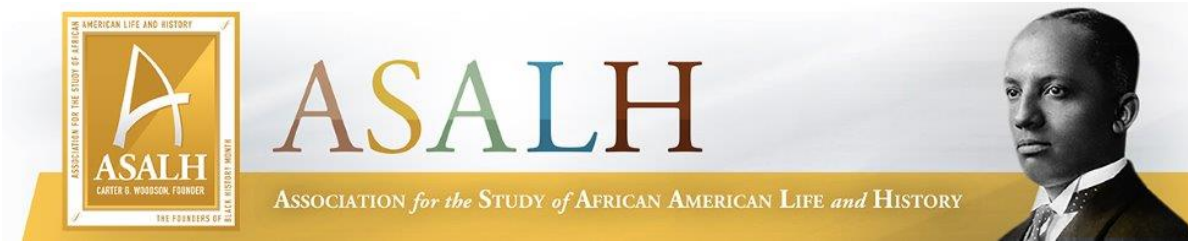
September 24, 2018

Contacts: Roy Betts
roybtts2@comcast.net
202.256.4174

Karyn Williams
karyn.williams@duke-energy.com
317.513.8131



Exploring the Role of African Americans in Times of War

103rd Annual Meeting and Conference Hosted By the Founders of Black History Month Coming to Indianapolis, Oct. 3-7

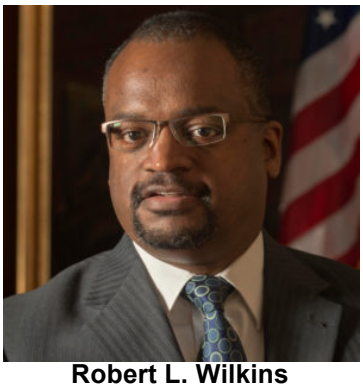
What: Thousands of educators, historians, scholars and students will arrive in Indianapolis for the 103rd meeting and conference of The Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH), the founders of Black History Month. This year's theme is "African Americans in Times of War." Commemorating the end of the First World War in 1918, the conference will explore the paradoxes of war and the Black liberation struggle for freedom and equality abroad and at home in America. Brig. Gen. Wayne Black of the Indiana National Guard will serve as honorary conference chair.

Plenary sessions will explore the experiences of Black soldiers, veterans and civilians in wartime, an African-American Heritage Bus Tour, a film festival, luncheons and a banquet featuring historic oral interviews with former Black military members will highlight the conference.

Who:

Dr. Evelyn Brooks Higginbotham, ASALH National President and Harvard University Professor of African and African American Studies

Brig. Gen. Wayne Black
Honorary Conference Chair, 2018 ASALH Annual Meeting and Conference
Assistant Adjutant General of the Army, Indiana National Guard



Robert L. Wilkins
U.S. Circuit Judge

Dr. Heather Ann Thompson
University Michigan Historian
and Pulitzer Prize and Bancroft Prize-Winning Author

Ibram X. Kendi
Award-Winning Historian and New York Times Best-Selling Author

Rev. Marilyn Gill
Executive Director
Indiana Christian Leadership Conference

Francille Rusan Wilson
National Director
Association of Black Women Historians

Erica Armstrong Dunbar
Charles and Mary Beard Professor of History
Rutgers University

Julieanna Richardson
Founding Director
The HistoryMakers

Cordelia Lewis-Burks
Vice Chair
Indiana Democratic Party

Nichelle M. Hayes
Center for Black Literature & Culture
Indianapolis Public Library

Joe Tillmon
President
Buffalo Soldiers Historical Society

David Williams

Statehouse Bureau Chief
WISH-TV

Sampson Levingston
Manager, Marketing and Social Media
White River State Park
Founder, Through2Eyes.com

Where: Indianapolis Marriott Downtown
350 West Maryland Street
Indianapolis, IN

When: Oct. 3-7, 2018

Background: Established on September 9, 1915 by Dr. Carter G. Woodson, we are the Founders of Black History Month and carry forth the work of our founder, the Father of Black History. We continue his legacy of speaking a fundamental truth to the world that Africans and peoples of African descent are makers of history and co-workers in what W. E. B. Du Bois called, "The Kingdom of Culture." ASALH's mission is to create and disseminate knowledge about Black History, to be, in short, the nexus between the Ivory Tower and the global public. We labor in the service of Blacks and all humanity.

To learn more about the conference, visit asalh.org/conference.