



HISTORICAL SOCIETY of  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

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**CONTACT:** Katrina Ingraham 202-516-1363 ext. 305  
kingraham@dchistory.org

**Historian Eric Yellin talks with Curator Samir Meghelli about Segregation in the Federal Workforce  
Latest Conversation in Historical Society's "Context for Today" Series**

**"The Most Important City: How the Federal Government Segregated Its Workforce"**

**An Online Conversation Presented by the Historical Society of Washington, D.C.**

**Thursday, June 25 at 7:30 pm**

**Register for the free Zoom event at <https://bit.ly/37Og6p6>**

How did Black federal employees resist the racist policies imposed by the Woodrow Wilson Administration (1913-1921)? What echoes do we see in the current protests and efforts to organize against white supremacy? And what has been the lasting impact of these and other racist policies on Black Washingtonians?

Washingtonians are calling out the many ways institutional racism has shaped our city and the lives of those who have lived here. In response the Historical Society offers "The Most Important City: How the Federal Government Segregated Its Workforce," a new installment in our Context for Today series of online conversations with thoughtful and thought-provoking historians.

Join us as Professor Eric S. Yellin, author of [\*Racism in the Nation's Service: Government Workers and the Color Line in Woodrow Wilson's America\*](#) (2013) and Anacostia Community Museum's Senior Curator Samir Meghelli, curator of [\*A Right to the City\*](#), explore the segregation of the federal government and how it has reverberated through the decades to influence life here in DC and around the nation.

Their conversation will also consider how historians make use of publicly archived journals, letters, and other personal writings of everyday people to uncover and amplify important stories. When the current pandemic disrupted daily life here, the Historical Society issued a call to area residents to submit journals, stories, images, and artwork in anticipation of the needs of future generations of historians. Find out more about this initiative at [In Real Time](#).

**[Register here](#) to receive your link to the free Zoom event. If you are able, please consider making a donation of \$20 per person to support this program and others like it.**

**Mark your calendar** for the next discussion on Thursday, July 16 at 7:30 pm.

"Is Statehood Possible, and If So, How?" a conversation with historian George Derek Musgrove on how statehood has become the most popular strategy for Washingtonians to gain the full rights of citizenship. Musgrove, associate professor of history at University of Maryland Baltimore County and co-author of *Chocolate City: A History of Race and Democracy in the Nation's Capital*, will speak with former *Washington Post* columnist Bob Levey.

**ABOUT THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON, D.C.**

The Historical Society of Washington, D.C., is a non-profit, 501(c)(3), community-supported educational and research organization that collects, interprets, and shares the history of our nation's capital in order to promote a sense of identity, place and pride in our city and preserve its heritage for future generations. Founded in 1894, the Historical Society serves a diverse audience through its collections, public programs, exhibitions, and publications. Currently its home at the DC History Center is closed due to the pandemic. To stay in touch, please sign up for our regular newsletter at <https://bit.ly/2XyVluu> and follow us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram (@dchistory). ###