

# EXHIBITING THE CULTURAL HERITAGE OF THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITY AT CHUCALISSA

Westwood-Indian Hills & Neighboring Developments Initiative, CDC Department of Anthropology

## PROJECT COORDINATORS

Dedra Macklin, Robert Connolly, Samantha Gibbs & Emily Schwimmer

## NEIGHBORHOOD

Westwood-Indian Hills, near T.O. Fuller State Park in southwest Memphis

## CHALLENGE

Youth in the Westwood-Indian Hills area struggle with a strong disconnect from their local cultural heritage. These young residents are often unaware of the generational blessings that provide their own identity. The American Indian community has similar struggles with developing a sense of their own cultural heritage.

## IDEA

Connect neighborhood residents to the local heritage by:

- Engaging neighborhood high school students in a summer program to collect the oral histories of neighborhood residents, learn about museum exhibits and their development, and create and install their own exhibit
- Hosting an exhibit documenting the African American cultural heritage in the area



Students explore the art of native American drumming as part of their summer experience.



Guests enjoyed the new exhibit at the C. H. Nash Museum at Chucalissa.



Nine local students from the Westwood/Indian Hills spent their summer investigating the cultural history of their neighborhood.



Students work on presentations for the African American heritage exhibit at Chucalissa museum.