ASSOCIATION OF AFRICAN AMERICAN MUSEUMS
ANNUAL CONFERENCE

AUGUST 5 - 7
Virtual Conference

SUN, SOUL, AND SOIL: DIASPORIC BLACKNESS AND JUSTICE IN GLOBAL MUSEUMS
AUGUST 5 - 7
Virtual Conference
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Dear AAAM Members,

The future is now. What a pivot you have made in your personal lives, professional lives, and in your institutions. Because of you, AAAM is strong and operating at full momentum. In spite of the global pandemic we find ourselves facing, we are creating the future we wish to see.

As we look back, we have so much for which to be proud. AAAM has a mission that matters, representing a Black museums field that goes back to 1868 when the first Black museum in the United States was established at an HBCU, Hampton University.

We are an association that has matured from over 42 years of finding our way forward, to this moment of momentous pride. We have a great cloud of witnesses around us – Dr. Margaret Burroughs, Dr. Charles Howard Wright, John Kinard, Icabod Fluellen, Joan Maynard, Rowena Steward, Margaret Santiago, Bill Billingsley, and numerous others – a great cloud of witnesses who were the first to see and set the vision for this essential association. They call us to a higher place of practice.

These times of turbulence have been met with tenacity. Black theologian Otis Moss often says that we are living through two pandemics, COVID-19 and COVID-1619. The brutal force of tragedy that COVID-19 has brought compounded by the persistence of racialized terror and trauma that COVID-1619 has cast upon us have had us fighting for our lives, for Black lives that matter. Black museums have not wavered in seeing and serving the needs of communities. From taking your programs virtual to taking them outdoors, you have met the moment with innovation and a steadfast, unmovable commitment to your mission.

Like your institutions, AAAM, likewise, has pivoted. When we saw a need for collaboration and connection among Black museum leaders, we created the COVID-19 Regional Leadership Conversations, hosting a series of virtual conversations about fundraising, leadership, social justice activism, and programming during times of crisis. We thank all of the coordinators and gracious speakers who shared their expertise with us during that series. Speakers were Anna Barber, Sharron Rose, Robert Bull, Juanita Moore, Beverly Robertson, Amina Dickerson, Altheemese Barnes, Kathe Hambrick, Dr. John Fleming, Dr. Lawrence Piexaux, Dr. Hassan Jeffries, Dr. Robert Smith, Dr. Melanie Adams, and Dr. Kaye Wise Whitehead, a powerhouse lineup of speakers who gave us wisdom for the road we trod. Likewise, our emerging young professionals led by Lance Wheeler and Jessica Kelly have created a robust calendar of lively and lovely activities that move the AAAM mission forward. We thank you Emerging Museum Professionals.

The future is now. And because of that, AAAM is focused on three areas: 1. sustainable growth of the Black museums field, 2. the strategic priorities of the association, and 3. supporting you, our membership.

The best is yet to come. As Earth, Wind, and Fire reminded us, keep your head to the sky. Keep doing what you do – keep educating and engaging. Keep collecting and preserving. Keep telling the stories of our ancestors, artists, and activists. Keep convening and collaborating. Keep pushing and pressing. Keep listening and leading. Keep your head to the sky because that is where the future is, and that is where hope is. We look forward to all that is ahead for the Black museums field, for AAAM, and for you.
Executive Committee

LaNesha DeBardelaben
President
Northwest African American Museum
Seattle, Washington

Marion McGee
Vice President
National Museum of African American History and Culture
Washington, D.C.

Tsitsi (Tee) Jones
Treasurer
National Civil Rights Museum
Memphis, Tennessee

Dr. Robert E. Luckett, Jr.
Secretary
Jackson State University
Margaret Walker Center
Jackson, Mississippi

Malika Polk-Lee
Member-At-Large
B.B. King Museum
Indianola, Mississippi

Brian J. Carter
Immediate Past President
4-Culture
Seattle, Washington

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The Black Archives Historic Lyric Theater
Miami, Florida

Dr. Dina Bennett
National Museum of African American Music
Nashville, TN

Dion Brown
NMBL Strategies
Cincinnati, Ohio

Jacqueline Dace
Cincinnati, Ohio

Omar Eaton-Martinez
Maryland-National Capital Parks and Planning Commission,
Prince George's County Parks and Recreation
Riverdale, MD

Dr. Robert “Bert” Davis
America's Black Holocaust Museum
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Dr. Nicole Ivy
The George Washington University
Washington, DC

Dr. Ashley Jordan
National Underground Railroad Freedom Center
Cincinnati, OH

Shirl Spicer
Maryland-National Capital Parks and Planning Commission,
Montgomery County Parks
Silver Spring, Maryland

Brenda Tindal
International African American Museum
Charleston, South Carolina

Ahmad Ward
Historic Mitchelville Freedom Park
Hilton Head, South Carolina
Greetings AAAM Members and Supporters:

As we maneuver through this unique time, we have transitioned our 42nd AAAM Conference to a virtual platform. We appreciate all of your patience while we have carefully considered your safety and planning an exceptional virtual experience.

We will keep our tradition of providing quality sessions, an exhibition hall, opportunities to network with other conference attendees, and nightly receptions that will allow you to mingle and connect with other museum professionals.

We are excited about the dynamic line up of conference presenters, our keynote speaker, and lively nightly receptions all on our fantastic virtual platform, Pheedloop. The three day online event will be held August 5 thru August 7, 2020. Our conference schedule includes a keynote conversation entitled, The State of Black Museums: Leadership and Change During COVID-19 and Social Justice Movements, by Lonnie G. Bunch III, 14th Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution and Emmy Award winning journalist Jacque Reid. The conference will also feature a special performance by R&B recording artist, Kenny Lattimore. Mr. Lattimore has received Grammy, Soul Train, and Stellar Awards nominations and is an NAACP Image Award recipient for Best New Artist.

We are enduring such tough times through this year with changes and challenges, but we are confident that this virtual conference will be a rewarding experience. I look forward to seeing you for #AAAM2020!

All the best,

[Signature]

Vedet Coleman-Robinson
Executive Director
Association of African American Museums
July 10, 2020

Dear Members of AAAM:

In less than a month, we will be gathering for a groundbreaking, virtual convening of the Association of African American Museums (AAAM), and we hope that all of you will make plans to join us.

Although we will miss communing with you in person, we are so excited to highlight the great work that continues to be done across the country in our field. In the context of both the coronavirus pandemic and the social justice movements that have swept the country in recent weeks, AAAM and its member institutions remain essential organizations that provide crucial resources and opportunities for our communities.

Over the past several months, the planning committee for this year’s conference has worked hard to pivot to the virtual format, and we are proud of the schedule of events, participants, plenaries, keynote, receptions, and concurrent sessions that will fill our three days together, August 5-7.

If you have not done so, we urge you to register for the conference, and, with the reduced rates being offered, we hope you will encourage your teams and members of your community to join us. You even have time to apply for the generous scholarships being offered to our members. We understand that the pandemic has placed an even greater burden than usual on our institutions, and we do not want the lack of resources to preclude anyone from participating in #AAAM2020.

We look forward to seeing all of you next month, and we are grateful for you and all that you do.

Sincerely,

Robby Luckett, Chair of AAAM Conference Planning Committee
Omar Eaton-Martinez, Co-Chair AAAM Conference Planning Committee
#AAAM2020 CONFERENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE

**Planning Committee**

Robby Luckett, Jr. Chair, Board Secretary  
Omar Eaton-Martinez, Co-Chair  
Vedet Coleman-Robinson, Executive Director  
LaNesha Debardelaben, Board President  
Marion McGee, Board Vice President  
Kyle Hutchinson  
John Parker  
Kiah Graham  
Camille Vincent  
Tim Barber  
Izetta Mobley  
Nicole Ivy  
Dion Brown  
Ahmad Ward  
Lance Wheeler  
Noelle Trent  
Shakia Gullette

**Program Committee**

Brenda Tindal, Chair  
Izetta Mobley, Co-Chair  
Tafeni English  
Martina Morale  
Jessica Kelly  
Brigette Jones  
Tequila Harris-Fenwick  
Lacey Wilson  
Levon Williams  
Michelle Lanier  
Traka Lopez  
John Spann  
Charles Chavis  
Shelby Henderson  
Chris Miller
**MISSION**
The Association of African American Museums (AAAM) is a non-profit member organization established to support African and African American focused museums nationally and internationally, as well as the professionals who protect, preserve and interpret African and African American art, history and culture.

Established as the single representative and principal voice of the African American museum movement, the Association seeks to strengthen and advocate for the interests of institutions and individuals committed to the preservation of African-derived cultures.

The services provided by AAAM enhance the ability of those museums to serve the needs and interests of persons of African ancestry and those who wish to know more about the art, history and culture of African-derived cultures.

**AAAM FOUNDERS**
AAAM was established to provide professional development and networking opportunities to serve its membership base and African American and African diaspora audiences broadly. The Association has a longstanding success rate of convening leaders, from national and international institutions, around issues of professional development and capacity building, boasting a membership of over 500 individual and institutional members rallying around this worthy cause.

Membership is comprised of museums, museum professionals, institutions, and individuals that share an interest in African American art, culture, and history. Through training opportunities and member services, AAAM supports the goals of African American museums and museum professionals. The Association includes cultural organizations, historical societies and museums which not only collect, preserve, and exhibit objects valuable to art, history and science, but also educational institutions, research agencies and cultural centers.

AAAM works as an advocate for the interests of institutions and individuals committed to the support of African and African derived cultures. It defines a relationship for the body of such institutions within the national museum community, and seeks to strengthen such institutions through improved communication, shared resources, training, annual conferences, technical assistance, and fundraising guidance. The Association also provides, through newsletters, placement bureaus, etc., services supportive for the professional needs of its membership.

AAAM shares a common core of knowledge and sense of purpose with of our member institutions to advance the professional and scholarly attainments of our members by supporting opportunities for sound professional preparation,
COVID-19 Leadership Conversations: Reopening Experiences for Black Museums

GENERAL SESSION

Jacqueline Dace - Moderator
Museum Leadership

Ahmad Ward
Executive Director, Historic Mitchelville Freedom Park

Omar Eaton-Martinez
Assistant Division Chief, Historic Resources, M-NCPPC

Shirl Spicer
Countywide Museum Manager, M-NCPPC, Montgomery Parks

Timothy Barber
Executive Director, The Black Archives Archives History & Research Foundation of South FL, Inc.

Tsitsi Jones
Chief Financial Officer, National Civil Rights Museum

Vedet Coleman-Robinson
Executive Director, Association of African American Museums

AAAM continues to host its web-based leadership conversations for executive leaders of African American museums across the country. The sessions will start at 2:00pm (Eastern Time). We hope that leaders will use this platform for collective brainstorming, sharing of ideas and resources, and to strategically talk about the next steps after the COVID-19 pandemic is resolved. This initiative is open to all Presidents, CEOs or Executive Directors of African American museums, their designees, including non-AAAM members. & #AAAM2020 registered guests may attend.
This 90-minute dialogue will explore how trauma impacts how we engage visitors, staff, and our communities. In the wake of a spring and summer of illness, loss, precarity, and violence, museums are charged with navigating a twenty-first century landscape that demands empathy, ethics, and a praxis of care in how we do our work. How can we learn from the practice of trauma-informed care? How can we incorporate an ethic of radical and ethical care into our museum and cultural work—and why does doing so matter?
ASSOCIATION OF AFRICAN AMERICAN MUSEUMS VIRTUAL CONFERENCE 2020

DAY2 Thursday, August 6 | 10:00 to 10:30 am

Welcome and Opening Remarks

General Session

Vedet Coleman-Robinson
Executive Director, Association of African American Museums

LaNesha DeBardelaben
AAAM Board President, Northwest African American Museum

Join AAAM Executive Director, Vedet Coleman Robinson and AAAM Board Chair LaNesha DeBardelaben as we welcome you to our 42nd Annual Conference presented Virtually.

DAY2 Thursday, August 6 | 10:30 to 11:20 am

A Litany for Survival: Creating mental and emotional wellness for yourself, your staff, and your public

Organizational Development Concurrent

Christina Shutt
Executive Director, Mosaic Templars Cultural Center

Christen Stanley
Director of Education, Mosaic Templars Cultural Center

BLACK MUSEUMS ARE ROUTINELY SEEN AS A VOICE OF VALIDATION, A COMMUNITY RESOURCE, AND AN EPICENTER OF CULTURAL PRIDE. THIS SESSION WILL EXPLORE HOW ONE AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY AND CULTURE MUSEUM IS CREATING MENTAL AND EMOTIONAL WELLNESS FOR ITSELF, FOR ITS STAFF, AND FOR THE PUBLIC AT LARGE. BY UNDERSTANDING THAT SELF, STAFF, AND COMMUNITY CARE ARE NOT SELF-INDULGENT, BUT RATHER PRESERVATION, THIS SESSION WILL EXPLORE THE PREPARATION, RECOVERY AND SUSTAINING OF MUSEUM JUSTICE WORK.
Caribbean Genealogies in Museums

Audience Diversity Concurrent

Germaine Joseph
Heritage Officer, Walcott House Museum : The Saint Lucia National Trust

Jada Benn Torres
Associate Professor of Anthropology, Vanderbilt University

Kamilah Stinnett
Genealogy Reference Assistant, Smithsonian Institution-NMAAHC

John Martin
Director, Grenada National Museum

Our Caribbean museums are empty of our stories, stories of who we were, stories of who we are, and stories of who we want to become. Our genealogies are absent from our museums and heritage spaces as if we are not worthy to inhabit these places. Within the last thirty years, genetic data has increasingly been used to address questions about the origins and histories of black people. In the Caribbean, genetic data is particularly useful for adding novel perspectives to understanding the initial peopling of the Caribbean diaspora as well as the impact of the trans-Atlantic slave trade.

Day 2
Thursday, August 6 | 11:30 am to 12:30 pm

Keynote Conversation and Luncheon - Featuring: Lonnie Bunch III, 14th Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution

Opening Remarks By Dr. Spencer Crew
Acting Director of the National Museum of African American History and Culture

The state of Black Museums: Leadership and Change During COVID-19 and Social Justice Movements; with Lonnie G. Bunch III, 14th Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution and Jacque Reid Emmy Award-Winning Journalist
This is your chance to grab your lunch and listen to a dynamic and engaging keynote conversation.

Sponsored by:
NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY & CULTURE
ASSOCIATION OF AFRICAN AMERICAN MUSEUMS
VIRTUAL CONFERENCE 2020

Climate Justice The Wright Way -- Creating a Model for African American Museums to Lead Environmental Justice Work

Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History

La Toya Morgan
Principal, Moreē Strategic Insights, LLC

Leslie Tom
Chief Sustainability Officer, Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History

Neil Barclay
President and CEO, Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History

Reginald Woolery
Director of Education, Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History

The Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History proposes a panel on creating cross-institutional and community collaborations through our work with sustainability - energy, water and waste. We will share our process, nuts and bolts, and lessons learned in placing African American museums as leading voices in a citywide environmental justice project. We will deep dive into building our community engagement frameworks and planning and implementing grants from an executive leadership, education, and collaborative policy perspective. We will speak to how we are creating collaboration models to lessen institutional and community silos, and engage the community.

Confronting the Past Through Art, Education, and Reconciliation: Community Engagement as an Invitation to Rethink and Remember

Joie Brown
Marketing Manager, Birmingham Civil Rights Institute

John Fields
Senior Director, Abroms//Engel Institute for the Visual Arts

This presentation will discuss the partnership between the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute (BCRI), The Abroms-Engel Institute for the Visual Arts (AEIVA), and The Jefferson County Memorial Project (JCMP). JCMP is a grassroots coalition composed of more than 35 community partners with five goals: researching the 33 documented racial terror victims of Jefferson County, Alabama, and their descendants; educating the public on the importance of this history; placing historical markers at lynching sites; retrieving our monument from the National Memorial for Peace and Justice; and advocating for reform. Where racial injustice still exists today
ASSOCIATION OF AFRICAN AMERICAN MUSEUMS VIRTUAL CONFERENCE 2020

DAY2 Thursday, August 6  |  1:00 to 1:50 pm

**Imagining a Future of Caribbean Urbanization**

- **Collections Stewardship**
- **Concurrent**

**Nyugen Smith**  
Artist / Lecturer of Interdisciplinary Art, Southern Methodist University

**Marvin Fabien**  
Artist / Professor - PhD Candidate, Université des Antilles, Martinique

**Marie Vickles**  
Director of Education, Pérez Art Museum Miami (PAMM)

**Hervé Sabin**  
 Principle/Director, Studio Drum Collaborative

THIS ROUNDTABLE SESSION SEEKS TO CONNECT AND ADDRESS THE EVOLVING NATURE AND CHALLENGES OF CARIBBEAN URBANIZATION, RELATED SOCIAL ISSUES, THE TRANSFORMATION OF RURAL AREAS THROUGH URBANIZATION, AND RESILIENCY. THIS INTERACTIVE ROUNDTABLE WILL EXPLORE THE EVOLVING ISSUE OF URBANIZATION, AND OTHER RELATED ISSUES THAT INCLUDE ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE, EDUCATION, CHANGING ECONOMIES, AND LEISURE-BASED PRESSURES SUCH AS TOURISM. THE IMPORTANCE AND NECESSITY OF IMAGINING THE POSSIBILITIES OF WHAT CAN BE ARE CRITICAL PARTS OF ANY SHIFT IN LARGER SOCIETAL MOVEMENTS, AND THE INTERSECTIONS BETWEEN MULTIDISCIPLINARY CULTURAL PRODUCTION AND URBANISM WILL BE CLOSELY ANALYZED.

DAY2 Thursday, August 6  |  1:00 to 1:50 pm

**From the Margin to the Center: Curatorial Intentionality in Reinterpreting the American Past**

- **Collections Stewardship**
- **Concurrent**

**Tsione Wolde-Michael**  
Curator, Smithsonian National Museum of American History

**Modupe Labode**  
Curator, National Museum of American History

**Fath Davis Ruffins**  
Curator, Division of Home and Community Life, National Museum of American History–Smithsonian

**Crystal Moten**  
Curator, National Museum of American History

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**DAY2**
Thursday, August 6  |  2:00 to 2:50 pm

**Oasis Spaces: Shifting and Sharing North Carolina’s "Green Book" Narrative**

- **Visitor Experience**
- **Concurrent**

**Michelle Lanier**
Director, North Carolina Division of State Historic Sites & Properties

**Karen Ipock**
Child Education Coordinator, NC Department of Natural and Cultural Resources

**Angela Thorpe**
Director, NC African American Heritage Commission, NC African American Heritage Commission

This session will demonstrate how the North Carolina African American Heritage Commission leveraged a series of methodologies and partnerships to develop statewide resources centered on the “Negro Motorist Green Book” and its impact on the state of North Carolina. Taken together, thoughtful community-based heritage practices, including community-based archiving, oral histories and community information sessions; intra-departmental partnerships; and statewide institutional partnerships helped to birth statewide traveling exhibitions, an interactive web portal, a webinar series, physical and digital educational resources and programs for museum and public school educators, and engaging public programs.

**DAY2**
Thursday, August 6  |  2:00 to 2:50 pm

**Tapping New Donors: Fundraising Strategies of the National Museum of African American History and Culture**

- **Financial Stewardship**
- **Concurrent**

**Sidney Hargro**
President, Philanthropy Network Greater Philadelphia

**Patricia Wilson Aden**
President & CEO, African American Museum in Philadelphia

**Adrienne Brooks**
Director of Advancement, NMAAHC

This session will present an in-depth panel discussion on fundraising strategies employed by the National Museum of African American History and Culture, which raised nearly $400 million in private money to open the new museum in 2016. This fundraising campaign exploded long-held beliefs about African American philanthropy. The unprecedented generosity of African American entrepreneurs, celebrities, and others, including those from the African diaspora, contradicted the notion that Black people are not philanthropic. Additionally, it showcased our community’s appetite for an institution that celebrates its art, history, and culture.
ASSOCIATION OF AFRICAN AMERICAN MUSEUMS VIRTUAL CONFERENCE 2020

Oasis Spaces: Shifting and Sharing North Carolina’s "Green Book" Narrative

**Visitor Experience**  **Concurrent**

Michelle Lanier  
Director, North Carolina Division of State Historic Sites & Properties

Karen Ipock  
Child Education Coordinator, NC Department of Natural and Cultural Resources

Angela Thorpe  
Director, NC African American Heritage Commission, NC African American Heritage Commission

THIS SESSION WILL DEMONSTRATE HOW THE NORTH CAROLINA AFRICAN AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION LEVERAGED A SERIES OF METHODOLOGIES AND PARTNERSHIPS TO DEVELOP STATEWIDE RESOURCES CENTERED ON THE "NEGRO MOTORIST GREEN BOOK" AND ITS IMPACT ON THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA. TAKEN TOGETHER, THOUGHTFUL COMMUNITY-BASED HERITAGE PRACTICES, INCLUDING COMMUNITY-BASED ARCHIVING, ORAL HISTORIES AND COMMUNITY INFORMATION SESSIONS; INTRA-DEPARTMENTAL PARTNERSHIPS; AND STATEWIDE INSTITUTIONAL PARTNERSHIPS HELPED TO BIRTH STATEWIDE TRAVELING EXHIBITIONS, AN INTERACTIVE WEB PORTAL, A WEBINAR SERIES, PHYSICAL AND DIGITAL EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES AND PROGRAMS FOR MUSEUM AND PUBLIC SCHOOL EDUCATORS, AND ENGAGING PUBLIC PROGRAMS.

Tapping New Donors: Fundraising Strategies of the National Museum of African American History and Culture

**Financial Stewardship**  **Concurrent**

Sidney Hargro  
President, Philanthropy Network Greater Philadelphia

Patricia Wilson Aden  
President & CEO, African American Museum in Philadelphia

Adrienne Brooks  
Director of Advancement, NMAAHC

THIS SESSION WILL PRESENT AN IN-DEPTH PANEL DISCUSSION ON FUNDRAISING STRATEGIES EMPLOYED BY THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY AND CULTURE, WHICH RAISED NEARLY $400 MILLION IN PRIVATE MONEY TO OPEN THE NEW MUSEUM IN 2016. THIS FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN EXPLODED LONG-HELD BELIEFS ABOUT AFRICAN AMERICAN PHILANTHROPY. THE UNPRECEDENTED GENEROSITY OF AFRICAN AMERICAN ENTREPRENEURS, CELEBRITIES, AND OTHERS, INCLUDING THOSE FROM THE AFRICAN DIASPORA, CONTRADICTED THE NOTION THAT BLACK PEOPLE ARE NOT PHILANTHROPIC. ADDITIONALLY, IT SHOWCASED OUR COMMUNITY’S APPETITE FOR AN INSTITUTION THAT CELEBRATES ITS ART, HISTORY, AND CULTURE.
ASSOCIATION OF AFRICAN AMERICAN MUSEUMS VIRTUAL CONFERENCE 2020

DAYS

Thursday, August 6 | 2:00 to 2:50 pm

National Park Service Resources for Museums and Cultural Institutions

**Financial Stewardship** | Concurrent

**Reginald Chapple**
Acting Assistant Director Partnerships and Civic Engagement, National Park Service

**Porsha Dossie**
Historian, Park History Program, National Park Service

**Jessica Kelly-EMP**
Grants Management Specialist, State Tribal Local Plans and Grants, National Park Service

**Angel Thompson**
Project Manager Cultural Resources, National Park Foundation

This session will discuss offerings from the Federal Government and the National Park Foundation that are available to African American Museums and Cultural Institutions. Representatives from the African American Civil Rights Network; the Partnerships and Civic Engagement Office; the State, Tribal, Local, Plans and Grants Office; and the National Park Foundation will each present on what is available from their offices and answer questions from the audience. Topics will include funding opportunities and where to find them, best practices to apply, and how to use these tools to advance your institution. This session will address community building and preservation.

DAYS

Thursday, August 6 | 2:00 to 2:50 pm

Balm over Gilead: The NMAAHC As a Site of Conscience

**Visitor Experience** | Concurrent

**Ajani Rountree**
Doctoral Research Fellow, The John Mitchell, Jr. Program, Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter School for Peace and Conflict Resolution

**Charles Chavis, Jr.**
Director, The John Mitchell Jr. Program, Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter School for Peace and Conflict Resolution

**Christie Jones**
Doctoral Student, The John Mitchell Jr. Program for History, Justice and Race

**Iris Barnes**
Curator, Lillie Carroll Jackson Civil Rights Museum

Today, museums continue to strive to demonstrate their public interest and to interact critically with the processes and institutions on which they were built. In response to the political climate, museum professionals have increasingly begun to position their work and organizations towards justice, inclusion, and resolving historical trauma. This roundtable is intended to provide museum professionals with the opportunity to explore museum education opportunities that center on social justice activism and peacebuilding. Participants include museum curators, historians, museum educators, directors, and archivists, who will discuss the roles that museums can play as spaces for social transformation.
TWO ORGANIZATIONS LOCATED IN DIFFERENT HISTORICALLY BLACK, YET RAPIDLY GENTRIFYING SOUTH FLORIDA COMMUNITIES, CAME TOGETHER BECAUSE OF THEIR COMMITMENT TO STEWARDING AND PROVIDING ACCESS TO COLLECTIONS DEDICATED TO THE PEOPLE OF AFRICAN DESCENT. JOINING FORCES, THEY COLLABORATED ON AN EXHIBITION WITH THE INTENT TO HELP BLUR THE LINES OF A PERVASIVE COUNTY LINE DIVIDE BETWEEN BROWARD AND MIAMI-DADE COUNTIES. THROUGH THE UNITING OF INSTITUTIONS AND COLLECTIONS, THE HOPE WAS TO BRING THE PEOPLE OF THE BLACK DIASPORA LIVING IN FORT LAUDERDALE AND MIAMI TOGETHER THROUGH ART.

This talk show will be hosted by public historians, each of whom graduated from a North Carolina historically black college and university (HBCU) and is currently employed by the North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources (DNCR). The hosts will discuss: (1) how their ties to North Carolina’s marginalized communities have shaped their practice as public historians; (2) how their positions at DNCR afford them opportunities to create and promote programs for audience diversity, leadership development, and visitor experience; and (3) how these practices are allowing them to specifically research and educate the public about African and African American museums.
ASSOCIATION OF AFRICAN AMERICAN MUSEUMS VIRTUAL CONFERENCE 2020

D A Y2  
Thursday, August 6  |  3:00 to 3:50 pm

Shaping, Sharing, and Storytelling: Black Male Museum Professionals in the 21st Century

Brandon Nightingale-EMP  
Archival Coordinator, Bethune-Cookman University

JaMarcus Underwood  
Museum Educator, Jack Hadley Black History Museum

Joshua Parks  
curator, Seashore Farmers' Lodge No. 767

Lance Wheeler  
Education & PR Manager, The Margaret Walker Center & COFO Civil Rights Education Center

ENCOURAGING THE NEXT GENERATION OF MUSEUM LEADERSHIP AMONG AFRICAN AMERICAN MALES IS CRITICAL TO THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE PROFESSION. AS OPPORTUNITIES FOR NEW VOICES AND LEADERS ARISE, ATTENTION SHOULD BE FOCUSED PARTICULARLY ON THOSE WHO ARE LEAST REPRESENTED, BLACK MEN. LOOKING BACK ON HOW MUSEUM TRAILBLAZERS, SUCH AS CHARLES H. WRIGHT, JOHN KINARD, AND JOHN FLEMING, CREATED A WAY FOR A NEW GENERATION OF PROFESSIONALS, THIS PANEL WILL EXAMINE THE RESPONSIBILITY TO KEEP THEIR VISION ALIVE AND HOW THAT FALLS ON THE SHOULDERS OF BLACK MALES IN THE FIELD TODAY.

D A Y2  
Thursday, August 6  |  3:00 to 3:50 pm

Rooted In NC : Navigating State Supported Institutions and Planting Seeds of the African Diaspora in North Carolina

Natalie Rodriguez  
Education Coordinator and Tour Coordinator, North Carolina State Capitol and NC Executive Mansion

Khadija Brandon  
Assistant Site Manager, Stagville State Historic Site, NC Department of Natural and Cultural Resources

Ashley Adams  
Historian, NC Office of Archives and History

THIS TALK SHOW WILL BE HOSTED BY PUBLIC HISTORIANS, EACH OF WHOM GRADUATED FROM A NORTH CAROLINA HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY (HBCU) AND IS CURRENTLY EMPLOYED BY THE NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES (DNCR). THE HOSTS WILL DISCUSS: (1) HOW THEIR TIES TO NORTH CAROLINA’S MARGINALIZED COMMUNITIES HAVE SHAPED THEIR PRACTICE AS PUBLIC HISTORIANS; (2) HOW THEIR POSITIONS AT DNCR AFFORDS THEM OPPORTUNITIES TO CREATE AND PROMOTE PROGRAMS FOR AUDIENCE DIVERSITY, LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT, AND VISITOR EXPERIENCE; AND (3) HOW THESE PRACTICES ARE ALLOWING THEM TO SPECIFICALLY RESEARCH AND EDUCATE THE PUBLIC ABOUT AFRICAN AND AFRICAN AMERICAN MUSEUMS.
BLACK MUSEUM PROFESSIONALS, ESPECIALLY THOSE IN LEADERSHIP POSITIONS ARE ROUTINELY FACED WITH PROPOSITIONS, AGREEMENTS AND EVEN VEILED THREATS THAT OUR WHITE COUNTERPARTS WILL NOT ENCOUNTER. THESE SITUATIONS ARE FRAMED AS "FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE ORGANIZATION AND OFTEN AS "OFFERS THAT CAN'T BE REFUSED." THE ACCELERATED PRESSURE THAT ARISES FROM THESE EVENTS CAN PLACE BLACK PROFESSIONALS IN COMPRISING POSITIONS, IN ORDER TO PACIFY ELECTED OFFICIALS / BOARD MEMBERS OR ACCOMMODATE POTENTIAL DONORS. THE UNCOMFORTABLE TRUTH IS, THESE THINGS HAPPEN TO BLACK MUSEUMS / PROFESSIONALS BECAUSE THERE IS A PREVAILING THOUGHT THAT WE SHOULD ACCEPT LESS DUE TO OUR VARYING LEVELS.

CLOSING PLENARY: AMERICA250 for Black Museums
THE ASSOCIATION OF AFRICAN AMERICAN MUSEUMS (AAAM) RECENTLY ANNOUNCED THAT GRAMMY-NOMINATED KENNY LATTIMORE WILL JOIN THE #AAAM2020 CONFERENCE LINEUP. LATTIMORE WILL MAKE HIS AAAM DEBUT AT THE 42ND ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND PARTICIPATE IN A SPECIAL CONCERT FOR AAAM MEMBERS, SUPPORTERS, AND FRIENDS ON THURSDAY, AUGUST 6, AT 6:30 PM ET.

ALL CONFERENCE FULL-ACCESS REGISTRANTS WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO JOIN THE CONCERT AND POST-CONCERT RECEPTION (LISTED SEPARATELY).

SPONSORED IN PART BY:

Post-Concert Reception by:
DJ Mr. Magichands

It's NOT over! Join us after the amazing Kenny Lattimore concert as we pump up the beats!

This will be a format for everyone to see each other and interact!
ASSOCIATION OF AFRICAN AMERICAN MUSEUMS
VIRTUAL CONFERENCE 2020

D A Y 3
Friday, August 7 | 11:30 am to 11:50 pm

Stay Connected with Your Visitors and Reopen Safely Using STQRY

Visitor Experience  General Session

Genevieve Hauck
Marketing Communications Manager, STQRY (formerly OnCell)

Josh Gilbert
Director of Customer Experience, STQRY (formerly OnCell)

Participants of this webinar will learn more about the ways you can turn an app into a full digital experience to serve both onsite and offsite visitors. Presenters from STQRY will provide an overview of the many ways other organizations have been utilizing the STQRY platforms - before or during the COVID-19 pandemic - to stay connected with visitors and now, to reopen safely.

D A Y 3
Friday, August 7 | 10:00 am to 5:00 pm

2020 VIRTUAL SPEED NETWORKING

Friday, August 7, 2020 10AM - 5PM
Last year, through a generous three-year grant from The Andrew Mellon Foundation, the Association of African American Museums (AAAM) hired Vedet Coleman-Robinson as the association’s Executive Director.

We continue to remain thankful to The Mellon Foundation for their continued support and furthering AAAM’s mission.

AAAM is proud to be a recipient of the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Chairman’s Grant Award.

The funding supports the development and expansion of digital engagement with practitioners from African and African American focused museums.

A portion of the NEH funding allowed our organization to increase our digital meeting platform for #AAAM2020.
ASSOCIATION OF AFRICAN AMERICAN MUSEUMS VIRTUAL CONFERENCE 2020

MANY THANKS TO OUR GENEROUS #AAAM2020 SPONSORS
SAVE THE DATE:
AAAM CONFERENCE 2021
AUGUST 4-6

2021 CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Deadline to submit a Session Proposal:
Saturday, March 13th, 2021 | 11:59 pm (PT)

Submit Proposal Here