

Juanita Moore

AAAM Board President: 1996–1998



Juanita Moore is a professional with over 40 years of museum experience. She is a native of Wilson, North Carolina and attended North Carolina Central State University. She has served as a curator, educator, administrator, and museum planner.

She was the former president and CEO of the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History. Prior to this position, she served as executive director of the American Jazz Museum and the Gem Theater located in the 18th & Vine Historic District in Kansas City, Missouri. Moore served as founding Executive Director of the National Civil Rights Museum in Memphis, Tennessee. In that capacity, she oversaw the construction and opening of the museum located at the Lorraine Motel, the site of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Prior to Memphis, Moore spent several years planning and subsequently opening the National African American Museum and Cultural Center in Wilberforce, Ohio alongside museum leaders like Dr. John Fleming and others. As a senior member of the planning team, she was pivotal in developing a strategy and concept for building a nationally donated collection.

Moore began her career with the Ohio Historical Society, where she served as the first African American curator. She also served as director of the Kuumba Na Nia Dance and Theatre Company. In addition to being AAAM's board president, she has served on numerous boards and committees, including board member of the American Alliance of Museums (AAM), the American Association of State and Local History (AASLH), and the International Council of Museum (ICOM).

Moore has mentored generations of museum practitioners and leaders.