

Mobile: People of the Rivers

June 12-15, 2018

USA College of Education/5 Rivers Delta Center

Facilitators: Master Teacher Dr. Susan Santoli, USA College of Education, and Nicole Landry, Mobile County Schools

Content Specialist: Dr. Craig Sheldon, AUM (retired)

Get ready to journey through the three centuries of history that belong to Mobile and the surrounding area by examining the importance of the river systems of this area. In the words of author John Sledge, who will be joining us for part of our workshop, you'll discover "a barge load of colorful characters" and events as we travel along the rivers, both physically and virtually, examining the settlements, people and trade that have shaped this area. Teachers will visit the U.S.A. Archaeology Museum to explore the lives of early Alabama Indians and colonists. A day at Five Rivers Delta Center, complete with boat trip will allow teachers to examine, first-hand, the complex ecosystem of the rivers and understand more fully what life along the river would have been like for early settlers. The Institute will also address the importance of the cotton trade to the development of Mobile as well as Mobile's history of slavery. Participants will also examine the importance of the rivers during the 20th century. Content experts who will be joining the session are Dr. Craig Sheldon, archaeologist; Mr. John Sledge, author and architectural historian at the Mobile Historic Development Commission; Mr. Frye Gaillard, author, and content specialists from the University of South Alabama. Teachers who attend this workshop will receive classroom resources, access to primary sources, and the confidence to engage their students in Alabama's history.