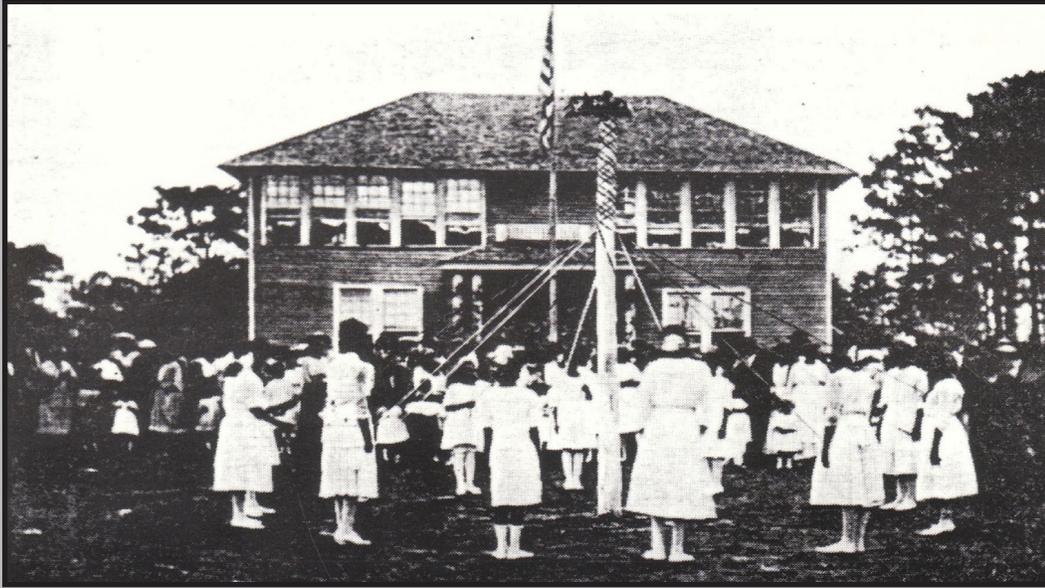


The Baldwin County Training School Heritage Fest Foundation The Legacy of Preserving One's Heritage



Academic Building
& Annual May Pole
Twining 1892

The mission of the Baldwin County Training School Heritage Fest Foundation is to research, restore, accurately interpret and preserve the rich heritage and excellent contributions of our ancestors and insure its proper interpretation in American history. Their vision, self-sacrifice and determination led to their establishing the first school thus far documented in the State of Alabama and the first school in the United States to be funded, built and administered by African Americans for the sole purpose of educating African American children.

To that end, we endeavor to inspire, uplift and encourage our succeeding generations of students whose ancestors help build and develop the school (s) in particular but all students in general to strive for excellence and to ignite their learning in perpetuity.

The first school built solely for the purpose of educating African American children, The Eastern Shore Baptist Academy, was built on 18 acres of land which was purchased in 1882 by the Eastern Shore Missionary Baptist Association. In 1892 the association built a dormitory so that black children from throughout the county as well as neighboring counties could attend

the school. The Association funded the administrators and teachers necessary for the school. The school, dormitory and land were deeded to the Baldwin County Board of Education at a meeting of the Board on September 21, 1916. At that meeting of the Board, the school was renamed the Eastern Shore Colored Industrial School. In 1927 the school, renamed the Baldwin County Training School, provided a public high school education for students throughout the county as well as surrounding counties.

In 1991 the Foundation was created and in 1997 we awarded the first scholarship which provides yearly scholarships to students whose ancestors attended the Eastern Shore Industrial Academy, The Eastern Shore Industrial School, The Eastern Shore Colored Industrial School or Baldwin County Training School.

The Foundation in partnership with the Baldwin County Board of Education established the first and only Black Education Museum. The museum dedicated and opened to the public on July 1, 2009 is located on the site of the original school.

The foundation has initiated a project to establish a legacy walk and patio of brick pavers on the campus of the museum. Many of the former students and friends of education purchased pavers for themselves and in honor or in memory of their loved ones. The first phase of the project is culminating soon. The legacy walk and patio will be unveil in a dedication ceremony and open house in the spring.

The Baldwin County Training School Heritage Fest Foundation was granted non-profit status 501(c) (3) in 1991.

To learn more about the mission of the Foundation and how you can help us continue our work, please contact Gartrell Agee: Office: 251-626-9886 Cellular: 251-510-0355 Facsimile: 251-626-9887

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