

Amadu Massally



Meet The Lecturer

Amadu Massally is a Sierra Leonean living here in the U.S. Massally has been promoting popular awareness of the Sierra Leone-Gullah Connection since 2006 when he took a group of Sierra Leoneans to Penn Center's annual Heritage Days. He later founded **Fambul Tik ("Family Tree")**, an African heritage experience company and in 2019, he organized a fourth Gullah homecoming to Sierra Leone called "The Next Step." Massally sees homecomings like this as the future of the Sierra Leone – Gullah family connection. Working with Massally, SCETV made a documentary on the Next Step Homecoming, called "**Gullah Roots**," viewed about 125,000 times on Fambul Tik's YouTube page alone.

"Wuh Mek Oonuh Gullah Geechee!"

The Gullah Geechees know they are Gullah Geechees. They will tell you it is their history and culture that make them Gullah Geechee. Probe further to understand the historical context of what really made way for the Gullah culture to evolve as it has; something accidentally imported from Africa when vessels of human cargo started landing in Sullivan Island, SC. This lecture will share how our ancestors left Africa, to clear plantations first from the wilderness and cut Cypress trees as wide as 7 feet in diameter, to the planting of rice which became the first successful industry in the North American Colonies and life on plantations that make Gullah Geechee. At the conclusion of this lecture, you will know "Wuh Mek Oonuh Gullah Geechee!"