ASSOCIATION OF AFRICAN AMERICAN MUSEUMS

# RENEWAL, REVIVAL, REMEMBRANCE.

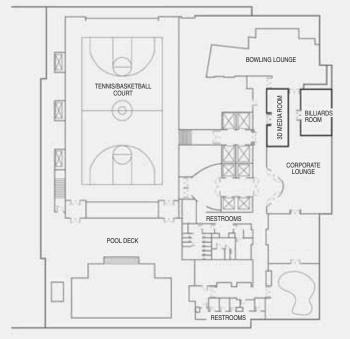
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# AUGUST 10-12, MIAMI, FL

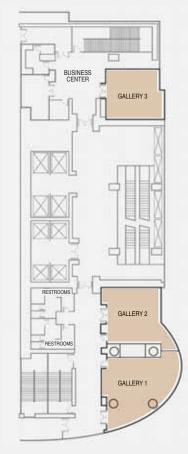
Strand CONFERENCE Renewal, Revival & Remembrance

# Conference Floor Plan

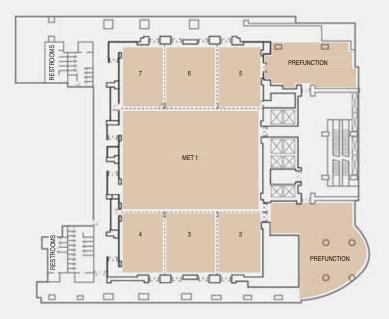
## **ROOF TOP**



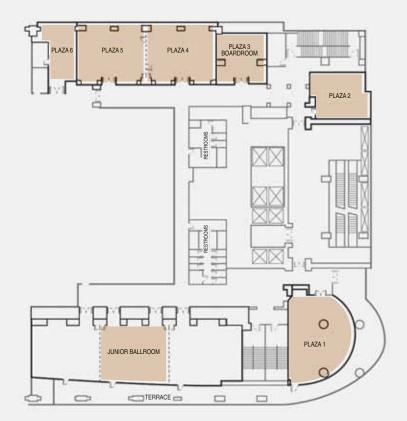
### **4TH FLOOR**



# **3RD FLOOR**



# **5TH FLOOR**



# Table of Contents



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Floor Plan Inside Cover
Board Chair Letter 02
Board of Directors
Executive Director's Welcome Letter $\dots$ 05
Hotel Info
Black Archives Letter
Conference Chair Letter 09
Historical Overview
Host City Welcome Letter
Conference At-A-Glance
Day 1 Conference Activities
Opening Plenary
Day 2 Conference Sessions
2022 Award Recipients
2022 John E. Fleming Awardee
2022 John & Marjorie Kinard Award
Speed Networking
Day 3 Conference Sessions
Closing Plenary 42
A Look Back at Miami's Black Heritage 48
Closing Reception
SponsorsBack

1



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DR. DORETHA WILLIAMS Washington, DC AAAM Colleagues and Friends,

W earefinally here in Miami, and I am delighted to welcome you on behalf of the Board of Directors of the Association of African American Museums to AAAM's Annual Conference. A two-year pandemic paused our annual in-person convenings but did not stop our togetherness. As a field, Black museums persevered, persisted, and pressed through an unprecedented period that required more from us than we ever knew we had. But we are here, renewed, revived, and remembering.

AAAM has achieved impressive strides since our last in-person gathering in 2019. Record-breaking membership growth, seven-figure gains in fundraising success, and broad programmatic impact upon the field are just a few of the celebratory achievements of AAAM over the last two years under the leadership of Executive Director Dr. Vedet Coleman-Robinson. AAAM member institutions from coast to coast have also been unstoppable and fiercely dedicated to their missions and communities.

As we convene for this long-awaited annual conference in Miami, let us celebrate the ways we have all been resilient and remarkable. We could not have a more fitting 2022 conference theme: *Renewal, Revival, Remembrance.* Simply, yet profoundly, those words embody our reality, our longing, our path forward. There is no new beginning without these three. We are at the threshold of transformations - in our Association, in our museums, in our communities, in our very lives, that require us to be renewed, to awaken our cores, and to always remember. We come to what is to come.

Enjoy everything our AAAM hybrid conference experience offers. Whether you are present in person or tuned in virtually, bring your entire self into this shared space to learn and reconnect. To the South Florida Black museums community and the host committee, led by AAAM Board Member Timothy Barber, thank you for your tremendous hospitality, graciousness, and patience.

W e also thank the conference planning team led by AAAM Board Member Dr. Noelle Trent for your leadership and salute our outgoing AAAM board members: Jacqueline Dace, Tsitsi Jones, Dr. Robby Luckett, Jr., and Malika Polk-Lee for their outstanding service to the field. We enthusiastically congratulate and welcome incoming AAAM board members: Dr. Rolando Herts, Sheila McDaniel, Robert Parker and Damika Wilson.

To all conference attendees, thank you for making the last two years that AAAM could not meet in person meaningful with your remote involvement, virtual participation, and partnerships across the miles. We lost so much while we learned so much. Now that we are back in shared spaces, we embrace the fullness of this moment and we look forward to all that is ahead for AAAM as we are renewed, revived, and remember.

Sincerely,

L aNesha DeBardelaben

LaNesha DeBardelaben Board President, Association of African American Museums



AAAM | P.O. Box 23698 | Washington, DC 20026 | O: 202-633-2869 | E: info@blackmuseums.org | W: www.blackmuseums.org

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#### Omar Eaton-Martinez Vice President

National Trust for Historic Preservation Senior Vice President for Historic Sites Washington, DC

#### Tsitsi (Tee) Jones Treasurer

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### Malika Polk-Lee

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Historic Mitchelville Freedom Park Executive Director Hilton Head Island, South Carolina

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#### **Executive Director**

DR. VEDET COLEMAN-ROBINSON

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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BRENDA TINDAL Charleston, South Carolina

DR. NOELLE TRENT Memphis, TN

Анмад Ward Hilton Head, South Carolina

DR. DORETHA WILLIAMS Washington, DC Greetings AAAM Members and Supporters:

I am pleased to welcome you Miami, Florida, for our 44th Annual Conference of the Association of African American Museums! The Planning and Host Committees have spent a great deal of time since our last in-person convening in 2019, making sure that this conference exceeds your expectations, and I can assure you that this year will not disappoint!

As we continue navigating the new normal, I find it quite fitting that AAAM's 2022 conference theme: "Renewal, Revival, Remembrance" is perfectly aligned with the vital work that each of you do. What we have is truly unique, and we must continue to fight the good fight to be the gatekeepers for and truthtellers of our collective stories.

It is my hope, that as you move through sessions, hustle to workshops, and relax at the receptions, that you take this time to become reacquainted with your AAAM colleagues, by intentionally finding and introducing yourself to a member who has been a part of our organization for quite some time.

I also hope that you revive the good AAAM spirit, and introduce yourself to a first-time attendee, a student member, or a member who is particularly new to our association. We have a lot to learn from one another and the collective knowledge that we possess in this point of time is unparalleled to any other organization as it pertains to Black Museums as well as throughout the field writ large.

Finally, please take a moment to remember our founders, friends, and colleagues who are no longer with us. We remember them for foundation that they built, as well as each brick that was laid since 1978. It is important that we remember the rich legacy of our members who we have even lost within the past few years due to the COVID-19 pandemic. They are, and we are, AAAM!

Let's take this time while in Miami, FL, to get reacquainted with the soul of AAAM! Again, welcome, and I look forward to reintroducing myself and interacting with you!

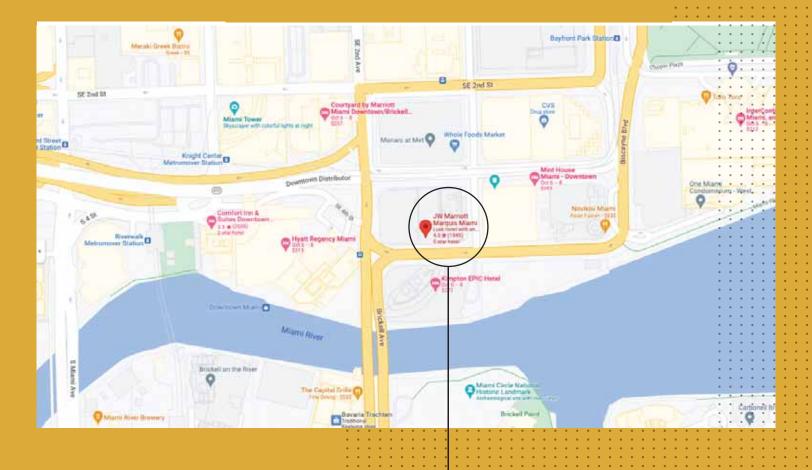
Kind regards,



Vedet R. Coleman-Robinson, PhD Executive Director

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# Hotel Information







# Host Hotel

JW Marriott Marquis Miami 255 Biscayne Boulevard Way, Miami, Florida, Usa, 33131 +1 305-421-8600



Carrie Meek – James N. Eaton, Sr. Southeastern Regional Black Archives Research Center and Museum Carnegie Library at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University

"African American history is the history of America" - James N. Eaton, Sr., Founder

August 10, 2022

Greetings AAAM Family!

On behalf of the Host Committee for the for the 2022 annual meeting of the Association of African American Museums (AAAM), I welcome you to sunny Miami: The Magic City!

Beginning with a history of Black Southerners and Bahamians who labored to cultivate the area's swampland and the 162 Black men who voted for its 1896 incorporation to today's thriving heritage tourism scene, the City of Miami has a deep and rich history of people of color, from its formative years to today.

Often synonymous with sun and beachside fun, Miami is also home to so many diverse communities within the African Diaspora. We hope to acquaint you with some of these cultural organizations working to amplify and celebrate all aspects of Black culture, such as the Historic Hampton House, African American Research Library & Cultural Center, Historic Black Police Precinct & Courthouse Museum, Haitian History Museum, Historic Virginia Key Beach Park Trust, South Dade Black History Center, Black Archives Historic Lyric Theater, and many more.

This year's conference has been a long time coming, and we are excited for this meeting of the minds, where you will share your ideas for the future, learn from each other, and reflect on lessons of the past. After an unprecedented journey into challenging times for us all, we are looking forward to being able to come together again, both virtually and inperson, for a meeting of **Renewal, Revival & Remembrance.** 

Best regards

Timothy A. Barber Director of Museum Operations Carrie P. Meek – James N. Eaton, Sr. Southeastern Regional Black Archives Research Center and Museum Carnegie Library at Florida A&M University

> Carrie Meek – James N. Eaton, Sr. Southeastern Regional Black Archives Research Center and Museum 445 Robert and Trudie Perkins Way - Tallahassee, FL 32307 <u>WWW.FAMU.EDU</u> \* <u>BLACKARCHIVES@FAMU.EDU</u> Office (850) 599-3020 \* Fax (850) 561-2604

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# Greetings

On behalf of the 2022 conference planning committee, I welcome you to our annual 2022 conference in Miami. After two years of awesome virtual conferences, it is a great feeling to gather in-person. We are deeply indebted to the host committee who persevered with AAAM as we navigated through this unprecedented global moment. Since the beginning of the Pandemic there have been numerous individuals and organizations who have supported AAAM, with the faith that we would make it to Miami. Thank you to everyone who has supported AAAM, and helped to make this moment possible.

This year's theme **Renewal, Revival, and Remembrance** acknowledges the hardship experienced by the AAAM community over the last two years. It honors the challenges we all have faced, the work done to bring ourselves and our institutions into this new era, and those we have lost both personally and professionally. The revival element of our theme has special significance to our community. In the African American Protestant tradition, Revival was a time when people gathered at their home churches to renew their spirit and connect with family members and friends. My hope is that we take the lessons of Revival with us into this year's conference, that our passions for our work and our institutions is renewed as we move forward into the future.

The state of our national and global society affirms the relevance of our ongoing work. When the world shut down in March 2020 we could not predict the deaths of George Floyd and Breonna Taylor, the over 1 million lives lost to COVID-19, the resistance to an inclusive history and cultural curriculum, a war, or mass shootings. Our work matters. May this conference be a respite for us to reconnect with our purpose as historical and cultural institutions. Through this conference may we renew the bonds of friendship and colleagueship, revive our passion and collective effervescence, and remember those who have paved a way for us.

Sincerely,

Noelle Trent





9

# Historical Overview



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 800 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, observing high ethical standards, and providing outlets for research and collaboration that foster improvement of the museum profession.



Photo from Charles H. Wright Museum

#### **AAAM FOUNDERS**

In the late 1960s, Dr. Margaret Burroughs, founder of the DuSable Museum in Chicago, and Dr. Charles H. Wright, of the Museum of African American History in Detroit, initiated a series of conferences for Black museums. In 1978, a consortium of six Black museums, with funding from the National Museum Act (administered by the Smithsonian Institution), presented a series of conferences at participating institutions. The conferences provided the opportunity for an ad hoc committee to lay the groundwork for yet another organization.

Under the chairmanship of E. Barry Gaither, the committee prepared by-laws, which were ratified in Detroit in February of 1978. The new organization adopted the name "African American Museums Association" (AAMA) and elected its first governing



council. AAMA's first office was at the Museum of the National Center for Afro-American Artists in Boston, Massachusetts.

During the General Session of the 1997 AAMA Annual Conference in Baltimore, Maryland, the members present voted to change the name to "Association of African American Museums," dissolving the former name of AAMA. Reorganized as the Association of African American Museums (AAAM) in 1998, the organization continued servicing constituents with annual conferences and fellowship opportunities.

Under the leadership of a dedicated volunteer executive director, William "Bill" Billingsley, AAAM relocated to the National Afro-American Museum and Cultural Center in Ohio and expanded its operations to serve the burgeoning number of new institutions focused on African American content. During this period, the organization set out to provide improved communication (including a website and newsletter), shared resources, professional training, andtechnical assistance.

#### **AAAM TODAY**

In the 2000s and beyond, the Association has focused on identifying the composition and needs of its constituents and the larger African American museum community, aided by the support from the Institute for Museum and Library Services (IMLS). Continuing its core work and collaborating with the new National Museum of African American History and Culture, AAAM looks forward to future success in furthering and implementing the important work of institutions and professionals dedicated to preserving and promoting the art, history, and culture of African and African American communities globally.

#### **AAAM PAST PRESIDENTS**

E. Barry Gaither | Rowena Stewart | Harry Robinson | John Kinard | Gary Puckrein | Harry Robinson | Dr. John Fleming Juanita Moore | Rita Organ | Steven Newhouse | Bill Gwaltney | Habeebah Muhammad | Dr. Lawrence Pijeaux Vernon Courtney | Kathe Hambrick-Jackson | Samuel Black | Brian J. Carter | LaNesha DeBardelaben (current)



# EMBRACE, ENGAGE & REDISCOVER MIAMI'S MULTICULTURAL JEWELS























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August 2022

The Greater Miami Convention & Visitors Bureau (GMCVB) is excited to be the host city of the 2022 Association of African American Museums National Conference.

As a destination, we are committed to showcase our historical significance and promote our museums and cultural attractions, especially of those in our heritage neighborhoods. The presence of AAAM in Greater Miami and Miami Beach will help us tell our story locally and nationally. We appreciate this opportunity, and we align with the goals of the organization to protect, preserve, and promote Black owned museums and art.

The GMCVB proudly serves as the Official Destination Sales and Marketing Organization for Greater Miami and Miami Beach. We strive to showcase all of Miami-Dade to our visitors and we're hopeful that each of the attendees of AAAM will also venture out to our heritage neighborhoods, to support some of the businesses that make up the fabric of our multicultural community.

It is our hope that during your time here, the destination and experiences not only meet but exceed your expectations. Please visit **www.miamiandmiamibeach.com** or **www.multiculturalmiami.com** for more information.

Yours Truly,

Prois W.

**Connie W. Kinnard** Vice President Multicultural Tourism & Development Greater Miami Convention & Visitors Bureau

# Conference At-A-Glance

All conference activities will be held at the JW Marriott Hotel (255 Biscayne Boulevard Way, Miami, FL 33131) unless otherwise noted.

# DAY1 Wednesday, August 10

# **PRE-CONFERENCE**

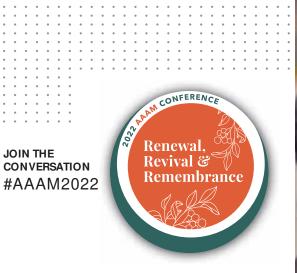
3:00 PM-4:00 PM	Robert Frederick Smith Fund Intern Reception (Invitation Only) LOCATION: (5th Floor) Junior A&B
3:30 PM-4:30 PM	First Time Attendee Meet-Up (All First Time Attendees Welcome)
3:30 PM-5:00 PM	Opening Plenary Session: Demystifying the Executive Search Firm Process LOCATION: (3rd Floor) Met 1
6:30 PM-9:30 PM	Opening Reception LOCATION: JW Marriott Arena (Rooftop Level)
9:30 PM-11:00 PM	AAAM's Emerging Museum Professionals presents: Wine-Down Wednesday LOCATION: (See Conference App)

# DAY 2 Thursday, August 11

7:30 AM-9:00 AM	Morning Networking Lounge   Complimentary Coffee & Tea Provided LOCATION: (3rd Floor) Pre-Function Area
8:00 AM-4:00 PM	Registration Desk OPEN
8:00 AM-5:00 PM	Exhibition Hall OPEN
9:00 AM-10:15 AM	Concurrent Sessions
10:15 AM- 10:30 AM	Break
10:30 AM-11:45 AM	Concurrent Sessions
11:45 AM-12:00 PM	Break
12:00 PM-1:30 PM	Keynote Luncheon & Awards Ceremony LOCATION: (3rd Floor) Met 1
1:45 PM-3:00 PM	Concurrent Sessions
3:00 PM-4:30 PM	Afternoon Networking Lounge (Complimentary Refreshments Provided) LOCATION: (3rd Floor) Pre-Function Area
3:00 PM-4:30 PM	Speed Networking Mentorship Session LOCATION: (5th Floor) Plaza 1
7:00 PM-10:00 PM	Evening Reception LOCATION: HistoryMiami Museum (101 W Flagler St., Miami, FL 33130) www.historymiami.org

# DAY 3 Friday, August 12

7:30 AM-9:00 AM	Morning Networking Lounge   Complimentary Coffee & Tea Provided L <b>OCATION: (3rd Floor) Pre-Function Area</b>	
8:00 AM-4:00 PM	Registration Desk OPEN	
8:00 AM-5:00 PM	Exhibition Hall OPEN	
9:00 AM-10:30 AM	Concurrent Sessions	
10:30 AM-10:45 AM	Break	
10:45 AM-12:00 PM	Concurrent Sessions	
12:00 PM-12:15 PM	Break	
12:15 PM-2:15 PM	Annual Business Luncheon & Closing Plenary LOCATION: (3rd Floor) Met 1	
2:15 PM-2:30 PM	Break	
2:30 PM-3:45 PM	Concurrent Sessions	
3:30 PM-5:00 PM	Speed Networking Mentorship Session LOCATION: (5th Floor) Plaza 1	
4:00 PM-5:00 PM	Conference Sponsors Closing Mixer (Complimentary Refreshments Provided) LOCATION: (3rd Floor) Pre-Function Area	
7:00 PM-10:00 PM	Closing Reception LOCATION: Black Archives & Historic Lyric Theater (819 NW 2ND AVE., MIAMI, FL 33136) www.bahlt.org	





JOIN THE CONVERSATION: #AAAM2022 15

AAAM is a valuable asset to the museum community, and to the current and future stewards of African and African American history. I joined AAAM to align myself, and my organization, with other institutions that share similar missions to protect and preserve the history of the African Diaspora.

# **Timothy A. Barber,**

Meek-Eaton Black Archives Research Center & Museum

# AUGUST 10 Wednesday

# RENEWAL

# Conference Activities All conference sessions will be held at the JW Marriott Hotel.

# AUGUST 10 Wednesday

3:00 PM-4:00 PM	Robert Frederick Smith Fund Intern Reception (Invitation Only) LOCATION: (5th Floor) Junior A & B	
3:30 PM-4:30 PM	First Time Attendee Meet-Up (All First Time Attendees Welcome) LOCATION: (See Conference App)	
3:30 PM-5:00 PM	Opening Plenary Session: Demystifying the Executive Search Firm Process LOCATION: (3rd Floor) Met 1	

The goal of this 90-minute conversation is to demystify the executive search firm process to our members by engaging with executive search firm professionals of color who have dedicated themselves to breaking down barriers and creating more transparency around this process.

### MODERATOR

Omar Eaton-Martínez / Senior Vice President of Historic Sites, National Trust for Historic Preservation

### PANELISTS

Naree S. Viner / Managing Director, Koya Partners, part of Diversified Search Group Eboni Gates / Talent Consultant, DRG Talent Consulting

### 6:30 PM-9:30 PM

## **Opening Reception** LOCATION: JW Marriott Arena (Rooftop Level)

The Association welcomes you to an evening celebrating the first night of the conference. Put on your dancing shoes and experience the magical Miami skyline as we kickoff the 2022 conference!

### 9:30 PM-11:00 PM

# **AAAM's Emerging Museum Professionals presents: Wine-Down Wednesday** LOCATION: (See Conference App)

# 2022 AAAM Opening Plenary

# Location: (3rd Floor) Met 1

# **Demystifying the Executive Search Firm Process**

Over the last two years the intersecting pandemics of racial injustice and COVID-19 have increased the pressure on predominantly white museums to hire black museum professionals to lead their organizations. We also have witnessed an increase of new black museums who are in search of black museum directors to help them open their doors to serve their communities. Executive search firms, who have been hired by these institutions, have been reaching out to AAAM and its members to populate their lists of potential candidates.

### MODERATOR



Omar Eaton-Martínez Vice President, AAAM Board of Directors; Senior Vice President of Historic Sites for the National Trust for Historic Preservation PANELISTS



**Naree S. Viner** Managing Director, Koya Partners, part of Diversified Search Group

PANELISTS



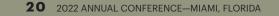
**Eboni Gates** Talent Consultant, DRG Talent Consulting



As someone who was new to the field, I joined AAAM because of the opportunities for mentorship and because of the people that I saw connected to the organization. Over the years, I've gained several new colleagues that I can now call on to partner with my site and for counsel when issues arise.

Dr. Ashley Robertson,

Assistant Professor of History at Howard University



# AUGUST 11 Thursday

# REVIVAL

# Conference Sessions

#### 7:30 AM-9:00 AM

Morning Networking Lounge | Complimentary Coffee & Tea Provided LOCATION: (3rd Floor) Pre-Function Area

8:00 AM-4:00 PM Registration Desk OPEN

8:00 AM-5:00 PM Exhibition Hall OPEN



9:00 AM-10:15 AM Concurrent Sessions

# Reviving a Forgotten Freetown: The Recovery and Uplift of the US Colored Troops in Indianapolis

### Met 5 (3rd Floor)

This session will focus the history of a small African American Community in Indianapolis named Norwood. Based on oral history interviews with the descendant community, Norwood now is believed to be among the oldest descendant led Freetowns in the United States.

Founded by the US Colored Troops station at Camp Fremont during the Reconstruction era, this year Norwood celebrates her 150th anniversary. In spite of this long and monumental history, there is no acknowledgement from the City of Indianapolis on the impact and legacy of the USCT; the city of Indianapolis opened a 40acre, \$675 million Jail Complex on the grounds of their community in January 2022.

**PRESENTERS: Kaila Austin,** Norwood-Lovetown Community Archives / John Spann, Mississippi Humanities Council

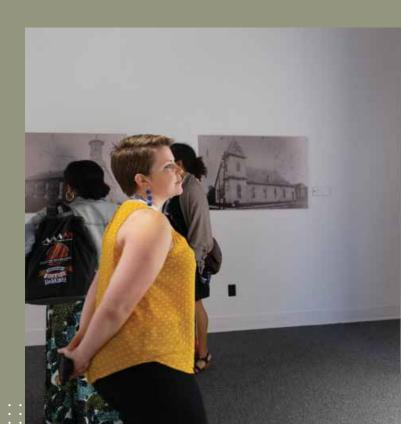
# The HBCU Radio Preservation Pilot Project: A Collaborative Model for Renewal & Revival

Plaza 4 & 5 (5th Floor)

Session attendees will gain an understanding of the process and progress made in preserving both historical and current materials created at the four institutions participating in the HBCU Radio Preservation Pilot Project.

We will discuss the challenges regarding the digital preservation of the fragile and vulnerable media that may be found at radio stations and in libraries, archives, and museums throughout the AAAM membership, and will present models for partnerships and collaborations to address these challenges.

**PRESENTERS: Jocelyn Robinson**, Producer for Emerging Initiatives, Education, & Archives at WYSO / **Bryce Roe**, Audio Preservation Services, NEDCC / **Melba Smith**, Elizabeth City State University / **Cynthia Wise**, Elizabeth City State University



# AUGUST 11 Thursday

All conference sessions will be held at the JW Marriott Hotel.

. . . . . . . . . . . . .

# **A Practical Guide to Ethically Engaging & Training Formerly Incarcerated Adults in the Museum Profession**

### Junior A & B (5th Floor)

Diversity, equity, and inclusion work is discussed broadly in the field, but its implementation in museum programs is often limited to the categories of race, gender, and/or class. Three museums located in major cities across the nation are leading groundbreaking programs that are the first of their kind-each engaging and training former incarcerated adults in the museum profession.

With the goal of diversifying the museum sector and redressing past harms in sustainable ways, this session provides a practical guide to creating similar programs at participant's home institutions. Speakers and the audience will engage with questions of feasibility, strategy, and capacity. Participants will also walk away with digital toolkits. In this way, the session will



incubate a network of museums and museum professionals invested in doing similar work.

PRESENTERS: Zach Andrews, Diversity Apprenticeship Program, The Broad / Caroline Fiertz, Smithsonian National Museum of American History / Jerome Loach, Eastern State Penitentiary / Liz Trumball, Historic Preservation and Architectural Conservation, Eastern State Penitentiary / Tsione Wolde-Michael, Center for Restorative History, Smithsonian National Museum of American History



10:30 AM-11:45 AM Concurrent Sessions

# **Starting From Scratch: Civil Rights Placemaking in North Carolina**

## Met 5 (3rd Floor)

For generations, people in North Carolina have used spaces and places to organize, strategize and protest to advance the civil rights of people of color, especially African Americans. It is here that young people-from Raleigh to Durham, from Elizabeth City to Greensboro-were activated to protest racial injustice. It is here where everyday people from Rocky Mount to Robeson and Halifax Counties resisted oppression and intimidation. Leaders like Dovey Roundtree, Pauli Murray and Golden Frinks called our state home.

In honor of this work, the NC African American Heritage Commission and NC State Historic Sites have joined communities across the state to physically mark, preserve and interpret sites critical to the Civil Rights Movement in North Carolina. From the foundation of the NC Civil Rights Trail to undertaking the restoration and interpretation of Golden Frinks' Freedom House, these divisions have undertaken work to acknowledge tireless civil rights efforts that are well known and, in many cases, unsung.

PRESENTERS: Ashley Adams, NC African American Heritage Commission / Michelle Lanier, NC Division of State Historic Sites / Adrienne Nirde, NC African American Heritage Commission

1

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# Conference Sessions



10:30 AM-11:45 AM Concurrent Sessions

# Capacity Building Amid 3 Storms: A Pandemic, Protests and Historic Preservation Project

### Met 6 (3rd Floor)

Group tours, live programs and visitors all stopped in March 2020. We closed to the public from March to October but continued to work to find ways to move forward and refine operations for when we reopened. We pivoted to virtual programming, succession planning, systems updates for how we would intake visitors, how to rearrange displays and contact areas within the museum, and how to share our stories. Additionally, we had a public lynching of George Floyd on live TV that impacted the world and sparked protests and a new thirst for African American history. Our preservation project seemed to suffer as most federal workers were moved out of their offices and to email or phone calls from home.

We will share how we pivoted to online programs, spearheaded community collaborations and explored vehicles for a shared interest among archivists and institutions on how to showcase African American history when it was not their primary mission.

**PRESENTERS: Caroline Davis**, Lincolnville Museum and Cultural Center / **Kimberlyn Elliott**, Lincolnville Museum and Cultural Center / **Regina Gayle Phillips**, Lincolnville Museum and Cultural Center



# AUGUST 11 Thursday

All conference sessions will be held at the JW Marriott Hotel.



10:30 AM-11:45 AM **Concurrent Sessions** 

# **Unspoken: The Emotional and Mental Trauma Working with Museum Collections**

## Plaza 4 & 5 (5th Floor)

Museums, historic sites, archives and cultural organizations have become learning destinations for school groups, families, scholars and the general public to view rare photographs, historic films and iconic objects; hear lost sound recordings; rediscover obsolete cultures and communities and research historic events that were socially and politically impactful.

The team of museum professionals such as collections managers, registrars, archeologists, conservators, archivists, exhibition designers/ fabricators, facilities and security personnel are mostly invisible to the general public. This support staff of museum professionals are responsible for the shipment/handling, care/ storage, management and display of objects that are seen in galleries and exhibitions.

This roundtable discussion will reveal the emotional trauma in working with museum collections and exhibitions through personal stories from museum professionals that are responsible for the care of African American, Indigenous and Asian cultural collections and exhibitions.

PRESENTERS: Renee Anderson, Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture / Marian Carpenter, Conner Prairie Living History Museum / Karen L. Ishizuka, National Japanese American Museum/ Richard Josey, Collective Journey / Kate Macuen, Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum, Seminole Tribe of Florida

# **Jackson State University and the HBCU History & Culture Access Consortium (HCAC)**

## Junior A & B (5th Floor)

The Margaret Walker Center at Jackson State University is part of a consortium of five HBCUs (along with Clark Atlanta University, Florida A&M University, Texas Southern University, and Tuskegee University) that was assembled by the Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History and Culture (NMAAHC) in the spring of 2021.

The five-year partnership, the History & Culture Access Consortium (HCAC), has the overarching goal to create a strong and replicable community of practice among consortium members through digital and in-person formal convenings that creates an environment for shared learning and open dialogue about best practices for increased sustainability for museums and archives among participating HBCUs.

This goal will be achieved by supporting the digitization and public access of the member institutions' archives and through the creation of a national traveling exhibition and catalog.

PRESENTERS: Raymond Garrad Lee, Margaret Walker Center, JSU / Angela Stewart, Margaret Walker Center, JSU / Alissa Rae Funderburk, Margaret Walker Center, JSU / Lauren Shelby, Margaret Walker Center, JSU / Chioma Ajuonuma, Margaret Walker Center, JSU



**AAAM** 25

# The Renewal of Black Museums & Cultural Institutions

# KEYNOTE LUNCHEON SPEAKER AUGUST 11 Thursday / 12:00 PM-1:30 PM



**Brent Leggs,** Executive Director, African American Cultural Heritage Action Fund Location: (3rd Floor) Met 1

**BRENT LEGGS** is the founding executive director of the African American Cultural Heritage Action Fund, and a Senior Vice President of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Through the Action Fund, he leads a broad community of leaders and activists in honor of the clarion that preserving African American cultural sites is fundamental to understanding the American story. In June and November 2021, Mr.Leggs secured two \$20 million gifts from philanthropists MacKenzie Scott and Dan Jewett and the Lilly Endowment for the preservation of African American historic assets and Black churches nationwide. To date, his work has resulted in nearly \$80 million raised to support preservation projects and a multi-million-dollar endowment established to sustain the Action Fund's future. Mr. Leggs is a Harvard University Loeb Fellow and the author of Preserving African American Historic Places. He has been honored with the 2018 Robert G. Stanton National Preservation Award and currently serves as an Adjunct Associate Professor of the Graduate Program in Historic Preservation and Senior Advisor to the Center for the Preservation of Civil Rights Sites at the University of Pennsylvania's Stuart Weitzman School of Design.

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# 2022 Award Recipients

AWARDS PRESENTATION

AUGUST 11 Thursday / 12:00 PM-1:30 PM Location: (3rd Floor) Met 1

Synatra Smith, Ph.D. CLIR/DLF Postdoctoral Fellow in Data Curation for African American Studies Philadelphia Museum of Art Temple University Libraries

# Pace Setter Award

This award recognizes museum professionals who have demonstrated exceptional innovation and dedication to African and African American focused institutions nationally and internationally, during the first 10 years of their career.



Ariana Curtis, Ph.D. Director of Content, Our Shared Future: Reckoning with Our Racial Past at Smithsonian Institution

# <u>Museum</u> Leadership Award

This award recognizes professionals who have contributed outstanding expertise and exceptional dedication to African and African American focused institutions nationally and internationally, through a career spanning 10 years or more.



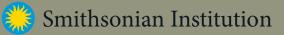
Secretary Lonnie G. Bunch III



# 2022 John E. Fleming Award

This award, the highest honor presented, recognizes professionals who have contributed outstanding expertise and exceptional dedication to African and African American focused institutions nationally and internationally, through a career spanning 20 years or more.

Lonnie G. Bunch III is the 14th Secretary of the Smithsonian. He assumed his position June 16, 2019. As Secretary, he oversees 21 museums, including two new museums in development—the National Museum of the American Latino and the Smithsonian American Women's History Museum, 21 libraries, the National Zoo, numerous research centers, and several education units and centers. Bunch was the founding director of the Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History and Culture and is the first historian to be Secretary of the Institution.





Wyomia Tyus (1968 Olympian), Larry McCormick (KTLA), Lonnie G. Bunche III, Aurelia Brooks, John Carlos (1968 Olympian), Barbara Ferrell-Edmondson (1968 Olympian), and Louie Robinson at VIP opening of the California African American Museum—July 21, 1984.



Chief Justice John Roberts presents Secretary Lonnie G. Bunch III with the ceremonial key to the Smithsonian Castle. Nov. 1, 2019.

AAAM 29

# ADVANCED EXECUTIVE TRAINING PROGRAM GRADUATES:

- ANDRE "DRE" TAYLOR
- ANGELA THORPE
- BRANDON NIGHTINGALE
- BRIGETTE JONES
- CAMILLE VINCENT
- CHANEL COMPTON
- CYDNEY KEY
- EOLA DANCE
- GEORGE COLLINS
- JACQUELINE P. HUDSON, PH.D.
- JADA WRIGHT-GREENE
- KYMBERLY KEETON
- MARSHAY WILLIAMS
- MICHELLE BANKS
- RICHARD JOSEY, JR.
- ROBERT TERRILL PARKER
- SHAKIA GULLETTE WARREN
- SYNATRA SMITH, PH.D.
- TAMAR SMITHERS
- TRAKA LOPEZ-WHITE
- TRENDA DAVIDSON
- WILLIAM REYNOLDS



ASSOCIATION OF AFRICAN AMERICAN MUSEUMS



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# hn & Marjorie Kinard

The John & Marjorie Kinard award is given to a non-museum professional for exemplary service and support of African American museums and the preservation of African American and African Diaspora history. The award is named for John Kinard, founding director of the Smithsonian's Anacostia Community Museum, and Marjorie Kinard, longtime Black museum advocate and spouse of John Kinard. Together the Kinards were ardent supporters of Black museums and museum professionals. After her husband's death, Marjorie Kinard continued her advocacy and support for the preservation of Black history and Black museums. The Kinard Award is bestowed upon individual(s) who have demonstrated long-term and extraordinary support of African American museums and Black history.



Award



Caption here. Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Quisque id odio quis felis ultrices sollicitudin non eget risus. Morbi at felis in turpis mattis finibus. Curabitur eget imperdiet est, in venenatis magna. Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Quisque id odio quis felis ultrices sollicitudin non eget risus. Morbi at felis in turpis mattis finibus. Curabitur eget imperdiet est, in venenatis magna.

### ELIGIBILITY

- Awardees must either be members of AAAM or supporters of AAAM member institutions.
- Awardees must be non-museum professionals, meaning they may not work professionally at a museum, or have trained as a museum professional.
- Awardees may be volunteers, board members, supporters, members of AAAM institutional members.

### DETERMINATION

The John and Marjorie Kinard award recipients are determined by the board. The award is given at the board's discretion, and may be bestowed upon an individual or group of individuals.

# Speed Networking Mentorship Session

# Location: (5th Floor) Plaza 1

# AUGUST 11 Thursday / 3:00 PM-4:30 PM

# AUGUST 12 Friday / 3:30 PM-5:00 PM

AAAM's annual Speed Networking Session provides an opportunity for students, recent graduates, and emerging to midcareer professionals to network with multiple established professionals in the field. The session is loosely inspired by the Speed Dating model and provides attendees with the unique opportunity to interact with a select group of reputable museum practitioners from across the country.

- The event includes up to six separate 15-minute rotations with Session Mentors to discuss career options, professional development, and myriad aspects of the museum and cultural preservation field of practice.
- Participants should come with questions for a chance to discuss career options, professional development, and many other aspects of the museum world as well as build connections with leaders in the field.
- Advance registration is required and desired Mentor selections/matchups will be handled on a first-come, first-served basis.

Don't miss this opportunity to network and build connections with leaders in the field as well as fellow colleagues.



# Scan the QR-code below to sign up today!



# Sharing Miami <u>Stories</u> for more than 80 Years.



# HistoryMiami Museum is a proud sponsor of the AAAM Conference.

We look forward to seeing you in our galleries Thursday night! Starting at 6:30, enjoy a paella buffet, entertainment by Delou Africa, gallery tours, open bar, and more.



# Conference Sessions





1:45 PM-3:00 PM Concurrent Sessions

# Directors and Trustees Listening Session

Met 6 (3rd Floor)

# MONADNOCK

AAAM's Executive Director, Dr. Vedet Coleman-Robinson, will facilitate a structured discussion to engage AAAM executive leaders and members in sharing their recommendations for moving the organization forward in relation to modern day issues faced by African American museums and those individuals working in mainstream institutions. This forum will give participants an opportunity to contribute their ideas for taking an active role in shaping the future of AAAM and the African American Museum field.

PRESENTERS: Vedet Coleman-Robinson, Association of African American Museums

# From Learning to Alliance: How Researching Small Museums and Community-Based Archives Led to Collaboration

### Plaza 4 & 5 (5th Floor)

The Alliance for Cultural Equity (ACE) Efforts of Grace Inc. and Ashé Cultural Arts Center, in collaboration with Shift Design Inc, Helicon Collaborative, the New Orleans Data Center and Southern University at New Orleans undertook researching and reporting:

- the role small museums focused on preserving the histories and culture of marginalized people play in the welfare of their communities,
- 2) the value they bring to their local cultural economy, and
- 3) potential models for their financial sustainability.

PRESENTERS: Asali DeVan, Ashe Cultural Arts Center

## AUGUST 11 Thursday

All conference sessions will be held at the JW Marriott Hotel.



1:45 PM-3:00 PM **Concurrent Sessions** 

#### **Renewing our HBCU Legacy** through Oral History

#### Junior A & B (5th Floor)

The Utica Institute Museum launched in 2021 as a place to explore the legacy of Southern Black education through the lens of a "little Tuskegee" in the heart of Mississippi's Black Belt. Our oral history center is housed in the museum as a way of ensuring that our community's stories are told and preserved. The Utica Oral History project seeks to renew connections between our local community and our HBCU with nearly 120 years of shared history in the space.

In this session, we will discuss how we launched an oral history project during a global pandemic, and we will reflect on the importance of the project as an act of archival restoration at a small institution where many of the early documents were lost as a result of challenges facing many HBCUs. We will also discuss how this project is helping to renew our unique identity as an HBCU within a merged institution to counter erasure.

PRESENTERS: Dan Fuller, Utica Institute Museum, Hinds Community College-Utica Campus / Jean Greene, Utica Institute Museum, Hinds Community College-Utica Campus

JOIN THE



#### 3:00 PM-4:30 PM

Afternoon Networking Lounge | Complimentary Refreshments Provided LOCATION: (3rd Floor) Pre-Function Area

#### 3:00 PM-4:30 PM

Speed Networking Mentorship Session LOCATION: (5th Floor) Plaza 1 \*Sign-Up Using Q/R Code Or The Conference App

#### 6:30 PM-9:30 PM

**Evening Reception** LOCATION: HistoryMiami Museum (101 W Flagler St., Miami, Fl 33130) www.historymiami.org



## When we learn the lessons from our forebears, we inherit the inspiration to rise above the barriers before us. AAAM and Black Museums allow us to learn those lessons.

#### **Christopher Miller,**

National Underground Railroad Freedom Center



## AUGUST 12 Friday

## REMEMBRANCE

## Conference Sessions

#### 7:30 AM-9:00 AM

Morning Networking Lounge | Complimentary Coffee & Tea Provided LOCATION: (3rd Floor) Pre-Function Area

8:00 AM-4:00 PM Registration Desk OPEN

8:00 AM-5:00 PM Exhibition Hall OPEN



**9:00 AM-10:30 AM** Concurrent Sessions

## The CAPE Toolkit: Art Community and Race in Mississippi

Met 6 (3rd Floor)

The CAPE Toolkit is a digital publication that offers a model intended to guide institutional transformation by investigating equity, transparency, and truth in a community (Jackson, MS) that is 80% Black and has been ignored by the Museum for many years.

The Toolkit is packed with the nitty-gritty details ranging from meeting agenda templates, conversation guides, audience feedback forms. More importantly, it provides concrete examples of how to build trust and deepen community relationships. Our hope is that providing this resource will inspire other museums to begin this journey.

**PRESENTERS: Monique Davis,** Center for Art and Public Exchange, Mississippi Museum of Art

#### The 500-pound sugar plantation "slave bell" and New England Wealth

Plaza 4 & 5 (5th Floor)

Concord, Massachusetts receives millions of global visitors each year seeking to connect with stories of America's "founding". Our 544 square foot historic house in Concord jars visitors' experience by presenting the Black history of America's founding.

Our success in spreading these messages has resulted in a local previously all white elite private boys school "bequeathing" a 500-pound sugar plantation 'slave bell' to our historic site. Our session seeks to elicit the emotions, intentions and history of this "gift", through connecting with sights, sounds and touch, and how the bell can help explain America's racial wealth gap in New England.

**PRESENTERS: Maria Madison,** The Robbins House, Inc. / **Rob Munro,** The Robbins House, Inc. / **Nikki Turpin,** Chapel Hill Chauncy Hall / **Juliette Zenner,** Belmont Hill School

#### Accessing IMLS Funding to Build Sustainable Futures

Junior A & B (5th Floor)

The IMLS Museum Grants for African American History and Culture Program supports projects that improve institutional operations, expand staff capacity and develop effective management procedures. This session will emphasize the importance of solid governance and operational practices to create the organizational foundation that is essential to sustain the work and impact of African American museums.

**PRESENTERS: Mark Isaksen,** Institute of Museum & Library Services / **Ashley Jones,** Institute of Museum & Library Services



All conference sessions will be held at the JW Marriott Hotel.



10:45 AM-12:00 PM Concurrent Sessions

#### **We Shall Not Be Moved**

Met 5 (3rd Floor)

Curating Digital Exhibitions at the Smithsonian's Anacostia Community Museum through Stories of Struggle from Barry Farm-Hillsdale

**PRESENTERS: Asantewa Boakyewa**, Smithsonian's Anacostia Community Museum / **Alcione M. Amos**, Smithsonian's Anacostia Community Museum

#### Thee Black Pride in JXN: Creating an Oral History Exhibit

Met 6 (3rd Floor)

An archive and museum, the Margaret Walker Center (MWC) is dedicated to the preservation, interpretation, and dissemination of African American history and culture. Its vital cultural work bears much resemblance to the mission of the LGBTQ Fund of Mississippi which seeks to uplift the lives of the marginalized and create space for making history. Both envision a Mississippi where all are treated fairly, have access to resources, and live freely, without the barriers of prejudice and discrimination.

For this reason, it only made sense for the MWC to seek funding and guidance from the LGBTQ Fund of MS in producing its latest oral history project: Thee Black Pride in JXN. This listening session seeks to use audio clips from the recorded interviews that were featured in the exhibit to gather feedback on how to move the project forward. **RIDAY, AUGUST 12** 

**PRESENTERS: Alissa Rae Funderburk,** Margaret Walker Center at Jackson State University

**AAAM 39** 

## Conference Sessions



10:45 AM-12:00 PM Concurrent Sessions

#### Introducing Greenwood Rising: The Story of the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre and Black Wall Street's Resilience

Plaza 4 & 5 (5th Floor)

In 2016, a group of federal, state, and local leaders formed the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre Centennial Commission. Their mission was to "leverage the rich history surrounding the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre by facilitating actions, activities, and events that commemorate and educate all citizens," through an educational hub that told Greenwood's story - not just of the tragedy that befell it, but also the vibrant community that thrived before and after this horrific act of domestic terrorism.

Beginning with onsite workshops and interviews in Tulsa in July 2019, the team collaborated closely with community stakeholders to develop an exhibition experience honoring the victims of the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre and fostering sustainable entrepreneurship and heritage





tourism within the Greenwood District. The resulting story at the newly opened Greenwood Rising: Black Wall Street History Center is ultimately one of hope, showing how the spirit of the people of Greenwood prevailed in the face of marginalization, oppression, and violence. Since opening to the public in August of 2021, the museum experience has fostered necessary conversations surrounding Greenwood's history within the larger Tulsa community, provided a space for recollection and reflection, and given descendants of Greenwood District residents the opportunity to return to Tulsa to pay homage to their pioneering ancestors.

**PRESENTERS: Phil Armstrong,** Greenwood Rising / **L'Rai Arthur-Mensah**, Local Projects / **Jake Barton**, Local Projects / **Jon West-Bey**, West-Bey Consulting, LLC and Johns Hopkins University

## AUGUST 12 Friday

All conference sessions will be held at the JW Marriott Hotel.







**10:45 AM-12:00 PM** Concurrent Sessions

#### **Creating and Delivering High-Quality Online Programs for Children**

Junior A & B (5th Floor)

Attendees will gain skills needed to develop, create, edit, and deliver videos that will allow them to build their organization's digital program offerings. Using free editing software and smart phones, participants will learn how to create their own branded public program videos, learn best practices for posting their videos to their social media and/or websites, and hear about how a successful online program can become a source of sponsorship income for their organization.

This workshop series will provide participants with procedural tips to ensure an organized process and smooth communication between their program, marketing and development departments as their online content grows.

PRESENTERS: Deborah Spiegelman, Miami Children's Museum / Natalie Williams, Miami Children's Museum

#### **12:15 PM - 2:15 PM** ANNUAL BUSINESS LUNCHEON & CLOSING PLENARY LOCATION: (3rd Floor) Met 1

This engaging luncheon panel will uplift the individual and collaborative approaches to the work of political, economic, and social justice for the preservation of Black history, while highlighting approaches for advancing truth and reconciliation through activism, education, and mobilization. Prepare to be empowered and reignited to engage in the work ahead.

## Annual Business Luncheon & Closing Plenary

Location: (3rd Floor) Met 1

### AUGUST 12 Friday / 12:15 PM-2:15 PM

#### MODERATOR



**Tracie Potts** Executive Director of the Eisenhower Institute (Washington, DC | Gettysburg, PA)

## The Burden We Carry? Critical Race Theory & the Role of Black Museums

Anti-critical race theory legislation has emerged across the country; prohibiting the teaching of history excluded people in both K – 12 and higher education. Black museums and cultural institutions have historically set the precedent for establishing an inclusive American history. Anti-CRT legislation uniquely targets our work, audiences, programming and long-term impact.

**Panelists:** Senator Raumesh Akbari, Dr. Tonya Matthews, and Dr. Robby Luckett join Moderator: Tracie Potts as they explore the origin of anti-CRT legislation, the role of Black museums in this fight, and the effect of these laws on Black museums, and how much of the burden of resistance should Black museums carry.

#### PANELISTS



Sen. Raumesh Akbari Tennessee State Senate, District 29 Shelby County (Memphis, TN)

#### PANELISTS



**Tonya Matthews** Executive Director of the International African American Museum (Charleston, SC)

PANELISTS



Dr. Robby Luckett Executive Director of the Margaret Walker Center at Jackson State University (Jackson, MS)

### Note s

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<b>Remembrance</b>
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## Conference Sessions



**12:15 PM – 2:15 PM** Annual Business Luncheon & Closing Plenary LOCATION: (3rd Floor) Met 1



2:30 PM-3:45 PM Concurrent Sessions

### Urban Environmentalism: A Model for the Field and Beyond

Junior A & B (5th Floor)

Exploring American history and its related narratives is, inherently, an environmental exercise. In this session, guest speakers will share some of the pan-institutional collaborations happening across the Smithsonian to address these questions and more.

This session will explore how relationships with the community and stakeholders have been restored under the "new normal" of the global pandemic. This session will also address questions about the ways in which museums and cultural institutions can come together and collaborate to implement meaningful change in their communities and build pathways for new and emerging professionals.

**PRESENTERS: Katrina Lashley**, Smithsonian Anacostia Community Museum / **Jennifer Zazo-Brown**, Smithsonian National Museum of African American History & Culture

#### Channels of Change: Disembarkation Sites in North Carolina

Met 6 (3rd Floor)

Staff from the North Carolina African American Heritage Commission, including the Director, Associate Director, and Research Fellow, will discuss their latest work to create an immersive educational experience for visitors at state historic sites concerning the disembarkation of enslaved Africans in their communities. During community engagement initiatives, the community members requested more information about this history. In response, the Commission applied and received IMLS funding to interpret the history of disembarkation by writing and designing an exhibition and complementary web portal.

This session will discuss the process of community engagement when creating educational resources for community use. Additionally, it will explore using community engagement initiatives to create a narrative that will commemorate enslaved African ancestors within these descendent communities. This session will also discuss how to train emerging professionals within the field of history to interpret difficult history and commemorate sacred spaces. Participants will also discuss how to safely commemorate spaces of disembarkation and create effective resources that will educate the community without harming the memory of those enslaved Africans forcefully brought to North Carolina's docks.

**PRESENTERS: Amber Pelham,** NC Division of State Historic Sites / **Adrienne Nirde**, NC African American Heritage Commission / **Angela Thorpe**, NC African American Heritage Commission



All conference sessions will be held at the JW Marriott Hotel.



2:30 PM-3:45 PM Concurrent Sessions

#### Through the Eyes of a Child: Dismantling the Traditional Narrative

Plaza 4 & 5 (5th Floor)

In 2017, the Mosaic Templars Cultural Center (MTCC) created an ambitious strategic plan for the improvement of the museum. The goal was to take its traditional Black history museum from a predominately adult focused space to one that was more family focused. One of the ideas to come out of this planning was to create a permanent children's gallery space.

After several attempts at design and interpretation, what transpired was nothing short of amazing. In September 2021, Mosaic Templars Cultural Center opened a permanent child centered space called Same. Different. Amazing! Using state-of-the-art technology, play-based learning, and intentional conversation this oneof-a-kind, premier space is designed for children ages 0-9 around the ideas of diversity and inclusion. Come meet the team that's changing the face of museums one child, one family, one conversation at a time.

PRESENTERS: Quantia "Key" Fletcher, Mosaic Templars Cultural Center / Sunni Mercer, Mercer Associates, Inc / Christina Shutt, Abraham Lincoln Library and Museum / Christen Stanley, Mosaic Templars Cultural Center

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CONFERENCE

#### **Practicing the CRT's**

Met 5 (3rd Floor)

How todays Museums Can Use Critical Race Theory and Culturally Responsive Teaching.

**PRESENTERS: Wayne Coleman,** Birmingham Civil Rights Institute / **Nicole Ivy,** George Washington University / **Kelli Morgan,** Tufts University / Charles Woods, Birmingham Civil Rights Institute

#### 3:30 PM-5:00 PM

Speed Networking Mentorship Session LOCATION: (5th Floor) Plaza 1 \*Sign-Up Using Q/R Code Or The Conference App

FRIDAY, AUGUST 12

#### 4:00 PM-5:00 PM

Conference Sponsors Closing Mixer | Complimentary Refreshments Provided LOCATION: (3rd Floor) Pre-Function Area

#### 7:00 PM-10:00 PM

Closing Reception LOCATION: Black Archives & Historic Lyric Theater (819 Nw 2nd Ave., Miami, Fl 33136) www.bahlt.org





**AAAM MEMBERS** 

## WE NEED YOUR INPUT

## WHO ARE WE?

**ATTENTION** 

The Mellon Foundation funded AAAM working

**groups** are focused on essential areas that are most important to our members:

- 1.Building, Cyber, & Collections Security
- 2. Paths to Accreditation
- 3.Traveling, Shared, δ Collaborative Exhibitions

### WHAT DO WE NEED?

We need your participate in the surveys we designed to collect more information so we can develop workflows, best practices, and prototypes that address your specific needs.



#### **SECURITIES SURVEY**

For folks who are responsible for securing buildings, digital assets, and collections **bit.ly/aaam-securities** 



#### **ACCREDITATION SURVEY** For CEOs, directors, or board leadership

bit.ly/aaam-accreditation



#### **EXHIBITIONS SURVEY**

For anyone who participates in exhibition planning and execution

bit.ly/aaam-exhibitions



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### Smithsonian's Anacostia Community Museum

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Join us as we continue to celebrate local stories.



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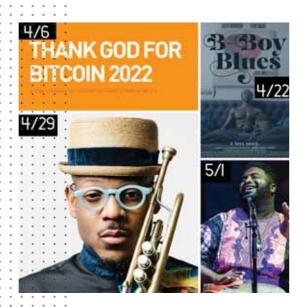
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## A Look Back at Miami's Black Heritage

#### **Incorporation of Miami as a City and Civil Rights**

When the decision was made to incorporate Miami as a city in 1896, nearly one-third of the men who stood for the incorporation of the City of Miami were Black. Since the required number of white male registered voters did not participate, Black male registered voters were used to reach the number required by the State of Florida to form a new city. After helping Miami become a city, the Black incorporators lost their civil rights to existing public policy. Black Codes, enacted decades earlier, followed by Jim Crow laws, restricted the civil rights of Black people throughout the South in every phase of life.



#### **Growth of Colored Town / Overtown**

Overtown is one of the oldest neighborhoods located in the original boundaries of the City of Miami. Segregated by both custom and laws, it began as "Colored Town" at the turn of the 20th century, an accommodation to Miami's anticipated tourist industry. Over time the people developed a thriving community of their own. The success of Miami's pioneer tourist industry depended on the labor of Black workers from the Bahamas and the southern United States. For more than fifty years they were the primary work force in Miami.

Despite limitations, Colored Town/Overtown grew and developed into a vibrant community. Schools, churches and businesses flourished. Most of the goods and services in the community were provided by the residents. As early

as 1904, the official City of Miami directory listed businesses owned and operated by Black people, including general goods and services, a medical doctor, 26 laundresses, and several hundred laborers.

#### **Black Migrants and Immigrants in Miami**

Black residents living south and north of Miami's city limits, in Coconut Grove and Lemon City respectively, routinely scheduled trips to Miami's Colored Town to shop, to transact business and for entertainment.



**Source:** The Official Travel and Tourism Site of Greater Miami & Miami Beach



Skilled migrants and immigrants arrived with determination to improve the economic conditions for their families. In turn they helped build a tourist mecca for others to enjoy. Over time Black migrants settled in Miami's Overtown alongside immigrants from the Bahamas, Cuba, Haiti, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago, Barbados and other countries throughout the Western Hemisphere. Different cultures developed in the various ports and some languages changed, but the common ground for all was race.

The Lyric Theater opened in 1913 as the major center of entertainment for Blacks in Miami. It was built, owned and operated by Geder Walker, a Black man from Georgia. Residents jammed from dusk to

dawn with entertainers Count Basie, Ella Fitzgerald, Cab Calloway, Lena Horne, Josephine Baker, Billie Holiday, Sammy Davis Jr., Louis "Satchmo" Armstrong, Nat "King" Cole, B.B. King, Bo Diddley, Aretha Franklin, Dionne Warwick and many others who performed all year. Like Broadway, Colored Town was aglow 24 hours; traveling literary artists, such as poet Langston Hughes and folklorist Zora Neale Hurston. Paul Robeson and Marian Anderson were among the featured vocalists; world-famous boxer Joe Louis and baseball greats Jackie Robinson and Roy Campanella also frequented the area.



#### **Transformation of Overtown and Present Day**

The Black Archives, History & Research Foundation of South Florida Inc. is developing the Historic Overtown Folklife Village, a two-block area retail, cultural and entertainment district. The area will again become a tourist destination focusing on two themes: the African Diaspora, the resettlement of people from ports (countries in the Caribbean) where Blacks were left as cargo; and the Harlem Renaissance, self-definition of the Black experience through the literary, visual and performing arts.

Five of the sites in the Village are listed on the U.S. National Register of Historic Places. The Lyric

Theater is the anchor site of the Historic Overtown Folklife Village. It opens into the 9th Street pedestrian mall, a transportation corridor that connects Overtown to other historic sites in Miami-Dade County and the State of Florida on the Black Heritage Trail.

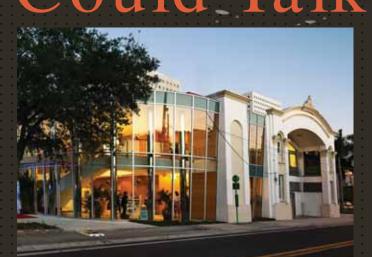
#### **Author: Dorothy Jenkins Fields**

Dr. Dorothy Jenkins Fields is a historian and a native Miamian. She is also the founder and archivist of the Black Archives, History and Research Foundation of South Florida Inc.



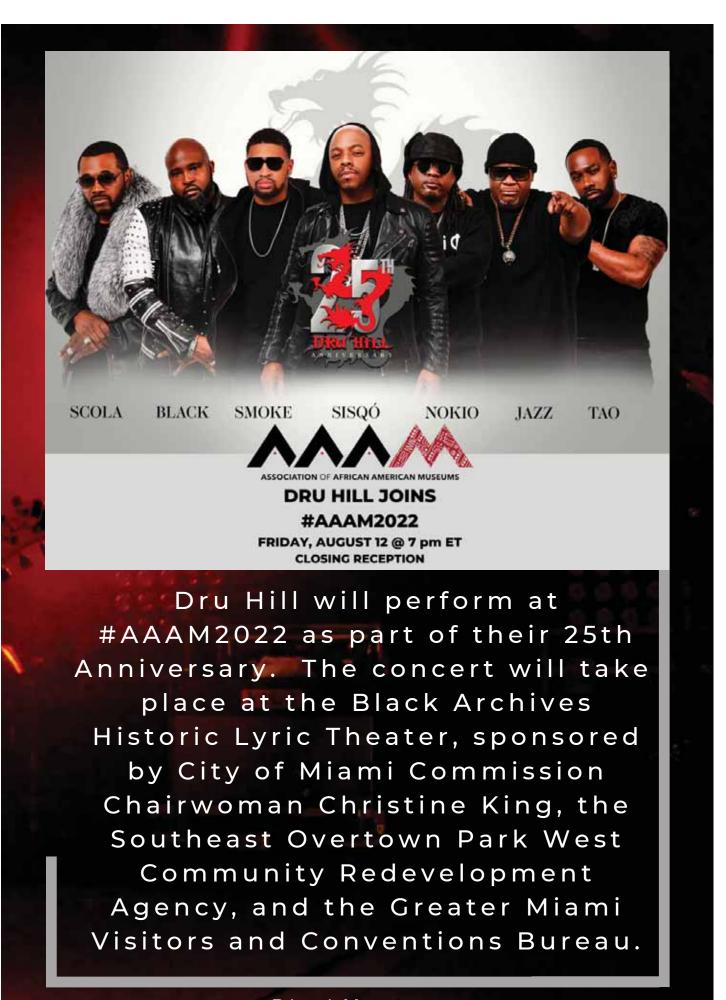


### **The Black Ard Could Talk Und Talk Und Talk**



The Black Archives & Historic Lyric Theater (Miami, Fl)

The Black Archives & Historic Lyric Theater Museum welcomes AAAM members, guests, and friends to the culminating event of the 2022 conference. This unforgettable evening reception will feature a soulful celebration of the African Diaspora through a splendid culinary journey, creative expression, and even a performance by R&B group DruHill. Take advantage of your final opportunity to take in the Black Archives's premiere exhibition: If These Streets Could Talk: A Visual Exploration of Black Miami, while enjoying the sites, sounds, and flavor of one of Miami's historic treasures.



www.BlackMuseums.org



#### **BLACK PEPPER FOOD & WINE FESTIVAL**

On August 13, immerse yourself in the culture and cuisine of South Florida's African Diaspora at the 2nd annual Black Pepper Food & Wine Festival. Presented by the Greater Miami Convention and Visitors Bureau's Black Hospitality Initiative, this not- to- be- missed food festival celebrates and supports Black- owned restaurants and food trucks by providing a platform to increase exposure. Besides culinary offerings, the festival will feature live music featuring DJ and bands, on- site cook- off competition, live podcast interviews, guest chefs, Black Vendor Marketplace and much more.

#### FOR MORE INFO: https://www.blackpepperfoodfest.com

\*\*\* For more information on things to do in Miami and places to visit, check out Your Official Miami and Miami Beach Guide (miamiandbeaches.com) or www.multiculturalmiami.com

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