

# OSSABAW ISLAND FOUNDATION 20 YEAR TIMELINE



1998

**1998-2001. Ossabaw Island Comprehensive Management Plan.** Eight (8) TOIF representatives served on the steering committee and subcommittees of this DNR-led plan, adopted May 1, 2001, "to provide clear direction...in the management and protection of Ossabaw."

**1998 & 2014. National Trust for Historic Preservation—National Preservation Conference Field Workshop.** Showcased Ossabaw's successes since the island's designation on the 1996 list of "America's 11 Most Endangered Historic Places."

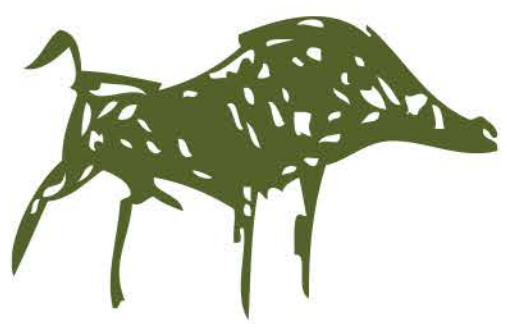


2002

**2002 – 2011. Visiting Artists Program.** Hundreds of artists visited Ossabaw Island at no charge, for overnight stays or day trips. Artists continue to visit Ossabaw with independently-organized overnight groups and with TOIF creative trips.

**2002 – 2011. Torrey-West Furniture Acquisition.** Purchased from the Torrey and West families original 1926 Torrey-West Estate furnishings, to remain in place.

**2002 – 2013. UGA Marine Education and Georgia Youth Science & Technology Center Teacher Training Workshops.** Taught coastal ecology and marine biology.



2005  
2007

**\*2005. Ossabaw Island Education Alliance.** Created as an educational partnership between the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia, the Department of Natural Resources, and TOIF.

**2006 – Present. The Art and History of Ossabaw Indigo.** Conducted historical research, identified and geno-typed Ossabaw indigo. Developed hands-on workshops on the history, economics, and craft of this colonial-era plant-based dye.

**\*2007-2010 Barrier Island Observatory.** Installed data collection towers, wireless internet connectivity, and weather station on Ossabaw Island.

2008

**\*2008 – 2010. African American Life in the Georgia Lowcountry.** This 2008 symposium featured original research presented by twelve historians on the lives of African Americans from the colonial period through the 20th century. UGA Press published a book from the conference proceedings in 2010.

**\*2008-2010 Ossabest.** Hosted three-day stays on Ossabaw Island for public middle school students and teachers. Science and technology projects focused on the coastal ecosystem. A partnership with Armstrong State University and Savannah-Chatham County Public Schools. Funded by a \$1.2 million grant from the National Science Foundation.

**2008 – 2015. Museum Artifact Conservation Course.** Led by the American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works. Funded by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

2009  
2010

**\*2009 – 2013, and 2017. African American Life in the Georgia Lowcountry Summer Institutes.** Instructed teachers and professors on daily life for 19<sup>th</sup>-century enslaved workers. Led by Georgia Historical Society, funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

**\*2009. Genesis & Ossabaw Island Project Directors' Reunion.** Conducted oral history interviews, and filmed a documentary.

**\*2009 & 2011. Historical Research on African American Life.** Interpreted the Ossabaw Island story of enslaved Africans and Freedmen tenant farmers. Funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

**2010. Genesis Project.** Organized first-year participants' 40th reunion and produced *In the Beginning* documentary.



2011

**2011 – Present. Ossabaw Island Writers' Retreat.** Hosted independently organized spring and fall workshops featuring instruction and critique by writers in fiction, creative nonfiction, and poetry.

**2011 – Present. Expanded TOIF-Hosted Trips.** Led Turtle Hatching Weekends, Stargazing and Storytelling New Year's Eve Trips, Creative Retreats, Birding Trips, "fee free" day trips for Super Museum Sunday and Lift Every Voice African American history day.

**2011 – Present. Archaeology Field Schools.** Excavated sites across Ossabaw Island for research and university-level field instruction. Hosted by University of Tennessee, University of Georgia, TOIF and DNR.



2013  
2018

**\*2013 – Present. Moon River District.** Created a partnership of six sites (including Ossabaw Island) to increase visitation and awareness, and educate the public about the area's common history and geography.

**\*2016. Textiles Society of America National Conference.** Held a field trip/workshop on the history of indigo.

**\*2016 – 2018. Coastal Nature, Coastal Culture: Environmental Histories of the Georgia Coast.** Hosted a symposium featuring original research presented by twelve historians and writers on how 5000 years of people and cultures were influenced by Georgia's 100 mile coastline. UGA Press will publish a book from the conference proceedings in July 2018.

\*Denotes Education Alliance projects.