



September 26, 27, and 28, 2013 VFTE Chautauqua Symposium
With a Torch in Their Souls: The United States
Colored Troops of the Civil War

Practice in the art of conversation - demonstrating the leadership skills needed to guide civil discourse

Leading Questions:

- What was the purpose of the Port Royal Experiment?
- Who supported President Lincoln in this experiment in Freedom?
- Which were the first troops to serve with the Federal Army?
- Under what conditions did the men serve?
- Is there a difference between freedom and equality?
- Why did it take so long to recruit men of African descent?
- What were they offered if they served?
- Who was eligible to serve?
- What presence did men of African descent have in the Navy?
- What inventions and strategies came about to increase effectiveness in the war?
- Did the actions of the USCT affect the perceived success of the Union?
- What changed in the relationship of white officers to Black soldiers?
- What Songs and Marching, Evening and stories stay with your characters and you?
- Was the Port Royal Experiment a Success?
- What did people expect freedom to be like?
- What was the price of Freedom? For White soldiers /for soldiers of African descent?
- Who was of value? Why and How much? And did that change in the course of the war?
- What part did African Descent soldiers play in the overarching strategy for the conduct of the war?
- How did the perceptions of race class and gender change as a result of the actions of the USCT?
- How were the troops of the USCT assessed?
- How did the USCT affect the Armed forces in later years?