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Contact: Amanda Kimball at akimball@dehistory.org (302) 295-2390
Date August 21, 2017

**New Directions in African American History - Speaker Series
Twisted: My Dreadlock Chronicles by Dr. Bertram Ashe**

Wilmington, DE – What do dreadlocks symbolize in popular culture and what is the history behind this hairstyle choice? By deciding to grow his own dreadlocks, author Dr. Bertram Ashe explores these questions along with the reactions of strangers and family in his book, *Twisted: My Dreadlock Chronicles*. Using humor and self reflection, Ashe explores the effects of his choice in his personal life, while delving deeper into the political and social identity of dreadlocks.

Tuesday, September 26, 2017 6:00 p.m. at the Delaware History Museum, Copeland Room 504 North Market Street Wilmington, DE 19801. This event is FREE.

About Dr. Bertram Ashe, Associate Professor of English, University of Richmond.

Dr. Ashe earned an MA in English at Virginia Commonwealth University and a doctorate at the College of William and Mary. His research focuses on late twentieth-century and early twenty-first century literature and culture. *Twisted: My Dreadlock Chronicles* (Chicago: Agate, 2015), his current book, explores issues of black male identity, black culture, and black hair by narrating the journey of locking his hair while also exploring the history and cultural resonances of the dreadlock hairstyle in America.

About the Delaware Historical Society

The Delaware Historical Society owns and operates the Delaware History Museum; the Jane and Littleton Mitchell Center for African American Heritage; a nationally recognized Research Library; Old Town Hall; Willingtown Square, four 18th-century houses surrounding a picturesque urban courtyard located in downtown Wilmington; and the National Historic Landmark, Read House & Gardens located in historic New Castle. For more information, call (302) 655-7161, email deinfo@dehistory.org, or visit www.dehistory.org.

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