



## Muscoogie Creek Indian Freedmen Band

June 30, 2024

For Immediate Release:

The Muscoogie Creek Indian Freedmen Band and the Oklahoma Indian Territory Museum of Black Creek Freedmen History are excited to present "Unsung Heroes of the Civil War: Freedmen of Indian Territory."

Explore the remarkable story of the African Creek (Freedmen) and other courageous individuals who fought alongside the Muscoogie Creek people during the Civil War. Witness their selfless sacrifice and remarkable courage as they fled Indian Territory and joined forces with the Upper Creek Indians under the leadership of Muscoogie Creek Chief Opothleyahola.

Experience their inspiring journey through three intense battles against the Confederates as they made their way to Kansas, a journey that became known as The Trail of Blood on Ice. These pivotal battles occurred in Indian Territory during the American Civil War, from November 19, 1861, to December 26, 1861.

During the Civil War, brave men of African descent joined the 1st Indian Home Guard Kansas and the 1st and 2nd Kansas Colored Infantry, which later became the 79th and 83rd Colored Troops. The exhibit will showcase a fascinating collection of replica weapons, historical display boards providing insights into the historical context and the soldiers' stories, a realistic depiction of a Union soldier, replicas of utensils, various artifacts from the Civil War era, and fantastic artwork completed to help enhance the story.

Additionally, the exhibit will feature a replica of the 1st Kansas Colored Infantry battle flag, honoring the courage and sacrifice of these extraordinary soldiers. They fought battles in Indian Territory, Missouri, Arkansas, and beyond.

Prepare to be captivated by our impressive lineup of guest presenters. Mr. Wallace C. Moore will share the powerful perspective of an enslaved person of African descent. We are honored to have Attorney Calvin Osborne, a Civil War reenactor from Washington D.C. and a descendant of Creek Freedmen, who will provide deep insights into the history of the Freedmen of Indian Territory and share stories of their service in these regiments.

Lastly, Ms. Be'eri Ahil will transport us back in time as she brings to life the experiences of Ms. Lucinda Davis, an eyewitness to the battle of Honey Spring, dressed in period-appropriate attire.

This event is open to anyone interested in gaining a deeper understanding of the history and the courageous but often overlooked heroes of the Civil War: Freedmen of Indian Territory.

This significant event has been made possible by a generous grant from the Oklahoma Heritage Preservation Grants, provided by the Oklahoma Historical Society.

Save this information:

Date: July 27, 2024

Time: 3:00 pm

Location: 8625 S. Walker Ave, Oklahoma City, 73139

Admission: Free

Presented by the Muscoogie Creek Indian Freedmen Band and the Oklahoma Indian Territory Museum of Black Creek Freedmen History.

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