



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

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 4, 2019

“John G. Riley Center/Museum will Honor the Proctors, a Prominent Tallahassee African American Family, at its Annual Applause for the Pioneers Gala”

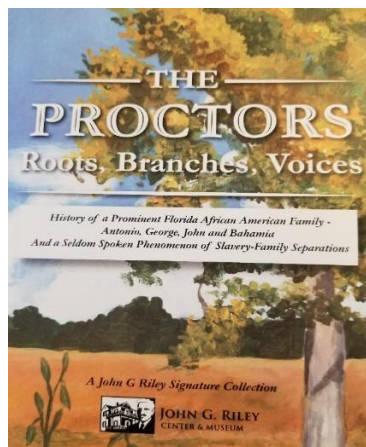
TALLAHASSEE (February 4, 2019) – The John Gilmore Riley Center/Museum will host its **15th annual Applause for the Pioneers: Cuff Links and Pearls Gala** on **Thursday, February 28, 2019**, from 6:30 PM to 10:30 PM at the Goodwood Museum and Gardens (1600 Miccosukee Road, Tallahassee, FL 32308). The annual gala pays homage, posthumously, to individuals that served as trailblazers in Tallahassee. The Washington Sisters from Gainesville, Florida, through a Negro Spiritual Musical Trail, joined by local musician Fred Lee Jr., will reflect on the lives of the Proctors from Free to Enslaved and again Free after the Civil War. The life of **Antonio**-the Slave, receiver of a 185 Land Grant and Free man; **George**-Free man, Builder and Frontier Entrepreneur; **John** -Slave, Educator and Politician and **Bahamia**-Slave and Substantial Independent Farmer will be told through verse and music. The evening of entertainment, a scrupulous meal and history shared will be the grand finale to the observance of Black History Month across Tallahassee.

Also special for the evening will be the release of a publication documenting the Proctor years of accomplishments and achievements from Frontier Florida, Slavery through Reconstruction. The names of the honorees will be permanently enshrined on the Applause for the Pioneers Gala Scroll in the Riley Museum Visitors Center.

The Gala provides support for the Riley Internship Program that has matriculated 86 interns from undergraduate to graduate degree programs, with many completing Advanced Degrees. Your support of this event helps to keep the doors of the Riley House open to provide these opportunities, cultivating emerging young professionals for the future.

Table sponsorship and individual ticket purchases are: Full table (of 8) \$1,000, Half table (of 4) \$500, and individual tickets \$100.00. All donations are payable to the Riley Center/Museum via cash, check or PayPal.

For more information about the Riley Museum Gala or to purchase tickets visit www.rileymuseum.org or contact the Riley Museum by phone at 850-681-7881 or email at info@rileymuseum.org.



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