Museum
- 1-28 York W. Bailey Museum – Cope Building
- ▶ Sam Doyle Folk Art Exhibit – original paintings by famous folk artist from St. Helena Island, SC
  - ▶ Daily Self-guided Tours: “The Port Royal Experiment and the History of Penn School.”
  - ▶ Friday Film Series – 1:00 p.m. (*The Will to Survive; Daughters of the Dust; Family Across the Sea; Roberet Smalls: Civil War Hero*); Admission: \$5-adults; \$4-seniors; \$2-youth

15 **Black History Month Celebration – Performances by the P.A.C.E. youth & area churches**  
7:30 p.m. – Frissell Community House; open to the public

Feb. 1-28 **Hilton Head Gullah Celebration ([www.gullahcelebration.com](http://www.gullahcelebration.com))**

## **March**

## *Women's History Month*

13-31 **“Birthing a Community: A Tribute to African American Midwives”**

15 5:00 p.m. – Opening Reception and Presentations  
Exhibit on loan from the Fairfield County Museum (curated by Mikela Brown); personal histories, photographs, and artifacts used by Southern midwives since slavery; video documentary showing last surviving African American midwives from S.C. who were trained at Penn Center; guest speaker, Rebecca Jackson, former St. Helena Island midwife

► York W. Bailey Museum (Penn Center); Open to the public during reception; daily - 11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.; Admission: \$5-adults, \$4-seniors, \$2- youth. Exhibit closes April 24<sup>th</sup>.

15 **Agnes Sherman Award –African American Women Making History Program (Dedicated to Women in Health & Home Care)**

7:30 p.m. - Frissell Community House; open to the public.

28 **Penn Center Spring Tour of Historic Buildings –**  
9:30 am – 3:00 pm.

Penn Center will host guided tours of dormitories, teachers' residences, and Dr. Martin L. King, Jr. house; Penn School graduates will present docent talks; York W. Bailey Museum exhibits included.

Call to reserve- 838-2474: \$10–adults/seniors, \$5-youth

► **MARCH MADNESS BOOK SALE** – Get a free bookmark with every \$25 purchase or free book with \$50 purchase. (Admission not included) Limited offer during March.

## April

- 17 **African American Strip Quilting Lecture & Demonstration**– by quilter, Edward Bostick. Call for reservation and time (843) 838-2474. Ticket: \$8 (includes museum quilt exhibit).
- 19 **Community Sing – Penn School Founders Celebration**  
7:30 p.m. - Frissell Community House
- 25 **African American Authors' Book Talk & Signing**  
12-3:00 p.m. – York W. Bailey Museum  
Call for list of authors: (843) 838-2474

## May

### *1862 Circle Gala*

- 2 **1862 Circle Gala & Awards Banquet Fundraiser**  
Holiday Inn, 2225 Boundary St., Beaufort, SC  
Honorees: Former U.S. Senator Ernest F. Hollings  
Jeanne Moutoussamy-Ashe, Photographer  
Thomas C. Barnwell, Jr. – Philanthropist & Developer  
Special Guest – Deborah Willis, Photo-Historian  
6 pm – Reception / 7 pm – Dinner (\$100); silent auction;  
booksigning; & live music. Call for corporate sponsorship  
and ticket reservations: (843) 838-8554

**Laura Towne Birthday Celebration – Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Beaufort (call for schedule)**

8

**Spring Art Show - Opening Reception**

**“Out of the Vault”**

Artwork from Penn’s Private Art Collection will be on sale to the public

► York W. Bailey Museum (Penn Center); 11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.; Admission: \$5- adults, \$4 - seniors, \$2 - youth; Exhibit closes June 30th

17

**Community Sing - Celebrating Our Senior Citizens**  
7:30 p.m. – Frissell Community House; open to the public

25

**Memorial Day – Closed**

**June**

1-30

**Spring Art Show – “Out of the Vault”**

Artwork from Penn’s Private Art Collection will be on sale to the public

► York W. Bailey Museum (Penn Center); 11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.; Admission: \$5- adults, \$4 - seniors, \$2 - youth;

**July**

**5<sup>th</sup> GULLAH STUDIES SUMMER INSTITUTE**

12-25

**Gullah Studies Summer Institute**

**“Teaching African American History:**

**Gullah People of the Sea Islands (1862-1960);**

2-week residential summer institute provides a unique educational experience on Gullah culture with arts-related workshops, lectures and field trips. Distinguished university professors, cultural experts and artists. Register for graduate credit or audit any class (visit our website at [www.penncenter.com](http://www.penncenter.com) for course descriptions).

In partnership with S.C. State University, the University of NC-Chapel Hill and the S.C. Department of Education.  
Call (843) 838-2474 for more information

- July 1-Aug. 30      **“A PEOPLE OF THE LAND” – Photography**  
Exhibit by Vinnie Deas-Moore- renowned photographer,  
author and instructor at the University of S.C.
- 17      7:30 p.m.      Lecture - Ms. Deas-Moore presents a captivating photo-  
documentary of the spirit and the pride of the Gullah  
people of the Lowcountry through her poignant images.  
▶ York W. Bailey Museum (Penn Center); 11:00 a.m.-4:00  
p.m.; Admission: \$5- adults, \$4 - seniors, \$2 - youth;

## August      Count-down to Heritage Days

- York W. Bailey Museum – Cope Building
- ▶ “A People of the Land” Photography Exhibit by Vinnie Deas-Moore, USC
  - ▶ Daily Self-guided Tours: “The Port Royal Experiment and the History of Penn School.”
  - ▶ Daily Films: “God’s Gonna Trouble the Water” and “Penn Center: A Legacy of Change”
- Admission: \$5-adults; \$4-seniors; \$2-youth

## September      Penn Club Reunion Weekend

- 4-5      **LANDS END RIVER FESTIVAL—ST. HELENA ISLAND, SC**  
For information, visit website: [www.landsendwoodland.com](http://www.landsendwoodland.com)
- 5-7      **PENN CLUB REUNION – 3-day gathering of family, friends and  
community; picnic, fish fry, banquet, and tour of Penn Center  
campus buildings. Cost: \$60 per person (includes: banquet,**

picnic & fish fry). You may also support this event by purchasing a Program Booklet Ad (\$25 – 1/8 page) or a Patron Listing (\$15). For reservations: call Gardenia Simmons-White (843) 838-5826 or Phillis Freeman (843) 838-4660. Deadline for ads – August 15<sup>th</sup>

7 Labor Day - York W. Bailey Museum will be open.

## October Countdown to Heritage Days

## November HERITAGE DAYS CELEBRATION

12-14 27<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL HERITAGE DAYS CELEBRATION  
▶ 2009 Artist of the Year Art Exhibition; Flags of the Gullah People; Fish Fry & Blues Night; Old Fashion Prayer Service; Heritage Days Breakfast & Symposium; Saturday Parade; Old Fashion Craft Fair; & Center Stage Entertainment  
▶ Schedule of events on website: [www.penncenter.com](http://www.penncenter.com)

26 Thanksgiving Day - Closed

## December

19 Gullah Christmas Traditions & Celebrations – personal stories narrated by St. Helena Island residents  
▶ York W. Bailey Museum (Penn Center); 11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.; Admission: \$5-adults, \$4-seniors, \$2- youth.

20 The Nativity Scene – Musical Performance by local choirs – 7:00 p.m. Darrah Hall; open to the public

24-25 CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY – Closed

31-Jan 1 NEW YEAR'S EVE/DAY – Closed

**Watch Night Service – Local Churches 10 pm-12 am  
Reading of the Emancipation Proclamation**

