



In Harmony Newsletter



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[Assistant Director's Update](#)

Diane Sanders, Assistant Director of Historic New Harmony

It's my favorite time of year when we welcome visitors back to the Atheneum and begin our new tour season. Unlike the critters and creatures who spent the winter hibernating, the staff at Historic New Harmony and the New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art were busy creating new experiences and exhibitions for visitors to experience this spring. We will be unveiling many of these new offerings in this issue of *In Harmony* but stay tuned to future editions of this newsletter and our social media channels for more announcements throughout the season!

If you have had the opportunity to visit the Atheneum Visitors Center since March 1, you may have noticed that we premiered a new introductory film. Produced by Blackstrap Media, the 11-minute film provides a brief overview of New Harmony's history and culture and features New Harmony residents and business owners, Historic New Harmony staff and University of Southern Indiana faculty. I'm delighted by the filmmakers' skill in capturing the essence of the town and showcasing our corner of the world so beautifully. I hope you'll check it out.

Donate



Historic New Harmony's tours started on March 15 at the Atheneum Visitors Center, and we're thrilled to be offering a brand-new option for visitors this season. The New Harmony Tram Tour is a family-friendly tour that will take you on a 45-minute exploration of the town aboard our tram. Interpreters will offer their local insights, telling stories and showing you the "can't miss" spots and iconic sites that contribute to a great New Harmony experience. We're planning to offer this tour at 10 a.m. Tuesday-Saturday. For the month of March, we'll be offering the tour for free in exchange for your feedback and suggestions!

In addition to changes at the Atheneum Visitors Center, we've been working on new program offerings too. We started a new program series, Talking History, for visitors and residents to gather to "talk history" around a shared New Harmony theme. These programs also allow Heidi Taylor-Caudill, our Collections and Community Engagement Manager, to showcase our collections and connect community members. Our first program was well attended, and we're looking forward to the next program at 10 a.m. on March 21 at the New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art.

It's an exciting time to be at New Harmony and we hope that you'll take the time to experience it with us anew. Please let us know what you think about the new offerings, as we'll continue experimenting, innovating, and improving to find the right harmony between the elements, so that we can create an exceptional experience here in Utopia for you and your family.

[New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art Update](#)

Welcome, Audra Lambert

Audra Verona Lambert, Curator at the New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art



Audra is a curator and art historian with over a decade of experience organizing 60+ exhibitions in the United States. She holds an MA, Art History and Visual Culture from Lindenwood University in St. Charles, MO and a BA, Art History and Asian Studies from St. Peter's University in Jersey City, NJ. She has studied abroad on scholarships in the Kansai region of Japan and in Germany's Nordrhein-Westfalen region. Lambert has managed exhibitions for the Yeshiva University Museum, Art in Odd Places festival, New York City Department of Parks and Recreation, More Art, White Roof Project and more. She is co-founder of the site-specific art festival, alt_break art fair, and has been invited as a guest curator/lecturer at Columbia University, New York University, Fashion Institute

of Technology, Rhode Island School of Design and more. She and her spaniel mix, Patrick, live in Evansville. IN.

Learn more about Audra's curatorial ethos in this recent feature in Shoutout North Carolina Magazine.

***Totality*, March 9-April 20, 2024**

T Lance, Senior Gallery Associate, New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art



New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art, University of Southern Indiana is proud to present *Totality*, an exhibition juried by professor and physicist Dr. Kent W. Scheller. On April 8, 2024, New Harmony, Indiana, will be in the path of a total solar eclipse. To commemorate this astronomical event, the gallery sought out artwork related to and/or inspired by the idea of an eclipse.

Totality will be on display Saturday, March 9 through Saturday, April 20. An opening reception was held on March 9 with a presentation by Dr. Scheller on the cultural impact exuded by a solar eclipse. New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art's open hours are Tuesday - Saturdays, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Central Time, located at 506 Main Street, New Harmony, Indiana.

Exhibiting artists include Andy Batt, Ariana Chilvers, Audra Lynn Clayton, Rita H.G. Davis, Vernelle Farrington, Mary Kay Glinis, Brian Hitselberer, Heather Landry, Beata Renata Marczak, Ravyn McHugh, Rob Millard-Mendez, Sarah Moschel Miller, Jakey Mumfie, Dawn Murtaugh, Laura Foster Nicholson, Sheryl Sullivan, and Bill Tortoriello. Juror Dr. Kent W. Scheller, Professor of Physics in the Pott College of Science, Engineering, and Education at the University of Southern Indiana, has been teaching physics for the past 25 years.

New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art at the University of Southern Indiana promotes discourse about and access to contemporary art in the southern Indiana region. New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art is a proud outreach partner of the University of Southern Indiana. This exhibition is made possible in part by the Arts Council of Southwestern Indiana and the Indiana Arts Commission, which receives support from the State of Indiana and the National Endowment for the Arts.

Upcoming Exhibitions

T Lance, Senior Gallery Associate, New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art

Residence VIII | April 27–June 1, 2024

Residence VIII is NHGCA's annual exhibition highlighting the most recent round of artists in-residence at New Harmony Clay Project.

New Harmony Clay Project (NHCP) is an artist residency and educational center located in New Harmony. NHCP fosters an environment that supports the investigation of new ideas and work in the ceramic arts. It was established in 2015 by Lenny Dowhie, an internationally known ceramic sculptor and Professor Emeritus at University of Southern Indiana. NHCP is supported by the Robert Lee Blaffer Foundation, Efroymsen Family Fund, Greater Houston Community Foundation and Lenny and Anne Dowhie Trusts. Its goal is to encourage emerging and professional visual artists and educators in ceramics by giving them quiet space and the time to develop a new body of work. NHCP is located within the Sarah Campbell Blaffer Ceramic Studio in New Harmony, next to the Roofless Church.

Performing Place | June 8-July 20, 2024

Curated by Audra Verona Lambert.

New Harmony Second Saturdays



The New Harmony Second Saturdays event series continues through November. For more information about upcoming programs and events, please visit www.usi.edu/nhsecondsaturdays, or follow us on Instagram @newharmonysecondsaturdays and on Facebook @NHSecondSaturdays. Do you have an event for Second Saturdays that you want publicized? Add your information here.

[Historic New Harmony Updates](#)

Heritage Artisans Days – Call for Volunteers

Heidi Taylor-Caudill, Collections and Community Engagement Manager, Historic New Harmony



**A heritage education program for elementary students
through USI Outreach and Engagement**

Call for Volunteers

New Harmony, Indiana

April 24, 25, and 26, 2024

8:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Partial or full-day shifts available

**Hours can be counted and recorded as volunteer
credits through Volunteer USI**

Register as a volunteer online at

<https://www.usi.edu/hnh/programs/heritage-artisans-days>



**Contact Heidi Taylor-Caudill
hltaylorca@usi.edu
812-682-6133**



Historic New Harmony needs volunteers for this year's Heritage Artisans Days program on Wednesday, April 24, Thursday, April 25 and Friday, April 26 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. This event would not be a success without volunteers helping everything to run smoothly! Thousands of elementary school students attend Heritage Artisan Days over three days to experience what life was like in the 19th century through the eyes of historical interpreters and period artisans.

If you're interested in volunteering with us, go to the Heritage Artisans Days page on the Historic New Harmony website and look for the Volunteer link. It will take you to the registration form, which lists available dates and shifts. Of course, we appreciate any time that you may be available during that week to help!

Please contact Heidi Taylor-Caudill at 812-682-6133 or htaylorca@usi.edu if you have any questions about volunteering.

New Harmony Tram Tour

Heidi Taylor-Caudill, Collections and Community Engagement Manager, Historic New Harmony



We are so happy to share that in addition to our usual New Harmony History Tour, we are introducing a new tram tour of New Harmony. This family-friendly tour takes you on a 45-minute exploration of New Harmony aboard our tram. As you travel around town, an interpreter will offer their local insight, telling stories and showing you the "can't miss" spots and iconic sites that contribute to a great New Harmony experience. This tour

would be perfect for first-time and returning visitors, residents with out-of-town guests, and anyone who just wants to learn more about the community.

We wish to thank the Kent and Laurie Parker Family Foundation for their generous gift to fund the purchase of the tram for Historic New Harmony.

As the New Harmony Tram Tour is a new program, we are still experimenting with the route and stories that we tell. For the month of March, we are offering free tour tickets and asking participants to share their opinions on improvements we could make. For more information, call the Atheneum Visitors Center at 812-682-4474.

Tour Schedule:

New Harmony Tram Tour (45 minutes)

10 a.m., Tuesday-Saturday

New Harmony History Tour (2 hours)

1 p.m., Tuesday-Sunday

[The Harmonist Connection: Economy, Pennsylvania](#)

Heidi Taylor-Caudill, Collections and Community Engagement Manager, Historic New Harmony

The Harmonist Connection
Historic Harmony · Historic New Harmony · Old Economy Village

THE HARMONIST CONNECTION PRESENTS

Economy, Pennsylvania

The Harmony Society relocated to Economy in 1824. As part of the Bicentennial, Old Economy Village curator Sarah Buffington and museum educator David Miller will discuss the move and building of the town. There is more to the story than most know. Join us for the next Harmonist Connection to find out about the tribulations and triumphs of this hard working group during this era. The free virtual program will be on Pennsylvania's Charter Day, Sunday, March 10th at 6:00 p.m. Central/7:00 p.m. Eastern. Register today to save your spot. This online event is free to the public.

March 10, 2024 | 6:00 PM CST/7:00 PM EST
RSVP here to receive a Zoom link:
<https://bit.ly/3uLobea>

The Harmonist Connection is a virtual program sponsored by Historic New Harmony, Historic Harmony, and Old Economy Village.

On Sunday, March 10, Old Economy Village curator Sarah Buffington and museum educator David Miller presented a Harmonist Connection talk on the Harmonists' relocation in 1824-1825 from New Harmony, Indiana, to Economy, Pennsylvania. The event took place over Zoom on the 343rd anniversary of Pennsylvania's charter and during Old Economy Village's bicentennial year.

The Harmonist Connection is a free virtual program sponsored by Historic New Harmony, Historic Harmony, and Old Economy Village. It brings the three sites of the Harmony Society together to discuss what connects us. Past talks have covered the Harmonists and topics of religion and symbolism, redware pottery, cemeteries, town planning, and gardens.

Recordings of all the talks are available to watch on the Harmonist Connection YouTube channel.

Talking History

Heidi Taylor-Caudill, Collections and Community Engagement Manager, Historic New Harmony

Talking History
Theme: Seasons

Thursday, March 21
10:00 a.m.

New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art
New Harmony, Indiana

Talking History is a social gathering of history lovers who meet monthly to share and discuss historical topics of interest related to New Harmony. Each meeting uses objects and other materials to inspire conversation.

Sponsored by
Historic New
Harmony

Swimming in the Wabash River in New Harmony, Indiana (July 18, 1930)
Don Blair Collection, University of Southern Indiana Archives

Visit
us.edu/nhh/programs/talking-history
for more details.

The poster features a blue-to-yellow gradient background. The title 'Talking History' is in a large, bold, black serif font, with 'Theme: Seasons' in a smaller, black serif font below it. The date and time are listed in a black serif font. The location is also in a black serif font. A paragraph of text describes the program. The 'Sponsored by Historic New Harmony' logo is in a black serif font. A black and white photograph shows a group of people in a small boat on a river. Below the photo is a caption. At the bottom left, there is a small logo for Historic New Harmony and a URL.

In February 2024, Historic New Harmony launched a new, free monthly program for local history lovers to gather to share and discuss historical topics of interest related to New Harmony. This program, Talking History, uses objects and other materials to inspire conversation. Though each meeting is guided by a theme, participants are free to go “off script” and take the conversation in different directions. We also encourage participants

to bring objects, photographs, or other materials to share with the group. No reservations are required - just show up to the gathering and bring your memories, thoughts, and questions!

The first Talking History gathering happened at Black Lodge Coffee Roasters in New Harmony, Indiana, on Saturday, February 24. 18 people attended the event. Objects shared included three items from Historic New Harmony's artifact collection and two photograph albums brought by a participant wanting to know more about her family's history in New Harmony. Another participant played a recording of an oral history interview for the group.

The next Talking History gathering will take place on Thursday, March 21 at 10 a.m. at the New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art, 506 Main Street in New Harmony. While there, participants will have the chance to see the NHGCA's current exhibition, Totality, on view now through April 20.

Our theme for March is Seasons. As we head into Spring in New Harmony, reflect on your memories of the seasons here. What is your favorite type of weather? Do you have any stories about storms or flooding here in southwestern Indiana? Did you ever go swimming in the Wabash River?

We hope to see you at the next gathering! For more information about the latest program, visit the Talking History page.

[Read Up on Intentional Communities](#)

Heidi Taylor-Caudill, Collections and Community Engagement Manager, Historic New Harmony



Intentional communities - a movement of people choosing to live in communities based on shared values and co-operative culture - can be found all around the world and throughout history. New Harmony was the site of two intentional communities: the Harmony Society (1814-1824) and the Owen/Maclure community (1825-1827). If you've learned about New Harmony's history and want to delve more deeply into the idea of intentional communities, check out these books available in the Atheneum Museum Store.

Seeing Like a Commons: Eighty Years of Intentional Community Building and Commons Stewardship in Celo, North Carolina

Joshua Lockyer (2023, Rowan & Littlefield)

In *Seeing Like a Commons*, Joshua Lockyer demonstrates how a growing group of people have, over the last eighty years, deliberately built Celo Community, a communal settlement on 1,200 acres of commonly owned land in the Appalachian Mountains of North Carolina. Joshua Lockyer highlights the potential for intentional communities like Celo to raise awareness of global interconnectivity and structural inequalities, enabling people and communities to become better stewards and citizens of both local landscapes and global commons.

Camphill and the Future: Spirituality and Disability in an Evolving Communal Movement

Dan McKanan (2020, University of California Press)

The Camphill movement, one of the world's largest and most enduring networks of intentional communities, deserves both recognition and study. Founded in Scotland at the beginning of the Second World War, Camphill communities still thrive today, encompassing thousands of people living in more than one hundred twenty schools, villages, and urban neighborhoods on four continents. Camphillers of all abilities share daily work, family life, and festive celebrations with one another and their neighbors. Unlike movements that reject mainstream society, Camphill expressly seeks to be "a seed of social renewal" by evolving along with society to promote the full inclusion and empowerment of persons with disabilities, who comprise nearly half of their residents. In this multifaceted exploration of Camphill, Dan McKanan traces the complexities of the

movement's history, envisions its possible future, and invites ongoing dialogue between the fields of disability studies and communal studies.

What Is Happening in Your Community? Why Community Development Matters

Matthew J. Hanka (2023, Rowman & Littlefield)

Communities are not static or stationary organisms. They are fluid and dynamic and change over time. The role of community development in the change and transformation of a community is critical to improving and enhancing the quality of life of the community and its residents. This book examines how community development changes a community and why that change matters, while also examining the relationship between community development and social capital. When a community improves its social capital, change can happen because people can leverage their networks to produce better results for themselves. This book also looks at comprehensive community development and collective impact models and several case studies that utilize these models. It also looks at how the transformation and revitalization of a neighborhood through new housing creates opportunities for people everywhere, and how effective placemaking strategies empower diverse groups of people in a community to reimagine their public spaces and the built environment to be more livable, walkable, creative, and sustainable while fostering greater connections with people in their community.

Zoar: The Story of an Intentional Community

Kathleen Fernandez (2019, The Kent State University Press)

In 1817, a group of German religious dissenters immigrated to Ohio. Less than two years later, in order to keep their distinctive religion and its adherents together, they formed a communal society (eine güter gemeinschaft or “community of goods”), where all shared equally. Their bold experiment thrived and continued through three generations; the Zoar Separatists are considered one of the longest-lasting communal groups in US history. Fernandez traces the Separatists' beginnings in Württemberg, Germany, and their disputes with authorities over religious differences, their immigration to America, and their establishment of the communal Society of Separatists of Zoar.

The community's development, particularly in terms of its business activities with the outside world, demonstrates its success and influence in the 19th century. Though the

Society dissolved in 1898, today its site is a significant historical attraction. Zoar is based on ample primary source material, some never before utilized by historians, and illustrated with thirty historic photographs.

American Community: Radical Experiments in Intentional Living

Mark S. Ferrara (2020, Rutgers University Press)

American Community takes us inside forty of the most interesting intentional communities in the nation's history, from the colonial era to the present day. You will learn about such little-known experiments in cooperative living as the Icarian communities, which took the utopian ideas expounded in a 1840 French novel and put them into practice, ultimately spreading to five states over fifty years. Plus, it covers more recent communities such as Arizona's Arcosanti, designed by architect Paolo Soleri as a model for ecologically sustainable living.

In this provocative and engaging book, Mark Ferrara guides readers through an array of intentional communities that boldly challenged capitalist economic arrangements in order to attain ideals of harmony, equality, and social justice. By shining a light on these forgotten histories, it shows that far from being foreign concepts, communitarianism and socialism have always been vital parts of the American experience.

Eco-Alchemy: Anthroposophy and the History and Future of Environmentalism

Dan McKanan (2017, University of California Press)

For nearly a century, the worldwide anthroposophical movement has been a catalyst for environmental activism, helping to bring to life many modern ecological practices such as organic farming, community-supported agriculture, and green banking. Yet the spiritual practice of anthroposophy remains unknown to most environmentalists. A historical and ethnographic study of the environmental movement, Eco-Alchemy uncovers for the first time the profound influences of anthroposophy and its founder, Rudolf Steiner, whose holistic worldview, rooted in esoteric spirituality, inspired the movement. Dan McKanan shows that environmentalism is itself a complex ecosystem and that it would not be as diverse or as transformative without the contributions of anthroposophy.

[Calendar of Events](#)

Alistair W. Baldwin Lecture

7 p.m., Thursday, March 21 at the Atheneum Visitors Center

Alistair W. Baldwin is an award-winning landscape architect and garden designer from Yorkshire, England. He will talk about the restoration, regeneration, and enhancement of historical gardens in England, Scotland, and New Harmony.

The StumpGrinders! A Special Eclipse Extravaganza Concert

8 p.m., Sunday, April 7 at the Murphy Auditorium

For more information, please visit:

Total Solar Eclipse Fundraiser Watch Party

10 a.m.-3 p.m., Monday, April 8 at the Atheneum Visitors Center

Tickets are on sale at: Eclipse - University of Southern Indiana (usi.edu). Note: the deadline to purchase tickets for this event is Monday, March 25.

New Harmony Second Saturdays

Every second Saturday, March-November, at various locations

For more information, please visit: New Harmony Second Saturdays - University of Southern Indiana (usi.edu)

Under the Beams Concert: Mokoomba

7:30 p.m., Saturday, April 20 at the Murphy Auditorium

For more information, please visit: Under The Beams | New Harmony, IN

Heritage Artisan Days

Wednesday, April 24 through Friday, April 26 in New Harmony

For more information, please visit: Heritage Artisans Days - University of Southern Indiana (usi.edu)

Firefly Festival

Friday, June 7-Saturday, June 8 at various locations in New Harmony

Help Historic New Harmony and the New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art continue their historic preservation efforts, educational programming and more with your charitable gift to the USI Foundation. You can make your gift securely online at USI.edu/giving, calling 812-464-1918, or mailing to USI Foundation, 8600 University Blvd., Evansville, IN 47712. Your charitable gift is tax-deductible and a gift receipt will be issued.

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Meet Audra Verona Lambert | Curator

March 6, 2024 · [Leave a reply](#)



We had the good fortune of connecting with Audra Verona Lambert and we've shared our conversation below.

Hi Audra, why did you decide to pursue a creative path?

As a curator and cultural producer, my focus has always been on bringing people together.

Creative people bring a gift into the world that is totally unique: by focusing on bringing platforms to people with fresh artistic vision, I can bring a collaborative spirit and critical eye to the conversation. The arts are for everyone. By bringing expertise and ten years of

experience organizing art exhibits to the table, I hope to be a part of the journey that allows these visionaries to take the next leap in their artistic development.



Alright, so let's move onto what keeps you busy professionally?

As a curator, balancing dreams and realities is a paramount aspect of the job. I could start by highlighting how writing my master's degree thesis prepared me for a life of organizing exhibitions, but it is really life experiences that best anchor curators to be ready for the creative and generative tasks ahead of them. Years of conversations with artists reflecting on cultural memory from regions other than the US and Europe, and making new acquaintances at Prospect New Orleans have been as formative part of shaping my vision as a curator as a stint working during midsummer on a Russian dacha and studying and traveling through Northern Germany and Turkey. Curators often fall between the cracks in the creative landscape: while on paper we organize art exhibitions for cultural institutions, in reality there is a lot of unseen labor that goes into sustaining artistic communities, which comes with being a curator. These tasks range from researching exhibition histories and artistic scholarship (the Metropolitan Museum's Watson Library and Washington DC's Archives of American Art have both been incredible resources in my own career,) to meeting artists in their studios to learn about their practice and offer observations and reflections and cultural memory absorbed by these artists' practices. It's very fulfilling to be a part of the conversation and advancing the cultural conversation – no exhibition or institutional

affiliation is too small to bring awareness or beauty to the world in a new way.





Any places to eat or things to do that you can share with our readers? If they have a friend visiting town, what are some spots they could take them to?

When it comes to visiting NYC, my guests are going to be toured through Queens: the self-designated world's borough. Unpretentious yet cosmopolitan, I would make sure visitors get the best of Queens from delightful tastings to outdoor exploration, artistic discoveries and a secret national treasure! First things first: as a Southerner with over a decade living in NYC, I love to host. And having lived the longest in Queens, NY, my hosting extends to exploring all corners of the boro. When it comes to food take a hint from Instagram's own @JaekiCho and explore the many food cultures Queens has to offer – on my list, Arepa Lady in Jackson Heights, Artion bakery for Greek classics in Astoria and taking cash to explore Flushing's rich savory and sweet Chinatown offerings. When it comes to outdoor exploring, summer bike rides through Astoria Park and Flushing Meadows Corona Park are rivaled only by walks in Forest Park and around the Ridgewood reservoir. In terms of art and cultural offerings, MoMA PS1 and the Queens Museum offer takes on contemporary culture, while Forest Hills stadium is one of the best music venues in the whole city – not to mention where the Beatles "arrived" in legendary fashion to the US! Finally, the 7 train is one of only 16 designated

Historic Millenium trails in the US, established as such by the White House in 1999.





The Shoutout series is all about recognizing that our success and where we are in life is at least somewhat thanks to the efforts, support, mentorship, love and encouragement of others. So is there someone that you want to dedicate your shoutout to?

There are so many mentors, collaborators and leaders on the path before me to acknowledge and thank. To start, inspiring curators who have come before me – including Marcia Tucker, Okwui Enwezor and Rocio Aranda-Alvarez (who I was lucky enough to work with and study under) have all been sources of study and encouragement. When it comes to groups, I am inspired by collectives and artist-forward nonprofits who bring creatives from emerging opportunities to mid-career successes. Culture Push, Project for Empty Space and the Joan Mitchell Foundation are all inspiring to me – and as someone raised near New Orleans who's mostly worked in New York City, the foundation is especially dear to my heart. It's so uplifting to see the shoutout offer a chance to bring gratitude into the creative

conversation, so a big shoutout to y'all for allowing creatives to pay it forward!





Website: <https://www.antecedentprojects.com/>
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Instagram: @ante__curatorial

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Nominate Someone:

(<https://webcf.waybackmachine.org/web/20240711120305/https://shoutoutinterviews.com/northcarolina/recommendations>) ShoutoutN is built on recommendations and shoutouts from the community; it's how we uncover hidden gems, so if you or someone you know deserves recognition please let us know [here](#).

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Meet Jaime Saunders |
Owner/J.Lee
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Meet Jane Steelman |
Artist
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Meet Whitney Allen |
Speaker, Freedom
Coach, & CEO
of Awakenings Unlimited
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| Behavioral Health
and Communication
Coach**
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highlighting others
through Collaboration
and Community**
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