

## Nancy R. & Norton T. Dodge Performing Arts Center 47645 College Drive Saint Mary's City, MD 20686

St. Mary's College of Maryland, Historic Sotterley and Historic St. Mary's City are partnering to present "Whispers from the Water," featuring a screening of the powerful 2022 Netflix film, "Descendant." The film focuses on the survivors of the last slave ship to reach U.S. waters, the *Clotilda*, whose sunken, burned wreck was recently discovered; and the historical impact on Africatown, the local community peopled by the descendants of the survivors. The screening will be followed by a panel that will discuss the film, how it showcases previously undiscovered historical findings, as well as the long-lasting negative economic, environmental and social impacts the slave trade continues to have on local communities and our nation.

The panel will feature Jocelyn Davis, a direct descendant of Clotilda survivor Charlie Lewis and lifelong resident of Africatown, as well as Kamau Sadiki, President of the National Association of Black Scuba Divers, who was featured in the documentary for his work as a member of the dive team Divers with a Purpose that identified the Clotilda. Joining the panel will be Susan Langley, PhD, the Maryland state underwater archaeologist and adjunct professor of anthropology at St. Mary's College of Maryland; Liza Gijanto, PhD, associate professor of anthropology at St. Mary's College of Maryland; Kelsey Bush, Historic Sotterley descendant and board member as well as the community affairs liaison of St. Mary's College of Maryland; and Gwen Bankins, Historic Sotterley descendant and secretary of the Board of Trustees.

Tickets are free but required - reserve yours today!