



FIRST AFRICAN ARRIVAL AT OLD POINT COMFORT, VIRGINIA, IN 1619

April, 2018

Dear City of Hampton K-12 Teacher:

The Hampton 2019 Commemorative Commission will pilot a 2018 Summer Institute for K-12 teachers, enhancing their understanding of the African Arrival in 1619, Monday, July 23-Friday, July 27, 8:30am-1:00pm, at the Hampton Hilton Garden Inn, 1999 Power Plant Parkway, Hampton, VA 23666. This Institute is of no cost to you. A continental breakfast and lunch will be provided, as well as a stipend.

As witnessed by John Rolfe, the first tobacco planter in the Virginia colony, on August 20, 1619, the White Lion entered the Chesapeake Bay, docked at Point Comfort (present day Hampton) with Africans from the country Angola, who were of the Bantu culture. They spoke the languages of the Kimbundu and Kikongo. Some may have been Christians, as Christianity has an early existence in Africa. Many were literate and hailed from high organized societies. Two of those Africans in present day Hampton, were named Antoney and Isabell, and became servants of Captain William Tucker, Commander of the Fort. Around 1623 or 1624, they birthed the first African child in English North America, named William Tucker. The other arriving Africans were interspersed within the Virginia colony, from Elizabeth City County to Jamestown.

Moreover, the arrival of the English encroached upon the lands and people of the Powhatan Confederacy, or the Algonquians. There were thousands of Native people inhabited the eastern region of Virginia when the English arrived in the 1600s. The Confederacy consisted of the following ethnic groups – the Arrohatock, Appamattuck, Pamunkey, Mattaponi and Chiskjack. The Kecoughtans were added and other groups affiliated such as the Rappahannocks, Moraughtacund, Weyanoak, Paspahagh, Quiyoughcohannock, Warraskoyack and Nansemond.

The Education and Awareness Committee of the City Commission will be piloting this one-week Summer Institute for City of Hampton teachers, in preparation of a two-week 2019 Summer Institute during the commemoration year. We welcome your participation in helping to develop the program with us. A tentative summer syllabus shell is offered here:

- I. The first decade, 1619-1629
 - Standards
 - Objectives
 - Essential Questions
 - Culturally Responsive Resources
 - Lesson Plan Activity
 - Summary of Activity
 - Procedures
 - Time Needed
 - Assessment
 - Integration of Information

The Institute will provide historical content, methods of instruction, ideas for educational creative modalities for each grade level, as well as bridge content for students to understand the contemporary relatability of the narrative. We need committed participants to be available for the entire 5-day, 8:30am-1pm weekday process. All supplies will be available for registered participants. If you are interested in participating in this Institute, please complete the online-application at <http://hamptonva2019.com/>

Best wishes to you,



Colita Nichols Fairfax, Ph.D.
Co-chair, City of Hampton 2019 Commemorative Commission

Lt. Col (Ret) Claude Vann, III
Co-chair, City of Hampton 2019 Commemorative Commission