

*Genealogist, Author, Lecturer,  
Family History Researcher*

# MICHAEL N. HENDERSON



When Michael N. Henderson sat at the foot of his mother at the age of nine, inquiring about the spelling of her mother's maiden name, he couldn't have imagined that his curiosity would lead him on a journey that has lasted the majority of his life, and has led him to make history along the way.

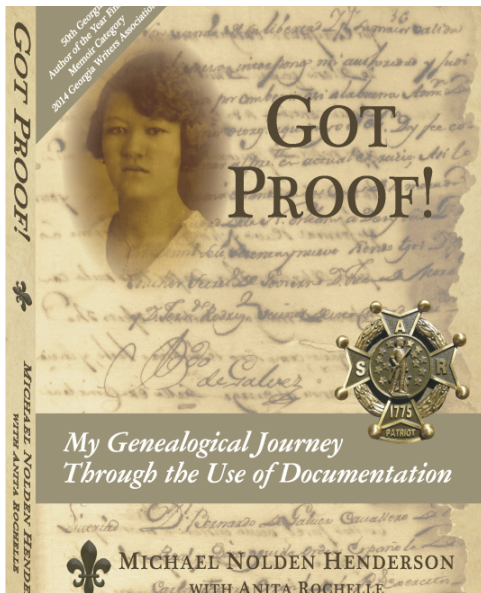
A retired Lieutenant Commander from the U.S. Navy, Henderson's genealogy journey has lasted more than 30 years and led him to become the first African American in the state of Georgia inducted into the National Society, Sons of the American Revolution. He later became vice president, then president of the Button Gwinnett Chapter.

Through his research, Henderson has documented his Native American, French, French-Canadian, African, and German-Swedish ancestry as far back as 1657. His research has led to memberships in the following lineage societies:

- National Society, Sons of the American Revolution
- General Society of the War of 1812
- Order of the Founders of North America, 1492 - 1692
- La Société des Filles du Roi et Soldats du Carignan, Inc.

He is the author of *Got Proof! My Genealogical Journey Through the Use of Documentation*. The book has won several awards, including First Place in the 2015 Next Generation Indie Book Awards (Memoir) from the Independent Book Publishing Professionals Group, and Finalist in the 50th Georgia Author of the Year Awards (Memoir) by the Georgia Writers Association in 2014.

View the PBS segment of "History Detectives" featuring Henderson and his research that uncovered a link between his fourth-generation great-grandparents and Spanish Governor Bernardo de Galvez.



In *Got Proof!* My Genealogical Journey Through the Use of Documentation, Henderson captures the attention of genealogists, historians, and others interested in the complex social structure that developed during the French and Spanish colonial periods in Louisiana. He explores the forbidden relationships from which evolved the unique Creole culture. Revealing original documents from as far back as the 1770s, Henderson uses his own experiences as a family history researcher, as well as the insight of noted scholars, to reveal the methods, standards, and techniques used to prove his ancestry.

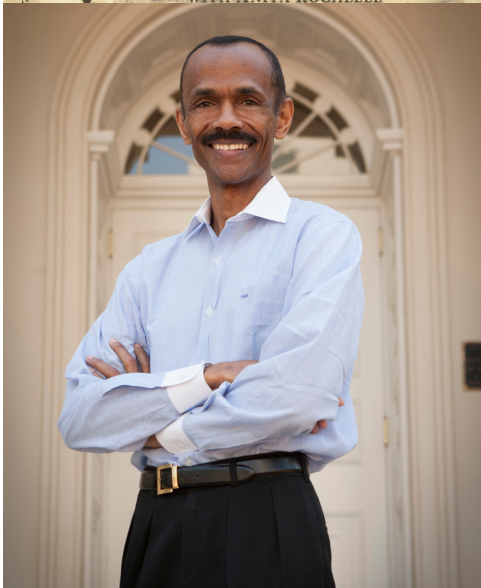
Henderson has been a speaker or guest lecturer at national, regional, and local events, including:

- National Genealogical Society (NGS) annual conference
- Institute for Genealogical and Historical Research (IGHR)
- RootsTech
- Southern California Genealogy Jamboree
- Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society (AAHGS)
- and others

He has received numerous awards for his research, including the Award of Merit from the Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS) in 2014; the Stephen Taylor Award for writing and preservation of history by the National Society, Sons of the American Revolution in 2013; and the James Dent Walker Award for Excellence in African American Genealogical Research in 2013.

His research has been displayed in temporary exhibits at the National Archives at Atlanta, and at the Louisville International Airport.

He is a member of the Louisiana Historical Society, the American-French Genealogical Society, the Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society, and the Georgia Genealogical Society.



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To schedule Mr. Henderson for appearances and speaking engagements, contact Anita Henderson with The Write Image, [anita@writeyourlife.net](mailto:anita@writeyourlife.net), 770.900.7097.