



*Our story starts here*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**THE AUGUST LEARNING LUNCH PROGRAM AT THE HISTORY MUSEUM OF MOBILE  
WILL FEATURE DR. CHRISTIAN PINNEN, CO-DIRECTOR OF AFRICAN AMERICAN  
STUDIES AT MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE**

The History Museum of Mobile will host its next Learning Lunch program on **Wednesday, August 14, 2024, at 12pm**. **Dr. Christian Pinnen**, Co-Director of African American Studies at Mississippi College, will present ***The Colonial Spanish Slave Trade in the Lower Mississippi Valley: History and Violence between 1763-1819***.

**Dr. Christian Pinnen** is a professor in the Department of History and Political Science at Mississippi College and a 2022-2024 Bright Institute Fellow at Knox College. He co-directs African American Studies, and his research focuses on the American borderlands and the legal landscapes that gave rise to definitions of blackness and whiteness in the face of maturing slave societies. He specifically investigates the colonial Natchez District to resurrect the stories of the enslaved and the role that Atlantic Africans played in shaping the region. His current project focuses on the Spanish slave trade in the colonial lower Mississippi Valley.

He has published two books: *Complexion of Empire in Natchez* and *Colonial Mississippi*. *Complexion of Empire in Natchez* won the 2022 Book of the Year Award from the Mississippi Historical Society, and *Colonial Mississippi* is the nominee for best book award from the Mississippi Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Dr. Pinnen was also named as the 2023 Humanities Scholar of the Year by the Mississippi Humanities Council.

The History Museum of Mobile invites the public to attend the **free Learning Lunch lecture series**. Guests are encouraged to bring their lunch and enjoy a presentation on an historical or cultural topic. For more information on Learning Lunch, contact Jennifer Theeck, Curator of Education, at (251) 301-0270 or by email at [theeckj@historymuseumofmobile.com](mailto:theeckj@historymuseumofmobile.com).

**HISTORY MUSEUM OF MOBILE:** The History Museum of Mobile is where Mobile's story begins. Over 117,000 objects weave together the rich, diverse, and often turbulent histories of Mobile and the surrounding area, from the prehistoric past to the present. Located in the heart of downtown, the History Museum is in the Old City Hall - Southern Market building at 111 South Royal Street. For more information, please visit: [www.historymuseumofmobile.com](http://www.historymuseumofmobile.com)

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