The Museum of Education within the College of Education at the University of South Carolina serves as a “public square”—a venue for open discussion and the examination of educational issues. This “pedagogical space” offers an opportunity to creatively complicate how research is disseminated and presented. Opened to the public in 1977, the museum’s programs are oriented toward educators, students of various ages, and the general public. Paramount to all of the museum’s programs, exhibitions, and initiatives are the ideals of social justice, integrity, intellectual spirit, and creativity. When patrons walk through the doors, the Museum invites them to engage with important people, events, and ideas, and to consider how this information could make life better for their communities, for their students, and for themselves.

Photo: Visitors learning about the history of student activism in South Carolina schools
Our theme for the calendar year 2019 was “Exploring Activism.” In the Spring of 2019, we curated the exhibit, “Remember: 1968,” which chronicled college student activism across the globe. From Columbia University to Howard University, from the University of Paris to the Olympic Games in Mexico City, college students stood up, acted, and changed the world. We hosted renowned activist, Joan Trumpauer Mulholland (lunch counter demonstrator and freedom rider) as our guest scholar. Finally, in the summer we co-sponsored a Summer Institute for SC School Teachers that focused on African American Freedom Movements in South Carolina. This institute was collaboratively planned with our colleagues in the Center for the Education and Equity of African American Students and was funded by the South Carolina Department of Education. Fall 2019, we continued exploring activism with our Fall Faculty Guest Curator, Dr. Jon Hale. Each year, the Museum’s Advisory Board reviews proposals and selects the upcoming Faculty Guest Curator through a competitive process. We had several exciting proposals submitted by university faculty, and Dr. Jon Hale, Associate Professor of Educational Studies was selected. Dr. Hale worked with us to curate an exhibit based on his important research exploring youth activism in South Carolina during the Civil Rights Movement. The exhibit, “A New Kind of Youth: Student Activism in South Carolina & the Civil Rights Movement” examines activism among high school and middle school students as well as the role of local secondary schools in the movement. It opened September 2019 and is on display through January 2020. In the Spring 2020 semester, we will shift gears and explore the issue of Violence in Education. Parts of this exhibition will continue the examination of activism and freedom seeking by exploring the violent response to activist movements. Additionally, it will look beyond activism to other manifestations of violence in education including gun violence, policing, sexual assault, hate crimes, and cultural oppression. We are in the midst of an exciting academic year that will be filled with thought-provoking exhibitions, engaging public programs, and powerful partnerships. We look forward to seeing you at one or all of our free public offerings!
EXHIBITIONS & PROGRAMS
2019-2020

COLLABORATIVE EDUCATION INITIATIVES
SUMMER 2019

Project CHAANGE
SC African American Studies Institute for P-12 Educators.
June 10-14 2019

Project CHAANGE (Counternarratives for the History of African Americans Needing and Getting Emancipated) was a multiple day professional development experience for P-12 teachers. Under the context of exploring African American national and global activism, institute instructors and guest lecturers guided teachers in developing critical inquiry instructional plans that teach about freedom movements in the 20th and 21st centuries. The institute included field experiences, campus lectures, and interactive workshops. Two major goals drove the institute’s curriculum: (1) To increase 5th, 7th, and 8th grade teachers content knowledge and preparation in teaching about African American Freedom movements. (2) To provide knowledge and experiences on selected historic sites in the upstate, midlands, and low-country regions of South Carolina.

Coordinators:
Gloria Boutte, PhD Carolina Distinguished Professor and Executive Director, Center for the Education and Equity of African American Students and Toby Jenkins, PhD Director, Museum of Education
SPRING 2020
Fearless: Septima Clark Youth Exhibition as Social Advocacy Program

As part of its community outreach efforts, the Museum of Education sponsors Fearless: The Septima Clark Youth Exhibition As Social Advocacy Program. The program seeks to engage African American girls in a meaningful museum studies experience. Under the context of exploring “exhibition as a venue for social change,” the girls will conduct research to explore the histories of African American women across various topics such as southern history, community leadership, and activism in the south. To connect the student participants to a larger, global body of girls who are also leading for social change, the groups will participate in the International Day of the Girl. In October, the girls travel to the Day of the Girl Speak Out at the United Nations in New York City. The Girl Speak Out convenes a select group of girls, girl advocates, and girl allies from across the globe at the United Nations each year. Girls engage in a half-day event examining and speaking out about important issues affecting girls around the world. In addition to speeches given by girl representatives, girl artists also interpret stories and experiences of girls from around the globe into a spoken word theatrical performance. Each year, the UN puts out an international call for girls to submit their life stories to be included in the speak out performance. Thousands of submissions are received and a select few stories are chosen to be featured. The Museum of Education is working with the leaders of the Speak Out to establish an intentional effort to more fully include the voices of historically marginalized southern girls. The Director of the Girl Speak Out, Crystal Leigh Endsley, PhD, travels to South Carolina to personally facilitate a Day of the Girl Spoken Word Retreat with our group. The poetry and stories produced at the retreat are then be taken back to New York and incorporated into the theatrical performances to ensure that the voices and experiences of Black southern girls are included at the national event. The group travels to New York City October 9-12th to represent South Carolina at the global event. In the spring, the girls participate in a 3-day Spring Break Institute, where they work on curating a small exhibition (focused on the experience of girls). This exhibit will be added to the existing larger museum exhibition on display. For the spring 2020 spring break institute the girls will focus on Violence Against Girls. The Septima Clark Program is a partnership with Meadow Glenn Middle School in Lexington and Every Black Girl, Inc. in Columbia.
FALL 2019  September 2019-January 2020

Faculty Guest Curator Program

The Guest Curator Program offers an opportunity for faculty members to experiment outside of traditional boundaries to share and disseminate their scholarship. The program contributes to the College of Education’s stated desire to become a leader in educational innovation and transformation. Achieving this goal involves challenging traditional ideas about where and how academic scholarship can be presented. The guest curator program offers faculty members (and their students) an opportunity to collaborate, create, experiment, and share knowledge within the walls of the museum. The faculty guest curator receives a small stipend to assist with exhibit planning. The 2019 Faculty Guest Curator is Dr. Jon Hale, Associate Professor of Educational Studies. The exhibit, “A New Kind of Youth” highlights student activism among SC youth and the dynamic pedagogical and intellectual environment that supported it - including a robust network of teachers, high schools, and the NAACP. The exhibit embraces a local perspective to look at how institutions like Booker T. Washington High School and a network of activists including the NAACP Youth Councils politicized youth and encouraged them to join the frontlines of the freedom struggle. It also considers how USC has impacted the status of education today and begs us to consider how we can carry forth the struggle.

SPRING 2020  February -June 2020

Violence in Education

The issues and challenges within schools and on college campuses often reflect the broader social challenges of the time. Violence has existed and persisted through all societies. It is a constant reality in both historic and contemporary US Society. While we often seek to shield our children from physical and psychological violence, students live in a world and they are impacted by worldly experiences. Education must become a space for students to wrestle with these experiences. Further, the school and university environments where students spend their educational lives have been the very sites of incredible acts of exclusion, oppression, and assault. Students have been both victims and perpetuators. Local residents have been both heroes and instigators. Facing this reality is an important step in transforming school environments. Parts of this exhibition will continue the museum’s examination of activism and freedom seeking by exploring the violent response to activist movements. Additionally, it will look beyond activism to other manifestations of violence in education including gun violence, policing, sexual assault, hate crimes, and cultural oppression.

Exhibit Collaborative Partners: UofSC Office of Fraternity & Sorority Life and the College of New Jersey
JASON REYNOLDS,
NY Times Bestselling Author

Award winning author and National Library of Congress Literary Ambassador Jason Reynolds will serve as the Museum of Education’s National Visiting Scholar in February 2020. Reynolds short campus residency will coincide with the spring exhibition focused on violence in education. As an internationally acclaimed author, Reynolds has been invited to campus to promote discussions and research inquiry on youth & society, centering his discussions on the themes and topics of several of his books including “Long Way Down,” “All American Boys,” and “The Boy in the Black Suit.” He will participate in a variety of intellectual activities and interact with several audiences including local youth, USC undergraduate students, USC graduate students and faculty/staff; and local professional educators.

ABOUT JASON

Recently named the Library of Congress’ 2020-2021 National Ambassador for Young People’s Literature, Jason Reynolds is a New York Times bestselling author. He has multiple literary honors including a Newbery Award Honoree, a Printz Award Honoree, National Book Award Honoree, a Kirkus Award winner, a two-time Walter Dean Myers Award winner, an NAACP Image Award Winner, and the recipient of multiple Coretta Scott King honors. The American Booksellers Association’s 2017 spokesperson for Indies First, his many books include When I Was the Greatest, Boy in the Black Suit, All American Boys (cowritten with Brendan Kiely), As Brave as You, For Every One, the Track Series (Ghost, Patina, Sunny, and Lu), and Long Way Down, which received both a Newbery Honor and a Printz Honor. A theatrical interpretation of his book, Long Way Down was recently debuted at the Kennedy Center of the Arts in Washington DC. Long Way Down has also been optioned as a movie by Universal Pictures and will be produced by John Legend and Michael De Luca. In May 2018, Reynolds was awarded an honorary doctorate by Lesley University.

Co-sponsored by the Dean of the College of Education, Office of Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion in the College of Education, SC Middle Grades Initiative, The Carolina International House at Maxcy College, the African & African American Studies Program, the Department of English, the Center for the Education & Equity of African American Students, and Richland County Public Library.
REYNOLDS’ RESIDENCY

CAMPUS & PUBLIC APPEARANCES

CAMPUS LECTURE
February 20, 2020 6:00pm Booker T Washington Auditorium
Reynolds will give a major lecture on the USC Columbia campus for students, faculty, staff and general public. The lecture will focus on Reynolds’ journey from being a kid who never read a book until age 16 to becoming a bestselling author. Also during his visit, Reynolds will engage in critical conversations on his highly anticipated forthcoming book, *Stamped: Racism, Antiracism, and You: A Remix of the National Book Award-winning Stamped from the Beginning*. From the book’s website: The construct of race has always been used to gain and keep power, to create dynamics that separate and silence. This remarkable reimagining of Dr. Ibram X. Kendi’s National Book Award-winning Stamped from the Beginning reveals the history of racist ideas in America, and inspires hope for an antiracist future. It takes you on a race journey from then to now, shows you why we feel how we feel, and why the poison of racism lingers. It also proves that while racist ideas have always been easy to fabricate and distribute, they can also be discredited. Through a gripping, fast-paced, and energizing narrative written by beloved award-winner Jason Reynolds, this book shines a light on the many insidious forms of racist ideas—and on ways readers can identify and stamp out racist thoughts in their daily lives.

PUBLIC LECTURE
February 21, 2020 10:00am
Richland Library Sandhills/R2 Conference Center
Open to local schools and the public. Schools must register to bring a group of students. Contact Toby S. Jenkins at jenki279@mailbox.sc.edu
Visit the Richland Library website for more information

CREATIVE WRITING RETREAT
Saturday, February 22, 2020
Creative partners in crime, Jason Reynolds and Anthony Keith, PhD will co-lead a creative writing retreat. The retreat’s purpose is to help groom future fiction and/or creative writers (novelists, poets, etc.) by cultivating their skills, developing an intellectual peer community of writers, and helping future writers to better understanding the craft as a profession.

The retreat is co-sponsored by the Department of English and the African & African American Studies Program. Participants will be teens in the Columbia Chapter of Jack & Jill of America and UofSC college students.

COE EDUCATIONAL INQUIRY ROUNDTABLE:
ADDRESSING RACE IN PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE
Friday, February 21, 2020
Reynolds will serve as a guest discussant in an educational inquiry roundtable focused on youth literacy and middle level education. The roundtable will engage middle level and secondary education faculty, students and local educators in a critical discussion about tackling difficult social topics within young adult and middle grade literature. It will also focus on the need for educators to not only grow their ability to teach about tough issues like race, but to also wrestle with the topic in their professional and personal lives, in their subconscious and in their educational practice.
PERMANENT EXHIBITIONS

Travelstead Room of Educational Courage

The Travelstead Room honors the memory of Chester C. Travelstead (1911-2006), Dean of the College of Education from 1952-1955, who with great courage stood up and spoke for the rights of others and furthered the struggle for racial integration and social justice in South Carolina. The Travelstead Room is conceived as a site of conscience and, as defined by Sebastian Brett and others, “draws upon the power of memorialization by conceiving space as a forum for citizen engagement. Public memorials don’t seek to just honor; they generate conversations to consider lessons from the past and for the present and future.” The Travelstead Room was dedicated in 2006 as a way to honor South Carolina educators and to bring the Travelstead story to a larger public sphere.

The following exhibits are permanently installed in the Travelstead Room:
Desegregation of the University of South Carolina, Study of Progressive Schools, The Legacy of Lester C. Travelstead, SC Historic Educators, Presidential Letters

Image: Chester C. Travelstead

MUSEUM LOCATION:

125 Wardlaw, College of Education
820 Main St
Columbia, South Carolina 29208

Visiting the Museum: The Museum of Education is free and open to the public. The museum is open (unstaffed) in conjunction with the normal operating hours of Wardlaw (8:00am-8:00pm M-F). It is closed on the weekend.

Contact information:
Toby S. Jenkins, PhD
Jenki279@mailbox.sc.edu