

Goodwood

MUSEUM & GARDENS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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GOODWOOD ANNOUNCES A RECEPTION TO CELEBRATE THE WINNERS AND PARTICIPANTS FOR *THE MEMORIAL TO THE ENSLAVED AT GOODWOOD DESIGN COMPETITION*

Tallahassee, FL (March 30, 2022) – Please join Goodwood Museum & Gardens for a public reception honoring the participants of The Memorial to the Enslaved at Goodwood design competition. Applicants, jurors, and committee members will be celebrated for their contribution towards the progression of the project thus far. The event will be held on March 30th from 5:30-6:30 p.m. in the Main House.

On March 30th, Goodwood Museum & Gardens will have a reception honoring the participants of *The Memorial to the Enslaved at Goodwood* design competition. The memorial will serve as a lasting tribute to those individuals, named and unnamed, who lived and toiled in bondage here and to their descendants. The project will create a sacred and contemplative place that brings together descendants, the community, and partners to educate, remember, and honor cultures and traditions, promote healing in the present and serve as inspiration for equality and social justice in the future.

After a year of preparation, Goodwood announced a design competition to create a memorial in honor of all people enslaved on the property from approximately 1832 until 1865. The memorial competition received eleven submissions from architectural designers and artists from Florida and New York. Five jurors evaluated the design concepts and project statements based on their originality, artistry, adherence to the mission, presentation, and creativity. The local jurors were Autumn Calder (Director, Blueprint Intergovernmental Agency), Dr. Marilyn Proctor-Givens (Fine Arts Educator, Lincoln High School), Kenneth Reshard (Tallahassee Artist), Joe Roache (Retired Associate Director for Instructional Technology, FAMU), and LaVerne Wells-Bowie (Retired Professor of Architecture, FAMU). These professionals and artists of Leon County evaluated the designs and made sure they would be compatible with the space, as well as recognize and memorialize the enslaved people who toiled on the former plantation.

The winning concept was submitted by Sarah Rifqi, Hannah Smith, and Alana Houston, and is entitled “A Bridge to the Stars”. The collaborative team effort and submission by these three FSU students studying Interior Architecture and Design are designed to be appreciated during daylight and at night. “We are so excited to have our work chosen to be a part of Goodwood’s history” stated the winners. “The idea for the memorial is extremely necessary considering the role of slavery in the creation of Goodwood and Tallahassee. We are so grateful that we got to contribute to such an important project and feel empowered to have won as an all-women group. The knowledge we gained from completing this design competition has helped build our confidence and skills in designing for memorials. We hope this memorial will serve as a starting point for important conversations.”

The memorial will list the names of known enslaved persons and will be a site for sober contemplation and remembrance. It will also be a site for meetings, teaching, community engagement, and healing. Goodwood has begun discussions with local artists and fabricators to bring the winning design to life and begin raising the necessary funds. The applicants, members of the Board, memorial committee, jurors, and supporters of *The Memorial to The Enslaved at Goodwood* project will be acknowledged and celebrated at the public reception hosted in the Main House on March 30th from 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. The design concepts will be on display in the Main Hall and will be moving to the Museum Room.

About Goodwood Museum & Gardens

Goodwood Museum & Gardens has served as a landmark in the Tallahassee community for more than 185 years. Though the Main House and several outbuildings were built in the 1830s, today the property serves the community as a historical house museum, public buildings, and grounds since 1990. More than 20 acres and 18 historic structures remain from the original estate. Today, Goodwood’s hospitality and Old Florida charm continues. This is reflected in our mission: Goodwood Museum & Gardens connects our community as a setting where we preserve and share our history, enjoy the arts, and celebrate significant events in our lives.

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