

CLEMMONS FAMILY FARM



What We Do

Farm. Art. Heritage.

Donate



OUR THREE-PART

MISSION:



- (1) **PRESERVE** the 148-acre historic Clemmons family farm in Vermont as a critical educational prototype, and a model for preserving other African-American owned agricultural land, cultural and heritage assets in the U.S. The farm is one of the 0.4% of farms in the US that remain African-American owned: land is EQUITY;
- (2) **EMPOWER** a growing network of Vermont's Black artists and culture bearers with opportunities for professional development, advocacy, visibility, networking, paid engagements, collective healing, and a safe haven for creativity that helps them to thrive;
- (3) **BUILD** a loving multicultural community around African-American/African diaspora history, arts and culture.

Our work to preserve the 148-acre Clemmons farm is closely tied to our work to empower a growing network of Vermont artists who self-identify as Black, African-American, of the African diaspora, or of African descent. The physical farm provides a strong platform for Black arts, culture and farming in Vermont. It is a vibrant demonstration of the importance of investing in and retaining Black-owned assets-- land, businesses, cultural heritage, education and human resources-- as tangible ways to advance racial equity in Vermont. We provide opportunities for artists to have paid creative work, professional development, networking, and a tangible platform to showcase their work. We actively advocate for opportunities to

help Black artists and culture bearers THRIVE in Vermont. We also actively discourage the [tokenism](#) of Black talent and Black bodies for purposes that ultimately serve the continuation of racial inequities and structural racism in the creative economy, the agriculture sector and the nonprofit sector.

We bring people together across differences of race, culture, national origin, language and religion. We then work to transform these differences into opportunities for people to **learn, celebrate and commune** in a unique setting that is welcoming, inspiring and deeply meaningful: one of the handful of African-American owned historic farms in the state of Vermont. We help people to relax, have fun, and enjoy multicultural experiences with art, history and place at the center of their engagements with the farm and with each other.

Our mission is to be **“more than a farm”** by offering curated opportunities for visitors to enjoy discovering the fascinating history, culture, arts and sciences of the African-American and African diaspora in what is often described as a "magical" setting with views of the Adirondacks, wide-open meadows and lovely historic buildings. Many of our programs are designed to give people a chance to create art together, to learn about each other and to enjoy each other's company. We use African-American heritage as the central theme around which people- - all people-- can unite. We encourage multicultural small group interactions where quality human-to-human connections and positive relationships begin on the Farm and continue off the Farm, spreading out into our expanded community.

We promote the celebration of heritage as a continuum in which we **learn from our past, shape our present, and invest in our future**. The Clemmons Family Farm is one of the official 22 landmark cultural and historic sites on [Vermont's African-American Heritage Trail](#). We are one of the 2% of organizations who won the prestigious 2017 [National Creative Placemaking Fund grants from ArtPlace America](#).

Most of our arts and culture programs are led by our collaborating artists and are tailored for events for 50 people or less. These include:

- [K-12 field trips and on-farm arts engagements;](#)
- cooking classes and pop-up meals;
- [music, dance and theater programs for children;](#)
- [art exhibits and cultural events;](#)
- [book talks and literary arts events;](#)
- [holistic health and healing events;](#)
- multicultural community gatherings and community service activities;
- outreach to local primary schools;
- and sharing our family stories and storytelling that trace more than 150 years of African-American history.

LISTEN TO OUR STORYTELLING

We also provide [guided tours of the property and historic buildings](#), and beautiful indoor and outdoor venues to rent for meetings, retreats and special events in a working landscape.





Click on the button below to enjoy our multi-media 2018 program highlights report!

2018 HIGHLIGHTS REPORT