



RUTH J. SIMMONS CENTER FOR RACE AND JUSTICE TO HOST A SPECIAL EVENT ON THE LEGACY OF SLAVERY AND THE IMPACT OF SEGREGATION

The special event will feature research updates from the center's EPA Committee and recognition of the descendants of Jared Kirby, the former owner of the Alta Vista Plantation, where PVAMU was built.

PRAIRIE VIEW, Texas (April 20, 2022) – Prairie View A&M University's Ruth J. Simmons Center for Race and Justice will host a public event on Thursday, exploring the preliminary findings of its EPA Committee on the Legacy of Slavery and the Impact of Segregation at Prairie View A&M University.

The EPA Committee is comprised of PVAMU administrators, faculty, staff, students, and community members that have come together to conduct multi-year research to shed light on the many ways slavery and segregation have impacted PVAMU and the communities the university serves.

Thursday's event will include a presentation of the committee's research and recognition of the descendants of enslaved people held at Alta Vista Plantation. Descendants of Jared E. And Helen Marr Kirby, the former owner of the Alta Vista Plantation, will also be in attendance.

The culmination of the multi-year research project will be complete in 2026 in celebration of PVAMU's 150th anniversary. Leading up to the completion of the project, the committee will host annual events to share their findings.

For more on the Alta Vista plantation, visit: <https://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/entries/prairie-view-tx-waller-county>

For more on the Ruth J. Simmons Center for Race and Justice, visit:
<https://www.pvamu.edu/simmonscenter/>

About the event:

Event: Our Journey, So Far: Studying PVAMU's Connection to Enslavement
Date: Thursday, April 19, 2022
Time: 12:30-1:30 p.m. CST
Place: Prairie View A&M University
A.I. Thomas Administration Building
700 University Drive
Prairie View, TX 77446

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About Prairie View A&M University: Designated an institution of “the first class” in the Texas Constitution, Prairie View A&M University is the second-oldest public institution of higher education in the state. With an established reputation for producing engineers, nurses, and educators, PVAMU offers baccalaureate degrees, master’s degrees, and doctoral degree programs through eight colleges and schools. A member of The Texas A&M University System, the university is dedicated to fulfilling its land-grant mission of achieving excellence in teaching, research, and service. For more information regarding PVAMU, visit www.pvamu.edu.

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