

The Minority AgVocate™

DIGITAL MAGAZINE

A Trailblazer for Change

Seanicaa Edwards Herron
Honored as James Beard
Foundation® Impact
Award Recipient

JUNE AGRIPRENEUR SPOTLIGHT

NATE BRADFORD

Is Transforming the Ranching
Landscape While Upholding a
Legacy of Resilience

Resources for You

Learn about
Events, Funding
Opportunities, and
More!

Scan to Subscribe



**FREEDMEN
—HEIRS—**
FOUNDATION

PRIDE · PASSION · PROSPERITY

GROWN IN BLACK SOIL™

Table of Contents

03

A Trailblazer for Change

Seanicaa Edwards Herron, FHF Founder and Executive Director, honored as James Beard Foundation® Impact Award recipient.

05

June Agripreneur Spotlight Feature

Nate Bradford, Oklahoma rancher and owner of G-Line Ranch, is carrying a legacy of regeneration and resilience.

07

Virtual and In-Person Events

Explore upcoming events that are on the horizon.

09

Additional Information

Submit your upcoming event and watch the recap of our May webinar on YouTube.

10

June USDA Reports

Read the latest crop and supply and demand reports published by the USDA.

11

Employment and Funding Opportunities

Explore exciting job and funding opportunities to enhance your farm or career.

12

Seeking Submissions

Submit your resources and nominate an Agripreneur today!



Freedmen Heirs Highlights

A Trailblazer for Change

FHF Founder and Executive Director, Seanicaa Edwards Herron, Honored at Inaugural 2025 James Beard Foundation® Impact Awards

In the world of agriculture, where many voices have been silenced or overlooked, one woman is making a powerful difference. Earlier this month, our visionary founder and executive director, Seanicaa Edwards Herron, was honored as a recipient of the inaugural James Beard Foundation® Impact Award. The award ceremony was held in Chicago, Illinois, at The Dalcy during the 35th anniversary of the James Beard Awards®.

This esteemed accolade, which recognized individuals whose leadership is reshaping the food system to be more equitable, sustainable, and economically viable, comes as a pivotal moment for Seanicaa, and the acknowledgement underscores the significance of her work at Freedmen Heirs Foundation. "I'm deeply honored to receive this award, which recognizes not only my personal journey but also the broader mission of Freedmen Heirs Foundation," said Edwards Herron.

Seanicaa Edwards Herron gives her acceptance speech at the inaugural 2025 James Beard Foundation® Impact Awards.

Photo Credit: James Beard Foundation/Galdones Photography



The celebration, presented by Capital One, served as a powerful reminder of how food connects us all. As leaders in the culinary world gathered to honor excellence, Seanicaa's presence emphasized the need for change. "If you hold power, use it. If you hold privilege, share it. If you hold capital, invest it, Don't just celebrate equity, fund it. Don't just recognize Black farmers, buy from them. Don't just talk about justice. Contract it, legislate it, and invest in it", she boldly stated.

With the Impact Awards celebrating trailblazers across the food system, Seanicaa joins an elite

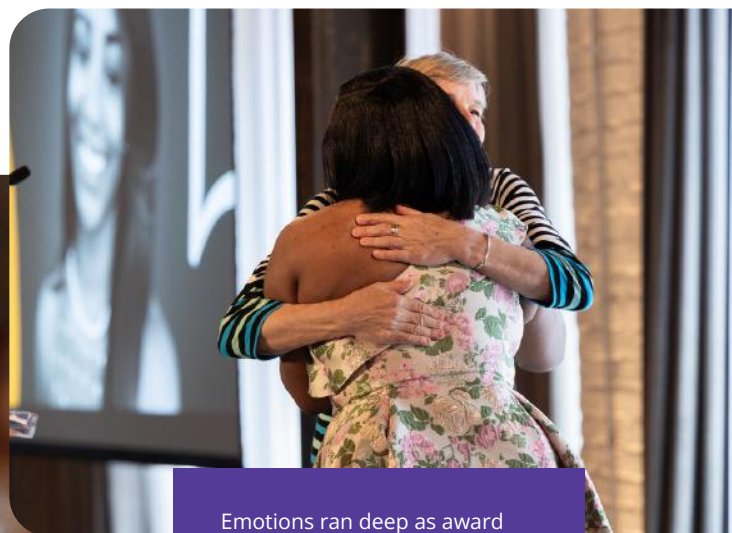
group of individuals dedicated to driving meaningful change from farm to table. Other 2025 James Beard Foundation® Impact Award recipients include [Angie Craig](#), U.S. Representative (MN-2) and Ranking Member of the House Committee on Agriculture; Anthony Edwards, Jr, CEO and co-founder of [EatOkra](#); Brandon Edwin Chrostowski, CEO of [EDWINS Leadership & Restaurant Institute](#); and Dune Lankard, President and Founder of the [Native Conservancy](#).

Read the full press release by clicking the link below.

PRESS RELEASE

Seanicaa poses with fellow Award recipients. From left to right: Anthony Edwards, Jr; Seanicaa Edwards Herron; Dune Lankard; and Brandon Edwin Chrostowski. Not pictured: Angie Craig.

Photo Credit: James Beard Foundation/Galdones Photography



Emotions ran deep as award recipients took to the stage to deliver their acceptance speeches during the 2025 James Beard Foundation® Awards luncheon.

Photo Credits: James Beard Foundation/Galdones Photography

Agripreneur Spotlight

Nate Bradford

Carrying a Legacy of Resilience and Regeneration in Ranching

In the heart of central Oklahoma, a remarkable story unfolds at G-Line Ranch, led by Nate Bradford, a fourth-generation rancher who's transforming the ranching landscape through his mission-driven approach. Nate's journey began as a young boy, working alongside his father and grandfather, who instilled in him a deep sense of pride and purpose. Today, he honors their legacy by redefining what it means to steward land, livestock, and community.

Founded in 2003, G-Line Ranch spans Creek and Okfuskee counties and reflects a rich and resilient heritage. Nate's vision for the ranch goes beyond cattle farming. It's about sustainable agriculture that preserves the land for future generations. With a passion for quality and responsibility, Nate ensures that every piece of beef produced is a testimony to his commitment to ethical practices and high standards. In a bold move in 2020, Nate embraced innovation by expanding into wild game processing and launching an online platform for beef sales, welcoming a new era for his ranch within a historically underrepresented space.

Pride in Landownership and His Commitment to Sustainability

Nate's journey as an agribusiness owner hasn't been easy. As an African American landowner, he speaks passionately about the pride he takes in his work, overcoming significant racial and financial barriers in an industry that has historically been inequitable. "Being a landowner as an African American gives me a sense of pride..." he reflects. Despite the barriers faced,



Nate has worked hard to ensure his journey leaves behind a legacy for his children and future generations.

Additionally, Nate ensures that G-Line Ranch sets itself apart through its commitment to regenerative practices. He utilizes rotational grazing, solar-powered water wells, and participates in carbon farming to ensure long-term sustainability for both his livestock and the land. His operation also emphasizes high-quality genetics to deliver premium beef products. But innovation alone doesn't define his success, it's the deep roots and relentless drive behind the work that make Nate's journey stand out.

Resilience Through Self-Funding and Community Involvement

Nate and his family's perseverance is evident as they've faced issues with loan servicing and obtaining capital for their operation. This has led them to continuously reinvest income from their full-time jobs back into the ranch. This self-funded resilience has allowed them to keep growing despite the systemic obstacles encountered.

Nate also extends his commitment to community through his nonprofit, Bradford, Williams, Bradford, Inc., which has been a pillar of support for the local agricultural community since 2010. He believes in uplifting those around him, sharing his knowledge and resources to inspire the next generation of farmers.

He advises aspiring agripreneurs to "Find a mentor and build a plan. Discover what you're passionate about in agriculture and grow from there." Nate's influential reach doesn't stop there. His dedication to mentorship and education extends beyond his ranch through social media platforms, where he regularly shares insights and resources.

Nate's journey is a testament to the power of perseverance, heritage, and vision. As he continues to build a legacy for his children and

uplift others along the way, his story serves as both inspiration and a blueprint for aspiring farmers, ranchers, and anyone chasing their dreams against the odds.

“

Find a mentor and build a plan...

”



Connect with G-Line Ranch and follow Nate's journey below:

Website: glineranch.com

Facebook: G-Line Wild Game Processing

TikTok: [natedogg74829](https://www.tiktok.com/@natedogg74829)/G-Line Ranch

Instagram: @G-Line Ranch | @natebradfordg

Upcoming Events

Virtual and In-Person Events

**DATES
VARY**

**15
JULY**

**19
JULY**

Tentative 2025 NBGC Model Farm Series

| Date | Location | Host | Focus Crops |
|-----------------------|----------------|----------------|------------------------------------|
| June 5-6, 2025 | Vidalia, LA | Nelson Farms | Corn, Cotton, Rice & Soybeans |
| June 26-27, 2025 | Greenville, MS | Smith Farms | Soybeans & Wheat |
| July 10-11, 2025 | Orangeburg, SC | Mahogany Farms | Corn, Cotton & Soybeans |
| July 31-Aug. 1, 2025 | Memphis, TN | KWB Farms | Corn, Soybeans & Yellow field peas |
| August 21-22, 2025 | Albemarle, AL | Haynie Farms | Rice & Soybeans |
| September 11-12, 2025 | Marianna, FL | Gilbert Farms | Cotton & Peanuts |

For more information go to: <https://nationalblackgrowerscouncil.com> or call (202) 641-4037

FREEDMEN-HEIRS-FOUNDATION
FARM • FINANCIAL • ENTREPRENEUR

**STUDENT
FINANCIAL EDUCATION
WORKSHOP SERIES**

**UNDERSTANDING CREDIT
AND DEBT**

**A STUDENT'S ROADMAP TO
FINANCIAL WELLNESS**

JULY 15, 2025

12:00 PM EST

CLICK BELOW TO REGISTER



Various Locations Across the Southeast

The National Black Growers Council (NBGC) invites you to the 2025 Model Farm Field Day tours this summer across the Southeast U.S. Participants can connect with fellow farmers and learn about various farming practices.

The next event will be on **July 11, 2025**, in Orangeburg, SC at Mahogany Farms.

Can't make the South Carolina Farm Field Day? No worries! Click the link below to discover more and register for the farm field day nearest you.

LEARN MORE



Virtual Series

Freedmen Heirs Foundation is hosting its second Student Financial Education Workshop on **July 15, 2025** at **12:00 pm EST**. This workshop will cover important topics necessary to establish sound financial practices. Attendees will learn the skills needed to confidently understand credit and debt management.

Click below to register or share this digital magazine with someone who may be interested in attending.

REGISTER



South Carolina

The Center for Heirs' Property Preservation invites you to attend two of their upcoming will clinics in Beaufort and Aiken counties on **July 19, 2025** at **10:30 AM EST**. Both of these clinics are **FREE** and open to anyone needing assistance with drafting and completing a simple will. Appointments are **REQUIRED** to attend. Additional details for both clinics can be found below.

Wills Clinic in Beaufort County

Location: Penn Center | 16 Penn Center Cir W., St. Helena Island, SC 29920

Wills Clinic in Aiken County

Location: Center for African American History, Art, and Culture | 120 York Street, NE, Aiken, SC 29801

To meet with an attorney, please call Katrice Keith at (843) 745-7055 to make an appointment. **The last appointment will be at 2:30 PM.**

Upcoming Events

29
JULY



Virtual Series

Freedmen Heirs Foundation is hosting its final Student Financial Education Workshop on **July 29, 2025** at **12:00 pm EST**. This session will focus on helping students save and invest their money effectively. Participants will gain insights into various saving strategies and investment options suitable for young individuals just starting their financial journeys.

Click the link below to register or feel free to share this digital magazine with anyone who might be interested in attending.

REGISTER

7-10
SEPT



Lexington, KY

Mark your calendars for the 2nd Annual State of Soil Conference, hosted by Black Soil KY. The conference is scheduled for **September 7-10, 2025**, in Lexington, Kentucky. Registration is currently open and will remain available until August 25, 2025.

Register now to attend this impactful event.

REGISTER

9-12
DEC



New Orleans, LA

NBGC is hosting its 2025 Annual Meeting at the Sheraton Hotel in New Orleans, LA, from **December 9-12, 2025**. Join various agricultural professionals, industry leaders, and row crop farmers as they share the floor to discuss ways to strengthen our food system. The deadline for early bird registration is **June 30, 2025**.

Lodging for this event is available and must be booked by **November 6, 2025**, to take advantage of the discounted rate. For more information on this event, click the link below.

LEARN MORE

Upcoming Events

Additional Information

Hosting an Upcoming Event?

Are you hosting an agricultural event that promises to inspire and engage?

Share your upcoming event with us for an opportunity to be featured in our digital magazine! Whether it's a groundbreaking conference, a field day, a thought-provoking webinar, or an innovative workshop, we want to spotlight your efforts to bring the agricultural community together.

Join us in cultivating knowledge and connections by submitting your event details today.

[SUBMIT EVENT](#)

FSA County Committee Elections

Elections for USDA's Farm Service Agency County Committee are crucial for representing farmers' voices in the local agricultural community, aiding the USDA in developing tailored federal programs. Nominations for this year are due by **August 1, 2025**. Click the link below for more details on the committee and election timeline.

[LEARN MORE](#)



Our May Webinar is Now Available for Viewing on YouTube

Last month, Freedmen Heirs Foundation held a webinar titled **"Harvests Under Pressure: Navigating the Impacts of Rising Tariffs"** with guest speaker, Quintin Gray, Agricultural Trade Advisor and CEO of Q. Gray and Associates.

During this session, Mr. Gray discussed how rising tariffs are reshaping the agricultural landscape for farmers across the U.S. This session also looked into how these changes might impact one's farming operation and **what steps can be taken to manage risks and potentially seize new opportunities** during these uncertain times.

Click below to watch the webinar recording. Be sure to subscribe to our YouTube channel to catch up on other webinars you may have missed!

[WATCH NOW](#)

Farmer Resources

Reports

Welcome to our Farmer Resources section, designed to provide essential tools and information, including reports, programs, and funding opportunities for farming initiatives. Additionally, explore employment opportunities in various roles within the agriculture sector.

June Lending Rates

USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) provides loans to agricultural producers to help start or expand their farming operations, purchase equipment and storage structures, or meet cash flow needs. Click below to view this month's interest rates for loans offered through FSA.

[EXPLORE](#)

USDA World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates (WASDE) Report

The World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates (WASDE) report is prepared and released by the World Agricultural Outlook Board (WAOB). This report is released monthly and provides annual forecasts for supply and use of U.S. and world wheat, rice,

coarse grains, oilseeds, and cotton. The report also covers U.S. supply and use of sugar, livestock & meat, poultry, eggs, milk, and dairy products; as well as Mexico's supply and use of sugar. Read June's report by clicking the link below.

[VIEW REPORT](#)

USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) Crop Production Report

This monthly report contains crop production data for the U.S., including acreage, area harvested, and yield. The report also contains a monthly weather summary, a monthly agricultural summary, and an analysis of precipitation and the degree of departure from the normal precipitation map for the month.

[VIEW REPORT](#)

Secretary of Agriculture Briefings on the WASDE and Crop Production Reports

The WASDE and Crop Production briefings can be watched every month beginning at 12:05 pm ET on NASS' YouTube Channel. The briefings are streamed live just moments after the reports are made public.

[WATCH NOW](#)

Farmer Resources

Employment Opportunities

Head of Impact

NASDA Manager - Northeast

National Farmers Credit Union
Beginning Farmers Institute

Operations and HR Team Member

Program Manager

Soil Health Educator

Technical Manager

US Industry Affairs Lead

Funding Opportunities

USDA Agricultural Market Service

Applications for the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) Farmers Market Promotion Program, Local Food Promotion Program, and Regional Food Systems Partnerships are due **June 27, 2025**. More information on these opportunities can be found by clicking the adjacent links.

FARMERS MARKET
PROMOTION PROGRAM

LOCAL FOOD
PROMOTION PROGRAM

REGIONAL FOOD
SYSTEMS
PARTNERSHIPS

Specialty Crop Block Grant Program

The USDA Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) is still accepting applications for its Specialty Crop Block Grant Program. The deadline to submit applications is **July 7, 2025**. Click below to learn more.

LEARN MORE

2025 RFSI Farmer Scholarship Application

Active farmers and ranchers can now apply for scholarships to attend the Regenerative Food Systems Investment (RFSI) Forum. This event unites investors, food and agriculture entrepreneurs, and essential stakeholders to explore capital investment opportunities aimed at

transforming food systems. Don't miss your chance to participate in this impactful Forum.

Scholarship recipients will be revealed on **August 13, 2025**. Click the adjacent link to learn more.

LEARN MORE

Emergency Commodity Assistance Program

The USDA is still accepting applications for its Emergency Commodity Assistance Program (ECAP) for the 2024 crop year. This funding will be awarded through the Farm Service Agency (FSA). Applications are due **August 15, 2025**. Click below to learn more about this opportunity.

[LEARN MORE](#)

We Need Your Support

If you would like to **make a financial contribution** to Freedmen Heirs Foundation, please click the link below. Your generous donation will be instrumental in advancing our mission while positively impacting the Black and underserved agricultural community.

[DONATE](#)

Do You Have Resources or Information You Would Like to Share?

We are constantly seeking collaboration with other organizations in the agriculture sector to share events, opportunities, and valuable resources with our readers. If you would like to contribute an article, event, program, funding, or employment opportunity, please reach out to us by clicking the link below. Thank you!

[CONTACT US](#)

Nominate an Agripreneur

Help us recognize Agripreneurs who are making an impact!

If you know someone worthy of recognition, please nominate them to be showcased in our digital magazine by filling out the nomination form below or reaching out via email at fhfcomms@freedmenheirs.org. Self nominations are welcome!

[SUBMIT A NOMINATION](#)



Follow Us on Social Media



To learn more about Freedmen Heirs Foundation, visit www.freedmenheirs.org.