



**JOHN GILMORE RILEY**  
CENTER/MUSEUM OF AFRICAN  
AMERICAN HISTORY AND CULTURE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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***Enjoy Free Admission at the John G. Riley Center/Museum during debut of their newest exhibit: “African American Espionage during the Civil War” featuring Harriet Tubman’s authentic weaponry***

**TALLAHASSEE** – The John G. Riley Museum will be one of the featured museums on May 16th, 2015, and all tours will be free on this day. Come out and show your friends and family what Tallahassee has to offer! A summertime tradition, Tallahassee attractions join Visit Tallahassee in this award-winning program that focuses on the importance of local attractions, entertainment and fun. Residents assume the role of T.O.U.R. (Tourism is Our Ultimate Resource) Guides and show visitors around Tallahassee while learning more about the importance of tourism to the local economy.

Those looking for a little something different to do next Saturday, May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2015 are sure to enjoy the **free T.O.U.R. Guide Day**. Hosted in partnership with Visit Tallahassee, this event offers patrons **FREE ADMISSION** into the John G. Riley Center/Museum, located at 419 East Jefferson Street, from **10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.** and features free food, door prizes and a live remote broadcast with 96.1 Jamz! Besides brewing up some of the best coffee in town, the Riley Museum’s T.O.U.R. Guide Day will highlight the newest exhibit. Visitors will get a glimpse into the world of the African American spy network and the ways in which covert information was used to secure the Union Army victory. Kids of all ages will enjoy decoding top-secret messages and putting their problem-solving skills on display during a Mission Possible: Scavenger Hunt!

The T.O.U.R. Guide Day also serves as the "kick-off" for the museum’s week-long Festival of Freedom which commemorates the May 20, 1865 reading of the Emancipation Proclamation in Florida, issued by President Lincoln, to end the enslavement of people of African descent throughout the United States. The five-day celebration will culminate on Wednesday, May 20, with the U.S. Colored Troops Reenactment Unit's fifth Annual Emancipation and Abolitionist Ball at 7:00 p.m. at the Augustus Turnbull Conference Center. Tickets are \$50/per person couples) and currently available for purchase at the John G. Riley Center/Museum.

The Riley Museum hours are Monday through Thursday, 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. and Fridays thru Saturday 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. For more information on the upcoming events or to schedule a group tour, please contact the Riley Museum at (850) 681-7881 or log onto [www.RileyMuseum.org](http://www.RileyMuseum.org).

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