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## What is Your Role in the Fight for Justice? The Historical Activism of Black Youth Provide Answers

The Georgia Archives Lunch and Learn presentation, “What is Your Role in the Fight for Justice? The Historical Activism of Black Youth Provide Answers,” by Dr. Vincent Willis, will be held on Friday, March 10, 2023, from noon to 1:00 p.m. at the Georgia Archives.

The Lunch and Learn presentation is free, and no registration is required.

Drawing from his book, *Audacious Agitation: Black Youth and the Uncompromising Commitment to Equal Education* (University of Georgia Press), along with peer-reviewed articles, Dr. Willis will illustrate how the historical advocacy of Black youth represented their refusal to envision democracy as merely an abstraction. Instead, Black youth applied those ideals to their lived experiences as public-school students with the hope of making public education more democratic. Dr. Willis’ research agenda reflects a commitment to understanding the nuances of educational equality from the perspective of marginalized communities that intend to have their ideas and actions shape educational policy.

Dr. Willis is an Assistant Professor of Interdisciplinary Social Sciences in New College with an appointment in Gender and Race Studies at the University of Alabama. He earned his Ph.D. in Educational History from Emory University, a MA in African and African American Studies from the Ohio State University, and a BA in African American Studies from Morehouse College. His work centers on the historical ideas and actions of Black youth to operationalize a more inclusive concept of educational equality. Additionally, his work investigates the consequences of educational policy—federal and local—operating unapologetically oppositional for decades to over-resource white schools and grossly underfund black schools and opposing the improvements black youth demanded.

The Georgia Archives is a unit of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia. The Georgia Archives identifies, collects, manages, preserves, provides access to, and publicizes records and information of Georgia and its people, and assists state and local government agencies with their records management.