



27th Annual National Trail of Tears Association Conference & Symposium Chattanooga, TN

When: October 14-16, 2024

Where: Embassy Suites, 2321 Lifestyle Way, Chattanooga, TN 37421

Conference Room Rate: \$162.98 (includes all taxes and fees) Hot breakfast, evening snacks and drinks come with the room.

Booking Link: <https://bit.ly/27thTOTAconf>

Tentative Schedule:

Watch for more detailed information and Registration forms in the Summer Newsletter, on the Trail of Tears Website, and on the Trail of Tears Group Facebook page.

Monday Morning Oct 14th

- Fall Board of Directors Meeting @ 9
- Registrants gather at 1:30 in the hotel in preparation for bus trip to Moccasin Bend
- 3:00 p.m. Official Conference Kickoff at entrance to Moccasin Bend—Ceremonies in Conjunction with Moccasin Bend 20th Anniversary Commemoration—hosted by National Park Partners (successor to the Friends of Moccasin Bend)
- Welcome from local NPS officials and NPP Board and Staff, Remarks from Tribal officials, TOTA Representatives, local elected officials.
- 4:00 Board Buses for quick trip across the river to the area of IMAX Theatre, Tennessee Aquarium, and the Downtown park where Chattanooga Indigenous Peoples Day Festival will be underway
- 6:00 Evening Meal at the IMAX
- 7:00 Moccasin Bend Fall Lecture Series/TOTA Conference Keynote Address at the IMAX Theatre-Dennis Jay Hannah
- 8:30 Board Buses for Hotel

Tuesday - Field Trip Day

- **Morning:** Visit Red Clay State Historic Park
- **Afternoon:** Visit Hiwassee River Heritage Center and tour Ft. Cass—Charleston, TN
- **Evening:** McMinn & Monroe County signage project dedication at Meadowlands Park, Calhoun, TN
- Dinner at the Park Pavilion.

Wednesday, Oct 16th

Presentations, workshops, performances

Confirmed Speakers:

- Dennis Jay Hannah
- Dr. Stuart Marshall-University of the South at Sewanee
- Dr. Brett Riggs, Western Carolina University
- Dr. Carroll Van West, Tennessee State Historian & Director of Middle Tennessee State University - Center for Historic Preservation
- Joe Guy- County Historian and Sheriff of McMinn County TN
- Jack Baker and Anna Smith
- Amy Kostine-Middle Tennessee State University- Center for Historic Preservation
- Dr. Danielle Shelton - Cherokee National Forest
- Erin Medley - Red Clay Historic Park

Pre-Conference Activities:

Sunday Afternoon Oct. 13th—Reception at Cherokee Removal Park / Blythe's Ferry with talk by Amy Kostine (exhibit renovations now underway with advice and counsel of MTSU to be completed)

Thursday Oct 17th, Post-Conference Events:

(These are Very Tentative but under consideration)

- Visit to Brainerd Mission Cemetery
- Reception at Browns Ferry Tavern hosted by NPS staff and National Park Partners

[CLICK HERE](#)

Hotel Registration