



# **Sankofa**

## ***African American Museum on Wheels***

Upon realizing that her honor student nephew knew little about the history of African Americans, Angela Jennings established SANKOFA in 1995 as a way to teach him and other young people about their unique and rich heritage. Now, less than a decade later, this museum on wheels is considered to be one of the foremost collections of African American history readily available and appropriate for all ages and races of people in this country.

As Sankofa Curator, Jennings has traveled throughout the United States, the US Virgin Islands, West Africa, and Europe to amass a collection of art, collectibles, and memorabilia that rivals many traditional museums. The exhibit is a testament to the vast contributions that African Americans have made to this country and to the world.

As a part of the exhibit, Jennings presents stories and dramatizations about selected periods and historical figures to allow those in the audience to experience both the pain and the pride of the history portrayed. Additionally, she is always anxious to respond to individual questions from those viewing the exhibit.

Spanning the period of 1860 to the present, Sankofa takes audiences on a journey through slavery, the era of King Cotton, and the uplifting days of Emancipation. It also tells the stories of such notables as Ida B. Wells, the Negro Baseball League, the Tuskegee Airmen, and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. One of the highlights of Sankofa is its unique display of inventions by African Americans.

The Ghanaian term, Sankofa, tells us to "use the wisdom of the past to build the future." Angela Jennings and her African American Museum on Wheels epitomizes the meaning of the term by educating, enlightening, and empowering young and old alike with living history. Sankofa is a must see!!

*If you are interested in finding us online, you can Google search "Sankofa African American Museum on Wheels" and "Angela Jennings". You can also find us on YouTube!*

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# SANKOFA AFRICAN-AMERICAN MUSEUM ON WHEELS

ANGELA JENNINGS  
CURATOR



## Sankofa African American Museum on Wheels

**Summary:** "Sankofa African American Museum on Wheels" was established in 1995 to be utilized as a tool to teach and educate African Americans about their rich and unique heritage. This "Museum on Wheels" is considered to be one of the foremost collections of African American history readily available and appropriate for all ages and races. Spanning a period of 1860 to the present, "Sankofa" takes audiences on a journey through slavery, the era of King Cotton and days of Emancipation. It also tells the stories of Ida B. Wells, other famous African Americans, the Tuskegee Airman, Dr. King, and our 44<sup>th</sup> president. It also features numerous inventions.

**Goals:** The goals of this unique exhibit are to educate the attendees on the history of African American heritage.

**Objectives:** One objective of this presentation is to ensure that attendees have insightful understanding of the challenges and the struggles of African Americans beginning in the 1800's from slavery, to the civil rights movement. This exhibit will allow African American attendees the opportunity to externalize the obstacles and hardships that their ancestors endured in an effort to secure the liberation they experience today. This exhibit also includes contributions of yesterday and today that African Americans have made to this society.

**Deliverables:** This unique exhibit includes up to thirty 8 feet tables of historical artifacts, pictures, writings and other tangible items that will help tell the story of the African American heritage.

**Please Note:** A Lecture, Guided Tour, Question & Answer Period, and a Drama Piece is included with this exhibit.

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### Sankofa: Making A Curriculum Connection

It is a reality that many students often find it difficult to make the critical connections between their own lives and past historical contexts, such as the events of Civil Rights Era. With the recent chain of events in the world – from Ferguson to Rio – the Sankofa Museum on Wheels is an opportune experience to expand students' learning by facilitating connections to their own lives and helping students contextualize problem-solving and critical thinking. The Museum showcases original artwork that offers the visual contextualization to help bridge "understandings" between the current events of millennials as compared to past history. Some of the following curricular topics are applicable to the Sankofa experience:

- Origins of **Black Lives Matter** movement and the Civil Rights Era
- Depictions of Inferiority
- Inclusion and Exclusion: Past and Present Ideologies, Traits, and Origins
- Brutality: Past and Present "Lynchings"
- Accounts of Effective Protests: Past and Present Civil Disobedience
- Transposing Writing: The New Day Blog  
(Contextual Example: framed article of current day blog of King's ***Letter From Birmingham Jail***)
- Media: The New Underground  
(Contextual Example: the Underground television series and the historical Underground Railroad)
- The "Art" of Leadership (i. e. Framed artwork of leaders)

## Professional Profile

Angela W. Jennings is an Exhibitor of African American History and Cultural Ambassador of Goodwill. She is a resident of Denmark, South Carolina and her exhibit has been recognized throughout the State.

Angela is dedicated to the cultural enrichment and enlightenment of young people. She is active with S.H.A.R.P. (Sisters Honoring African Rites of passage), Imani Sisters, Black Memorabilia Collectors Association, The National Black Memorabilia Collectors, E.S.P.E.R. (Ebony Society of Philatelic Events and Reflections).

The Exhibitor's travels include West Africa, the US Virgin Islands and Europe.

## Education

Bachelor of Arts degree, Voorhees College, Denmark, South Carolina

## Presentations

University of South Carolina at Spartanburg  
University of South Carolina at Aiken  
University of South Carolina at Salkehatchie, Walterboro  
University of South Carolina at Salkehatchie, Allendale  
University of South Carolina at Columbia  
South Carolina State University  
Clemson University  
Winthrop University  
Furman University  
Georgia Southern University  
North Carolina University at Charlotte, NC  
Savannah State University  
Coastal Carolina University  
Francis Marion University  
Citadel Military College of South Carolina  
Claflin University  
College of Charleston  
Converse College  
Morris College  
Lander University  
Erskine College  
Benedict College Upward Bound Program  
University of South Carolina at Lancaster  
University of South Carolina at Sumter  
Orangeburg Technical College  
Central Carolina Technical College  
Denmark Technical College  
Ogeechee Technical Institute  
Midlands Technical College  
Paine College  
Oakwood College  
High Point University  
Fort Valley State University

### Presentations

Waycross College  
Guilford College  
Clark Atlanta  
Livingston College  
Xavier University  
Valdosta State University  
Southern Polytechnic State University  
North Carolina State University  
Lenoir Rhyne College  
Kennesaw State University  
Kentucky State University  
Catawba College  
U.N.C. Pembroke  
Sandhill Community College  
UN.C. Charlotte  
Robeson Community College  
Georgia Southern University  
Auburn University  
Savannah Technical College  
Francis Marion University  
Queens College  
Wingate College  
Morehouse College  
Alabama State University  
Isothermal Community College  
Darton College  
Cleveland Community College  
Troy State University  
Roanoke-Chowan Community College  
Gaston College  
Rowan-Cabarrus Community College  
Bennett College  
Albany State University  
Richmond Community College  
Aiken Technical College  
Horry-Georgetown Technical College  
Spartanburg Technical College

Florida Southern College  
Spelman College  
Florida Gulf Coast  
North Carolina Central University  
Life University  
Miles College  
Clark Atlanta University  
Queens University  
University of Alabama  
Alabama State University  
Armstrong State University  
Georgia Gwinnett College  
Guilford College  
University of Mississippi  
East Tennessee State University  
Athens State University  
Quinnipiac University  
Delaware State University  
College of Charleston  
University of Illinois  
Stetson University  
The Ohio State University  
Mississippi State University  
Mississippi Valley State University  
Delta State University  
Kellogg Community College  
Emory Riddle Aeronautics University  
Voorhees College  
North Greenville University  
Tennessee Tech University  
Shaw University  
Seminole State University  
University of North Florida  
Le Moyne-Owen College  
Wofford College  
University of Tennessee  
University of Tennessee at Chattanooga