



2022



MARYLAND  
COMMISSION ON  
AFRICAN AMERICAN  
HISTORY & CULTURE

BANNEKER-DOUGLASS  
MUSEUM

# ANNUAL REPORT

[bdmuseum.maryland.gov](http://bdmuseum.maryland.gov)

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### Cover Artwork

*Remnants/Peace and Joy are the Birthright of All Beings* by Tawny Chatmon / Courtesy of the Steve Weiss and Tania Pichardo Collection / Featured in *The Radical Voice of Blackness Speaks of Resistance and Joy* exhibition

## ABOUT THE

# MARYLAND COMMISSION ON AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY AND CULTURE

## THE HISTORY

In 1969, the MCAAHC was formed under the leadership of Maryland Senator Verda Freeman Welcome, America's first African American female state senator, and Benjamin Quarles, a student of Carter G. Woodson (known as the "Father of Black History").

## THE MISSION

The MCAAHC is committed to discovering, documenting, preserving, collecting, and promoting Maryland's African American heritage.

The Commission also provides technical assistance to and resources to Maryland African American museums, universities, and heritage sites. Through the accomplishment of this mission, the MCAAHC seeks to educate Maryland citizens and visitors to our state about the significance of the African American experience in Maryland.

The commission also operates the Banneker-Douglass Museum, the state's official museum of Maryland African American history and culture, and the African American Heritage Preservation Program in partnership with Maryland Historical Trust.



Commissioners and staff with artist Dr. Joyce J. Scott (center), who created *Araminta with Rifle and Vévé*, on display in the front of the museum as a part of *The Radical Voice of Blackness Speaks of Resistance and Joy* exhibition.

## OBJECTIVES

The primary objectives of the MCAAHC are to:

- Cultivate, present, interpret and promote the history and culture of African Americans in the State of Maryland through museum collections, exhibitions, commemorations, educational programs, publications, research and public participation;
- Serve as a clearinghouse for information and insights about African Americans in Maryland and the nation through collaboration with other public, educational, Corporate and Maryland based institutions on strategies for promoting African American history and culture;
- Discover, preserve, collect and catalog African American historical materials and artifacts and establish, manage and coordinate museums and other appropriate facilities for the promotion of African American history and culture; and
- Disseminate and integrate African American historical and cultural materials into the mainstream of Maryland life and education as a method of fostering constructive social change through better racial understanding

## MESSAGE FROM MCAAHC CHAIR

**REV. DR. TAMARA E. WILSON**

Dear Friends,

What an outstanding year 2022 was for the Maryland Commission on African American History and Culture (MCAAHC)-- one that will forever be marked by unity, strong advocacy, and historic change.

Since the founding of the Banneker Douglass Museum (BDM) as the state's official museum in 1989, the MCAAHC has operated it with limited staffing and funds. And while each year since 1982, the Commission has awarded a million dollars in capital funds to over 150 African American heritage sites around the state, each year, there are so many more that were unable to benefit from three funds. And although the MCAAHC serves as a national model for other ethnic Commissions around the nation and has always had exceptional and competent leadership, since its inception, it has been moved from agency to agency seeking suitable leadership.

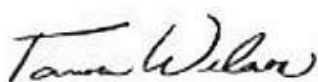
This all changed in 2022. Through the collaborative efforts of Commissioners (current and former), Speaker Adrienne Jones, the Legislative Black Caucus, the BDM staff, the BDM Foundation, volunteers, and community partners, two key pieces of legislation were passed that established the Commission as an independent agency under the executive branch of government, increased its annual budget from \$600,000 to \$1.6 million, and the funds dedicated for the AAHPG, from \$1 million to \$5 million. On top of that, the BDM received \$3 million to address long overdue capital repairs. What a win for the Commission! What a win for Maryland's citizens and every visitor to our state!

A special note of gratitude is due to Senator Cory McCray, Delegate Daryl Barnes, and Delegate Shaneka Henson for the critical roles they played in this significant accomplishment. Because of their efforts, Maryland's history will continue to reflect the valuable, and most importantly, the true African American story.

Of course, many other significant things occurred in the life of the MCAAHC in 2022, but space won't allow for it to be told here. But it is important to say here that furthering the understanding and preserving of Black history and culture and ensuring that all Maryland citizens are aware of the significant role that African Americans play in shaping Maryland's history is secure in our state, and we all will be the better because of it.

As I close out my term as Chair and Commissioner, I extend my deepest gratitude to each Commissioner, the BDM staff, the BDM Foundation, and especially to Executive Director Chanel C. Johnson. We did what we set out to do, and we did it together. What we have accomplished is a testament to each of your expertise, skill, and fortitude. I am blessed, beyond blessed, to have been called to serve alongside such greatness.

Keep Rising,



Rev. Dr. Tamara E. Wilson  
Chair, Maryland Commission on African American  
History and Culture



## MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**CHANEL C. JOHNSON**

Dear Friends,

In 2022, we accomplished much together, such as a youth and program series dedicated to Black health and wellness, raising over \$200,000 to support our operations and capital repairs, and celebrating the “Year of Harriet Tubman.” Returning from a global shutdown and adjusting to the “new normal,” we collaborated with wonderful organizations and educators to positively impact Maryland.

In recognition of the Year of Harriet Tubman, the Maryland Commission on African American History and Culture and the Banneker-Douglass Museum presented a virtual Harriet Tubman Bicentennial intergenerational virtual program and unveiled the beautiful statue, *Araminta with Rifle and Vévé* by Dr. Joyce J. Scott. In addition, we hosted an after-school program to explore the book *The 1619 Project* by Nikole Hannah-Jones, that culminated with students painting a large-scale mural project at the Banneker-Douglass Museum.

BDM’s virtual programs, on-site programs, and social media engaged over 158,000 people in FY22 in an effort to increase accessibility and visibility of our programming. This would not have been possible without our amazing donors, sponsors, and grantors. Also, our partner organizations, such as Visit Annapolis & Anne Arundel County, Morgan State University, the Annapolis Juneteenth, and the Kunta Kinte Heritage Festival, helped us further raise the visibility of the Banneker-Douglass Museum and the Maryland Commission on African American History and Culture.

As we premiered our newest exhibit, *The Radical Voice of Blackness Speaks of Resistance and Joy*, BDM launched new programming highlighting the Association for the Study of African American Life and History 2023 theme, Black Resistance.

I hope you will join us in 2023, and I thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,



Chanel C. Johnson  
Executive Director, Maryland Commission on African American History and Culture &  
Banneker-Douglass Museum



## MESSAGE FROM THE BDM FOUNDATION CHAIR

# BERYLE HALL

Dear Supporters,

I am so proud of the work accomplished to support the Banneker-Douglass Museum and Maryland Commission on African American History and Culture this fiscal year. We not only met, but surpassed, our FY22 fundraising campaign goal! With the dedication of the We Rise Committee, we were able to raise a total of \$205,000, which is \$5,000 over the desired goal and \$105,000 more than FY21. What an achievement!

In addition to the spectacular fundraising work, the Foundation supported the Banneker-Douglass Museum in its impactful programming and events, to include exhibition opening receptions, artist talks, and our annual Kwanzaa celebration.

As Chair of the Banneker-Douglass Museum Foundation, Inc., I am so grateful to be a part of the work being done to preserve and promote African American heritage in Maryland, despite challenges of a post-pandemic world.

Started in 1976, the Foundation was created to support the Maryland Commission on Afro-American History and Culture in establishing and maintaining the Banneker-Douglass Museum as the State of Maryland repository of African American history and culture. And we continue to carry out this mission today.

I'd like to thank all of our supporters: PNC Bank, BGE, Arts Council of Anne Arundel County, Chesapeake Crossroads Heritage Area, Friends of the Banneker-Douglass Museum, Visit Annapolis & Anne Arundel County, and more for all of your support and confidence in our work. I would also like to thank the Foundation board of directors and members for their work and dedication.

With Love,



Beryle Hall  
Chair, Banneker-Douglass Museum Foundation, Inc.



### BDM FOUNDATION BOARD

**Beryle Hall**  
President

**Angela Graham**  
Secretary

**Roslyn Hennessy**  
Treasurer

**Betty Coleman**  
Member

**Deborah Jackson**  
Member

**Grace Mathews**  
Member

# SECURING THE FUTURE

## LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY

### EXPANDING THE AFRICAN AMERICAN PRESERVATION GRANT & BANNEKER-DOUGLASS MUSEUM OPERATIONS

On May 16, 2022, Governor Larry Hogan, House Speaker Adrienne Jones, and Senate President Bill Ferguson signed HB 1048, The Senator Verda Welcome Act (named for Senator Verda Freeman Welcome who introduced state legislature establishing the commission in 1969), into law following, just days earlier, the passage of HB 1088, The African American Heritage Preservation Program – Annual Appropriation. What a historic moment!

The Commission set out the 2022 legislative session with a vision to secure the stability and financial future of the Commission, ensuring that its work of preserving and promoting African American history and culture would continue for generations to come. And together, through advocacy, community support, and dedicated hard work, the passing of these two bills into law was accomplished.

The Banneker-Douglass Museum, received a \$1.6 million appropriation that increases the museum's capacity. Additionally, the increase of the African American Heritage Preservation Grant from \$1 million



Back L to R: Delegate Shaneka Henson, Commission Chair Rev. Dr. Tamara Wilson, Executive Director Chanel Compton, Commissioner Elinor Thompson, Commissioner Tony Spencer; Front L to R: Senate President Bill Ferguson, Governor Larry Hogan, House Speaker Adrienne Jones.

to \$5 million will support more African American heritage projects around the state for years to come.

Sincere gratitude to Governor Larry Hogan and Lt. Governor Boyd Rutherford, for their leadership and support of the Commission in this effort, and to Speaker Adrienne Jones, Delegate Darryl Barnes, Senator Cory McCray, Delegate Shaneka Henson, Delegate Benjamin Brooks, and Delegate Sheree Sample-Hughes for their encouragement, support, and willingness to sponsor these most important bills.

## BILLS HB1048 AND HB1088

Key advancements established by **HB1048**, known as the Senator Verda Welcome Act, are:

- Each fiscal year, an appropriation of \$1.6 million for the Commission and its operation of the Banneker-Douglass Museum must be included in the annual budget– an increase of approximately \$900,000 annually (beginning in FY 2024).
- MCAAHC will be an independent agency in the Executive Branch of State government, no longer a part of the Governor's Office of Community Initiatives.

Key advancements established by **HB1088**, or the African American Heritage Preservation Grant Program, are:

- Increasing the amount of the appropriation to the African American Heritage Preservation Grant Fund from \$1,000,000 to \$5,000,000 each year.
- Repealing a requirement that the recipient of certain grants provide a certain matching fund and altering the maximum amount of a certain grant that a recipient may receive.

# COMMISSIONERS IN ACTION

## 2022 COMMISSIONERS

- **Rev. Tamara E. Wilson, DMin, CHAIR**  
(Baltimore City)
- **Edwin T. Johnson, PhD, VICE CHAIR**  
(Baltimore City)
- **Dion Banks** (Dorchester County)\*
- **Maya Davis** (Prince George's County)
- **Janice Curtis Greene** (Baltimore County)
- **Dr. Walter "Wali" Gill** (Baltimore City)\*
- **Marilyn Hatza** (Baltimore City)
- **Russell Frisby, Jr., Esq** (Howard County)
- **Melvin Kelly** (Anne Arundel County)
- **Steven X. Lee** (Baltimore County and Baltimore City)
- **Cheryl A. McLeod, Esq** (Howard County)
- **Kayce Munyeneh** (Prince George's County)
- **Adi Nkwonta, PhD** (Baltimore County)
- **Barbara Paca, PhD, OBE** (Talbot County)
- **Torrey Snow** (Anne Arundel County)
- **Tony J. Spencer** (Anne Arundel County)
- **Elinor L. Thompson** (Anne Arundel County)
- **Reggie Turner** (Washington County)

\*Appointed in 2022

## MCAAHC PUBLIC MEETING SCHEDULE 2022

**Monday, February 7, 2022**  
11:00am - Teleconference

**Monday, April 4, 2022**  
11:00am - Teleconference

**Monday, June 6, 2022**  
11:00am  
Washington County Museum of Fine Arts  
401 Museum Drive | Hagerstown, MD 21740

**Monday, August 1, 2022**  
11:00am  
Morgan State University  
1600 Havenwood Road | Baltimore, MD 21218

**Monday, October 3, 2022**  
11:00am  
The Water's Edge Museum  
101 Mill Street | Oxford, Maryland 21654

**Monday, December 5, 2022**  
11:00am  
Banneker-Douglass Museum  
84 Franklin Street | Annapolis, Maryland 21401

## IN MEMORIAM

### MARILYN HATZA



In honor of Marilyn Hatza, whose impactful career helped make Maryland's historic preservation practices more equitable and accessible to all, Maryland History Day changed the name of the commission's award to the Marilyn Hatza Award for Excellence in African American History.

Marilyn Hatza was dedicated and passionate about honoring, preserving, and when necessary, reckoning with Maryland's history. She served multiple terms as a commissioner for the MCAAHC and through her work as a commissioner, she made monumental contributions to the authentic preservation and presentation of Maryland's Black history, art, and culture for generations to come.



# COMMISSIONERS IN ACTION

## FALL 2022 SYMPOSIUM

THE PURSUIT OF ORGANIZATIONAL HEALTH, HEALING AND WHOLENESS IN THE AFRICAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY

This year's symposium was a two-day event filled with highly educational experiences, impactful professional development opportunities, and purposeful networking.

Held October 27th and October 28th on the historic campus of Morgan State University in Baltimore, the event was offered to participants at no cost, in partnership with The Du Bois-Diggs Center for Race and Social Justice at Morgan State University, The Benjamin A. Quarles Humanities and Social Science Institute at Morgan State University, and Banneker-Douglass Museum.

Symposium speakers and sessions centered around the theme of "The Pursuit of Organizational Health, Healing and Wholeness in the African American Community" and included topics ranging fundraising, capacity building, marketing, and strategic planning.



A youth track of sessions explored topics that included anti-bullying, healthy and positive relationships, the civil rights movement in Maryland, in addition to Morgan State University campus tours.

Click the button below or visit [youtube.com/@bannekerdouglassmuseum](https://www.youtube.com/@bannekerdouglassmuseum) to watch the full recorded session videos on the Banneker-Douglass Museum YouTube page.

Watch Videos

## HARRIET TUBMAN BICENTENNIAL

### MARYLAND SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF WINS THE HARRIET TUBMAN WOMEN OF COURAGE VIDEO CONTEST

In celebration of the bicentennial birth date of Harriet Tubman, Governor Larry Hogan officially proclaimed 2022 as "The Year of Harriet Tubman" in Maryland. For this year's Harriet Tubman Celebration, the commission's Program Committee organized a live virtual event broadcasted on YouTube. Children and adults living in Maryland who were inspired by Harriet Tubman's legacy were invited to submit a video for the Harriet Tubman Women of Courage video contest. Many moving submissions were received, but the Maryland School for the Deaf in Columbia were voted the winners! The fifth-grade students were already learning about Harriet Tubman, as part of their unit on Maryland in the 19th Century. Upon learning about the contest, the students were inspired to honor the legacy of Maryland's native daughter and decided to write personal letters to Harriet Tubman. Their thoughts were then transformed into a video montage, which included their letters and drawings.

# BANNEKER-DOUGLASS MUSEUM

## MUSEUM HISTORY

As the State of Maryland’s official museum of African American heritage, the Banneker-Douglass Museum (BDM), named for Benjamin Banneker and Frederick Douglass, is committed to discovering, documenting, preserving, collecting, and promoting Maryland’s African American heritage in order to improve the understanding and appreciating of America’s rich cultural diversity for all.

The original museum was housed within the former Mount Moriah African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church in the heart of historic Annapolis. The Victorian-Gothic structure was included in the Annapolis Historic District in 1971 and placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1973. Thanks to a community-led effort to transform the former Mt. Moriah AME Church building into a museum, the BDM opened on February 24, 1984. In light of this legacy, the BDM focuses on a community-based approach to building collections and exhibitions and in providing tours, public programs, and other services.

## MUSEUM STAFF

Presenting the small, but mighty staff of BDM!

This year, staff were able to participate in some of the following dynamic professional development opportunities:

- Association of African American Museum (AAAM) Conference 2022 in Miami, FL
- AAAM & Howard University Executive Training



**Chanel C. Johnson**  
Executive Director



**Sabriyah Hassan**  
Director of Programs



**Jan F. Lee**  
Director of Marketing & Communications



**Schillica Howard**  
Curator of Collections



**LeRonn Herbert**  
Administrative Manager and Special Assistant to MCAAHC



**Theodore "Ted" Hyman**  
Security Officer

# BY THE NUMBERS

## MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS

We were able to reach so many this year through our websites, social media platforms, e-newsletter, and the news, spreading the word about all the wonderful happenings of the museum and commission. Highlights include starting the BDM LinkedIn page and making the front page of The Baltimore Sun!

We are also so honored to have received the Cooperative Partnership Award for the “Black History 365” initiative in partnership with the Visit Annapolis & Anne Arundel County team. The Black History 365 microsite makes it easy for interested individuals to celebrate the heritage and culture of the people of the African Diaspora in Annapolis and Anne Arundel County all year long. Visit [visitannapolis.org/black-history-365](http://visitannapolis.org/black-history-365) to learn more!

**6,270**  
Total on-site visitors

**94,079**  
Social media reach

**562**  
Mentions in the news and media

**18,793**  
Combined website visitors

**25,600+**  
Newsletter subscribers

**\$215,975**  
in corporate and individual support (FY22)



**Cooperative Partnership Award** with Visit Annapolis & Anne Arundel County from the Maryland Tourism & Travel Summit

**Rated 5 out of 5** and **#18 of 76** Things to Do in Annapolis on [Tripadvisor.com](https://www.tripadvisor.com)



BDM staff, MCAAHC commissioner, and Visit Annapolis staff pictured below.



# VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

Through the many challenges of the dynamics of COVID-19, the Banneker–Douglass Museum (BDM) has continued to move forward even in the midst of this pandemic.

The BDM Volunteer Program has received and drawn some of the most brilliant, bright, gifted and intelligent individuals. These great individuals bring a diversified pool of talent in servicing the museum’s needs. We are grateful to have them and we truly welcome them aboard!

BDM took a leap of faith and to our great surprise, have garnered two new volunteers in the past three months that the museum was open! These great volunteers have been administrative assistants, docents, greeters, program helpers, general museum assistant as well as at home volunteers.



New BDM volunteer Patrick Smith, General Docent Sue Amos and Administrative Manager LeRonn Herbert working at the museum’s stellar Kwanzaa Program.

**90**  
Hours of service time

**\$2,340**  
In service hours

**\$2,400**  
Raised for 4 site rentals

**3**  
Docent guided tours

## CAPITAL REPAIRS

Capital repairs were completed in advance of the new exhibition installation, and the historic wing is newly reinvigorated. Efforts were funded in part by the African American Heritage Preservation Program grant. Repairs included:

- Installation of new pine wood flooring
- Restoration of pine wood flooring
- Upgrade of sound system
- Installation of new track lighting
- Installation of new exhibit walls
- Installation of 98-inch TV Monitor

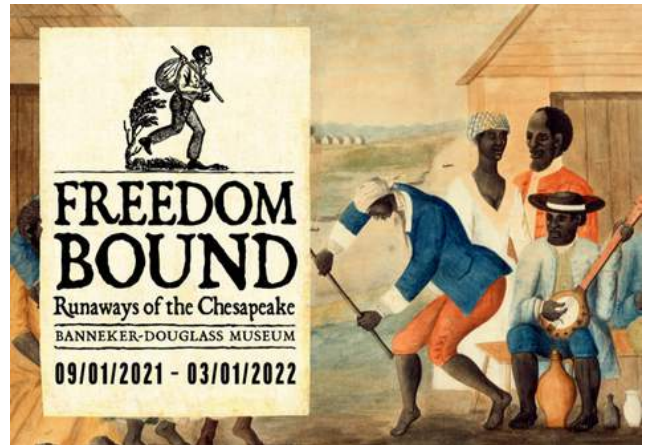
Repairs and updates are planned to continue into 2023 and beyond to upgrade the museum's technology and update the permanent exhibit, so stay tuned.



# EXHIBITIONS

## FREEDOM BOUND: RUNAWAYS OF THE CHESAPEAKE

SEPTEMBER 18, 2021 -  
MARCH 1, 2022



This powerful exhibit of nine stories of resistance to bondage and servitude in the Chesapeake Region from the Colonial Period to the American Civil War (1728-1864) continued into 2022. The Banneker-Douglass Museum invited visitors to consider what resistance and freedom looked like in the present day.

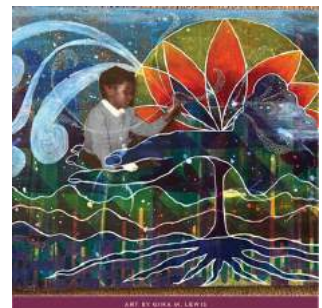
Acknowledgements: *Freedom Bound: Runaways of the Chesapeake* was created and is licensed by Historic Annapolis, Inc. The creation and development of the exhibition was financed in part by a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) and with State Funds from the following: Maryland Historical Trust and Cultural Museum Assistance Program of the Maryland Department of Planning (MHT), Maryland Heritage Area Authority (MHAA), Maryland War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission. The Banneker-Douglass Museum received *Freedom Bound* as a traveling exhibit loaned from the Reginald F. Lewis Museum of Maryland African American History and Culture.

## HONOR: CELEBRATING BLACK WOMEN'S ART

APRIL 19 - JUNE 27, 2022

Honor: *high respect, great esteem*. For centuries, art has been used as a way of expression. We honor the expression of Black Maryland-based six women artists with *HONOR*, an exhibition co-curated by the Banneker-Douglass Museum and ArtFarm. *HONOR* acknowledges and celebrates the joys and pains of Black women's expression with storytelling and creativity. Featured artists were Abena Apatu, Greta Chapin-McGill, Bria Edwards, Gina Marie Lewis, Sasha-Loriene, and Kennedy Trusty.

An opening reception was held on May 7th. Delegate Shaneka Henson gave remarks and several exhibiting artists were in attendance to mingle with attendees. Massages by Sun & Soul Massage and henna by Megan Alodie were on-hand for visitors to enjoy.



From top L to bottom R: *Pathways Evolve* by Greta Chapin-McGill, *Unbothered* by Bria Edwards, *Nina* by Abena Apatu, and *Catching Stars* by Gina M. Lewis.

Special thanks to the Maryland Commission on African American History and Culture, Banneker-Douglass Museum Foundation, Arts Council of Anne Arundel County, and Anthony Henry.

# THE RADICAL VOICE OF BLACKNESS SPEAKS OF RESISTANCE AND JOY

SEPTEMBER 18, 2021 - MARCH 1, 2022

Guest curated by Myrtis Bedolla of Galerie Myrtis, *The Radical Voice of Blackness Speaks of Resistance and Joy* presents fine art by seventeen Black Maryland-based artists, including the Banneker-Douglass Museum's Fine Art Collection, to examine historic and contemporary themes of Black joy and healing created in opposition to and despite oppression.

Featured artists are Devin Allen, Tawny Chatmon, Wesley Clark, Larry Cook, Oletha DeVane, Edward D. Ghee, Sr., Phylcia Ghee, Jerrell Gibbs, Curlee Holton, Monica Ikegwu, Megan Lewis, Charles Mason, III, Wendel Patrick, Joyce J. Scott, and Chrystal Seawood. Also included are commissioned portraits of Benjamin Banneker, Frederick Douglass, Lillie Carroll Jackson, and Harriet Tubman by Hughie Lee-Smith and a portrait of Martin Luther King, Jr. by Nathaniel Gibbs from the Banneker-Douglass Museum's Fine Art Collection.

Special thanks to exhibit sponsors: BGE, PNC Bank, Banneker-Douglass Museum Foundation, Inc., Friends of Banneker-Douglass Museum, Chesapeake Crossroads Heritage Area, Arts Council of Anne Arundel County, and Visit Annapolis & Anne Arundel County.



Top L: Guest curator, Myrtis Bedolla; Top R: Photo from the opening reception in the temporary gallery; Bottom: promotional graphic of the exhibit opening.



From Top Left: *Untitled* by Devin Allen, (top right) *but we kept fighting* by Charles Mason III, *Free Tre Five* by Chrystal Seawood, *A Study on Beauty* by Edward D. Ghee, Sr., *Frederick Douglass* by Hughie Lee-Smith, (bottom right) *Sage* by Monica Ikegwu.

# COLLECTIONS DEPARTMENT

## ACQUISITIONS

24+ Acquisitions

300 Objects  
Cataloged

### Newspaper Engravings

A collection of eleven issues of *Harper's Weekly* and *Franks' Illustrated* between 1864 and 1869, including fragments from an illustration and article on Frederick Douglass and Reverend Josiah Henson.

### Papers of Cynthia Carter

BDM received two containers of archival materials from Alderwoman Cynthia Abney Carter, the first Black woman elected to Annapolis City Council. The materials primarily document her work with the 2008 presidential campaign for Barack Obama in Maryland.

### King Johnson Memorial Soil Jar

"A soil collection jar from the site of the last known lynching in the state of Maryland, Mr. King Johnson on 12/25/1911. The jar was collected [on December 11, 2021] in conjunction with the National Memorial for Peace and Justice, also known as the National Lynching Memorial in Montgomery, AL. There is also a plaque titled "Never Again" describing the jar, and a book [by the Equal Justice Initiative] about the history of lynchings in America."



### Leaving Me In Tears

BDM accepted a painting entitled *Leaving Me In Tears* by Ulysses S. Marshall into the Fine Art Collection (Gift of Daniel Najjar).

### Matthew Henson and Herbert Frisby Materials

BDM received a copy of *Henson: A Negro Explorer at the North Pole* signed by Dr. Herbert M. Frisby on October 15, 1970 passed down by the donor's great-grandparents, a letter from Dr. Herbert M. Frisby to the donor's great-grandmother discussing the aforementioned book, two newspaper clippings, a 4 cent 1959 Arctic Explorations stamp, and a photograph of a signed pair of Matthew Henson's mittens.

## LOANS, PRESENTATIONS, RESEARCH REQUESTS

- BDM loaned the traveling exhibition *Heritage by the Sea* to Northrop Grumman's African American Task Group for Black History Month.
- Schillica Howard presented to the Bureau of Land Management, Eastern States for their Black History Month event on February 15, 2022 and received a Certificate of Appreciation.
- Discussed Phase 2 of *The Black Vote Mural Project* at Salisbury University's Edward H. Nabb Research Center in March 2022.
- Twenty objects from ten of BDM's collections were photographed for Wendel White's, 2021 Gardner Fellow in Photography at the Peabody Museum at Harvard University and faculty member at Stockton University in New Jersey, photographic project titled "Manifest: Thirteen Colonies."



# CONSERVATION

## BANNEKER-ELLICOTT MURAL CONSERVATION

OCTOBER 2021 - FEBRUARY 2022

In 1966, the State Roads Commission, predecessor to the Maryland Transportation Authority (MDTA), the agency that operates and maintains the State's toll facilities, contracted with Gladioux Corporation to make decorative improvements to the Maryland House Travel Plaza on I-95 in Aberdeen, Maryland. A Pennsylvania artist – William A. Smith – was commissioned to create several murals for the travel plaza. Each depicted significant individuals and events important to both Maryland and U.S. history, and were installed in the lobby of the Maryland House on April 2, 1968.

On September 16, 2012, the Maryland House Service Plaza was closed to the public to be demolished and rebuilt. William A. Smith's murals were removed from the walls and underwent conservation in October 2012. The Maryland Commission on African American History and Culture advocated for the museum to be chosen as the new home for the mural entitled *Andrew Ellicott & Benjamin Banneker Surveying the Boundaries of the District of Columbia*. The Board of Public Works approved the transition in 2016, and BDM received the mural, nicknamed the Banneker-Ellicott Mural, in 2017. Conservation of the Banneker-Ellicott Mural began in October 2021 with framing and installation planned for January 2022.

An unveiling celebration was held on February 5, 2022. Donors and special guests gathered at the Banneker Douglass Museum on February 5th to celebrate the unveiling of the newly framed and installed Banneker-Ellicott Mural. A celebration a long time in the making, this program honored two extraordinary historical figures, particularly the life of the museum namesake and Maryland native son, Benjamin Banneker.

The mural is dedicated to long-time Washington, D.C. surveyor, Chas Langelan, who respected and admired both Banneker and Ellicott. Langelan emulated them in his own passion for the surveying profession and executed its demands for integrity and accuracy to a high degree.

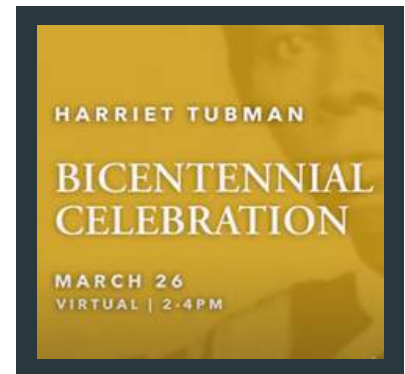


Installation of *Andrew Ellicott & Benjamin Banneker Surveying the Boundaries of the District of Columbia* by William A. Smith, 1968



# PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

## KITCHEN HOUSE, BIG HOUSE: AN INTIMATE DIALOGUE OF THE STRUGGLE BETWEEN BLACK AND WHITE WOMEN



March 4, 2022

*In partnership with Anne Arundel County Community College*

Guest speaker Karsonya Wise Whitehead, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Communication and African and African American Studies at Loyola University Maryland, provided a critical framework from which to learn and interrogate the complicated relationships between Black and white women during the 19th century in the United States.

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## HARRIET TUBMAN BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

March 26, 2022

The world honored Harriet Tubman throughout 2022, marking 200 years since her birth in Dorchester County on Maryland's Eastern Shore. People from far and wide shared and reflected on her remarkable story. The "Harriet Tubman Women of Courage and Maryland Day" celebration virtual program highlighted the winners of the Harriet Tubman Women's History Month Women of Courage Video Contest and presented the life and legacy of Harriet Tubman through speakers, presentations, and performances. To date, this video has garnered over 1,700 views on YouTube!

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## WHAT'S ALL THE FUSS ABOUT? CRITICAL RACE THEORY, DEMOCRACY, HISTORY AND EDUCATION

April 6, 2022

*In partnership with Bowie State University*

Bowie State University's Department of History and Government Dr. Tamara L. Brown, Dr. Roger A. Davidson, Dr. David L. Reed, and Dr. Carmen V. Walker presented a discussion about current cultural hotbed issues and the need for inclusive history education and civic engagement in this virtual event.

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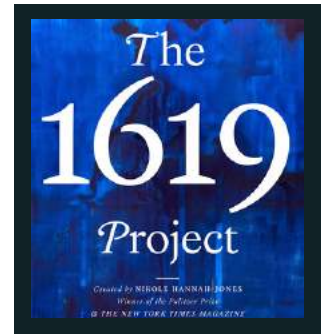
## BLACK VOTE MURAL PROJECT PANEL DISCUSSION

April 28, 2022

*In partnership with Bowie State University*

In this panel discussion, we revisited the 2020 critically-acclaimed BDM exhibit, *The Black Vote Mural Project*. We explored what was involved in the creation of the exhibit, received updates on the projects of some of the exhibit's artists and curators, and discussed how current social justice movements aligned with the 2020 art project. Panelists: Gina Lewis (Professor, Bowie State University), Vince (Artist), Chanel Compton (Executive Director, BDM), Tomora Wright (Guest Curator, BDM).

# PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



## THE 1619 PROJECT: A PUBLIC READING

April 23, May 25, and June 11, 2022

*In partnership with Baltimore Read Aloud, Lambda Delta Sigma Chapter of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc., and the Bowie State University Department of Fine and Performing Arts*



In this three part series, we explored the influence of race on the Annapolis community from 1619 to today through public readings, youth presentations, group discussions, and a community mural project.

Parts I and II of the series were virtual events held on April 23rd, 11:00am-1:00pm and May 25th, 6:00-7:30pm that featured youth presentations and public readings of excerpts from the #1 *New York Times* bestseller, *The 1619 Project* by Nicole Hannah-Jones. Through intergenerational group discussions after the readings, we made connections from slavery to the segregation of Annapolis and explored the after-effects of race and racism in Annapolis. We asked the question, how far have we come and where are we going?

Part III of the series was an in-person held event on June 11th at the Banneker-Douglass Museum where the community members came to contribute to an exciting art mural featuring a portrait of Harriet Tubman surrounded by West African Adinkra symbols based on themes from *The 1619 Project*. There was also a book giveaway of *The 1619 Project* by Baltimore Read Aloud.

Visit the [BDM YouTube page](#) to check out the time lapse video of the mural creation!

# PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

## ANNAPOLIS JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION

June 18, 2022

Commissioners, staff, and foundation members joined the Annapolis community for its 2nd annual Juneteenth parade and festival. Participants walked the parade route with a banner in hand followed by a car full, waving to onlookers. This event featured food, educational activities, and musical headliners Avery Sunshine, Koryn Hawthorne, Pastor Mike Jr., Beverly Crawford, the Chuck Brown Band, plus a host of local talent!



## EXHIBIT OPENING RECEPTION FOR *THE RADICAL VOICE OF BLACKNESS SPEAKS OF RESISTANCE AND JOY*

November 10, 2022

In collaboration with guest curator Myrtis Bedolla of Galerie Myrtis, we presented *The Radical Voice of Blackness Speaks of Resistance and Joy* exhibition to the public. The opening reception was well-attended by featured artists, exhibit sponsors, art community leaders, and a host of art and history enthusiasts. Guests explored thought-provoking paintings, photographs, prints, videos, and conceptual works illustrating themes of “resistance” and “joy”, serving as conversations on Black empowerment while sanctioning and proclaiming Blackness and its humanity. Also in attendance was famed writer/author D. Watkins in support of friend and exhibiting artist Devin Allen.

## KWANZAA UNITY CELEBRATION

December 10, 2022

This year’s festivities focused on the creativity (Kuumba) of the people of the African Diaspora. We highlighted the museum’s current exhibit, *The Radical Voice of Blackness Speaks of Resistance and Joy*, while presenting live African dance by Keur Khaleyi African Dance Company, storytelling by griot Nas I. Afi, lighting of the kinara and Kwanzaa table presentation by Commissioner Cheryl McLeod, Black-owned businesses, and a catered luncheon of delicious soul food.



# THANK YOU!

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The Year Ahead

# WHAT'S NEXT IN 2023?



## MORE RADICAL PROGRAMMING

The year 2023 will continue to be a year of exciting and innovative programming at Banneker-Douglass Museum. As we round out the year, we continue to highlight the museum's current exhibit with artist talks, panel discussions, and more. The BDM After-School Program, in partnership with the Housing Authority of the City of Annapolis, will kick-off, allowing students to be immersed in African American art and history through workshops, field trips, and more.



*Different Cloth by Jerrell Gibbs  
Courtesy of Dr. Darryl Atwell Collection*

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