

Centenary College of Louisiana traces its origins to two earlier institutions—one public, one private. In 1825, the State of Louisiana founded the College of Louisiana in Jackson. In 1839, the Methodist Conference of Mississippi and Louisiana established Centenary College to celebrate the one hundredth anniversary of John Wesley's first organization of the Methodist Societies in England. This institution opened its doors in Clinton, Mississippi, and in 1840 moved to Brandon Springs. In 1845, it purchased the College of Louisiana, and the merged entity settled in Jackson as Centenary College of Louisiana. In 1908, after accepting generous gifts of land from the Atkins family, the Louisiana Methodist Conference reopened the College in its present home in Shreveport.

## Founders' Day

Founders' Day is an opportunity for us to reflect on our past, to celebrate our present, and to envision our future.



Event Code: FD21



# Centenary

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## Founders' Day

—CONVOCATION—

**MARCH 4, 2021**  
**11:10 AM**  
**BROWN MEMORIAL CHAPEL**

## Speakers

### Dr. Jama Grove



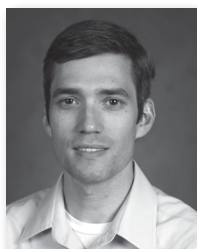
Dr. Jama Grove earned a Ph.D. in history from the University of Arkansas and taught courses in both the Department of History and the African and African American Studies Program at Arkansas during her graduate study. She has also taught history courses for the

University of Arkansas at Little Rock.

Grove's historical research examines the intersection of American agriculture and race, particularly in the South, and she has presented numerous conference papers and authored an article centered in this area. Her in-progress manuscript, *Making Whiteness Pay: Fictions, Farmers, and Fundraising*, explores 1920s philanthropic campaigns organized by the Farmers Federation Agricultural Cooperative in Western North Carolina as a lens for uncovering the national culture of white supremacy and the creation of structural racism in the region's agriculture in the twentieth century.

During the 2020-2021 academic year, Grove is teaching survey courses in United States history along with a course on research methods that will help students build skills for research and publication and a Black Freedom Struggles course.

### Mr. Chris Brown



Chris Brown is the archivist at Centenary College. He works to collect, preserve, and make available the permanent records of the college and the Louisiana Conference of the United Methodist Church. After graduating from Centenary in 2001, he worked as a research assistant for

Dr. Lee Morgan's book *Centenary College of Louisiana, 1825-2000: The Biography of an American Academy*. In 2009, he earned a Master of Library and Information Science degree from Louisiana State University. Brown is a member of the Academy of Certified Archivists, General Commission on Archives and History of the United Methodist Church, Louisiana Archives and Manuscripts Association, Society of American Archivists, and Society of Southwest Archivists. In addition, he serves on the governing board of the Louisiana State Exhibit Museum. Along with siblings and cousins, Brown is part of the sixth consecutive generation of his family to graduate from Centenary.

## Program

### Welcome and Recognition of Honorees

Dr. Christopher L. Holoman  
*President*

### Introduction

Dr. Holoman

### Founders' Day Presentation

Dr. Jama Grove and Mr. Chris Brown

### Closing

Dr. Holoman

### Benediction

Rev. Lindy Broderick  
*Chaplain and Director of Christian Leadership*

### Alma Mater

*Where the sleepy silver bayou  
Gleams among the pines,  
Watching o'er the throbbing city  
Alma Mater shines.*

*Forward, Forward, Centenary  
Time and tide may fail,  
But our hearts shall love thee ever,  
Centenary hail!*

