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Governor Wes Moore (center) held his first Black History Month program at The Lewis Museum. He is joined by (left to right) Baltimore City Council Member James A. Torrence (District 7), Council Member Mark Conway (District 4), Council President Nick J. Mosby, and Council Member Robert Stokes (District 12).

Photo by Rachel D. Graham/Reginald F. Lewis Museum

Shades of Blackness



The Lewis Museum president Terri Lee Freeman pictured with two of the three Black governors in the country's post-Reconstruction history, Gov. Wes Moore and Deval Patrick, former governor of Massachusetts

How do you describe Blackness? Is it a physical characteristic, a state of mind, a way of being, all of the above or a description of diversity? At The Reginald F. Lewis Museum of Maryland African American History and Culture (The Lewis Museum), we believe it is both/and. We try to present diverse exhibits, programs, and community events that are interesting and can have an impact on our visitors. We hope to exchange information between our organization and our guests, incorporating the information we've received into future programming opportunities.

The first half of fiscal year 2023 began with the theme *Reading the Culture* looking at the term reading both literally and in the figurative sense as it is used in contemporary culture. From our exhibit *Reading Douglass* which provided visitors with a look into the mind, thoughts, and readings of Frederick Douglass; to our Fall Book Festival which targeted children, youth and adults and encouraged them to read and imagine; to our discussion of Black Athletes, Activism and Justice. The second half of the year allowed our guests to imagine the future through our theme *Black Futures, Black Imaginings*. Our interactive Imaginarium exhibit engaged our guests in the design of the future for Black people in their respective communities. We connected the afro-futurists of the past - like Harriet Tubman - to more contemporary figures like Sun Ra and Octavia Butler. The multisensory exhibit *Afro-Futurist Manifesto: Blackness Reimagined* represented the concept through outstanding works of art first shown at the 2022 Venice Biennale and through music which crossed over from the present to the future.

However, The Lewis Museum is more than exhibits and objects. We seek to be relevant to the times. This year we demonstrated our relevance through our involvement in the Baltimore City Squeegee Collaborative, participating in the weekly meetings and presenting a screening of "By Any Means Necessary," a documentary produced by Baltimore National Heritage Area on the history of the squeegee economy through the words and experiences of those who are part of the industry. A discussion between the community, city officials and the young men and women who are a part of the industry followed the screening.

We hosted a gubernatorial forum and honored the accomplishments of Maryland's pioneering African American women during Women's History Month. Then we stepped *Into Utopia* at our annual gala, where we celebrated a year of achievement and some of Maryland's finest sons and daughters.

All of this activity, in a year when Maryland elected the first Black governor in its history, demonstrates the excellence and diversity of experience that make up the shades of blackness in our great state. We are Maryland. We are The Lewis Museum!

Terri Lee Freeman
Executive Director



The Stage is Set for Success

Fiscal Year 2023 proved to be historic for our state and The Lewis Museum. The Board and senior leadership jumped feet first into the work laid out in our five year strategic plan. We kicked things off with a retreat where, as a cohesive team, we delved into an understanding of the landscape against which we will take on an ambitious, but achievable, endeavor outlined through our strategic imperatives.

For the first time in a long time, Board members thought strategically about ways in which they could be of support to The Lewis Museum team. We discussed the changing demographics the nation faces ... the graying and browning of our population as communities mature and become more diverse. We also considered the fact that we would need to intentionally target constituencies outside of the Baltimore region as net outflow of residents has begun to exceed migration into the area.

And as the State made history, electing its first Black governor, The Lewis Museum’s specter in the national arena and regard in the State House gained prominence resulting in increased funding, new donors, and opportunities to host national thought-leaders in conversations on race, equity, civil rights, and the future of teaching these same history-making moments to future generations of Marylanders.

I believe we are well on our way to achieving and even surpassing the goals we set in our five year strategic plan. Our Board is committed. The Staff is dedicated. And the Baltimore region, the State of Maryland, and our country are ready to share in all The Lewis Museum has to offer.

W. Drew Hawkins
Chair, Board of Directors

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Strategic Imperative I

Organizational Cohesion & Effectiveness

The Reginald F. Lewis Museum will be a stable and responsive institution known for its model governance, professional staff, rigorous and dynamic exhibitions, and innovative and culturally relevant and audience-centered public programming. We will be data-informed in the work we do, with data collection systems in place to capture pertinent information about our offerings, visitors and guests. This data will create a robust feedback loop and inform future museum offerings, grant proposals, promote growth and community engagement.

In FY 2023, we moved closer to realizing this strategic imperative as we welcomed a new human resources manager; built staff capacity; and invested in development for our Board of Directors, Senior Team, and full staff through full-day retreats and lunch and learns.

We also made significant progress in our endeavors to present dynamic exhibitions that are culturally relevant with the expansion of our collection to include two major acquisitions. With the accession of objects from two major collections, we have already met our five-year goal for expanding our collection. Additionally, we are solidly in the beginning phase of the work to design a robust educational infrastructure and build a dynamic museum interpreter program.

In the 3rd and 4th quarters of the fiscal year, we contracted with Salesforce and Veeva to acquire a new software system to manage the organization's donor, membership, admissions, and retail data on a single platform. This will allow the Museum to capture pertinent information about our offerings, visitors, and guests, creating a robust feedback loop that informs future museum offerings.

Fiscal Year 2023 By the Numbers

At the conclusion of the 2022 fiscal year, The Lewis Museum introduced its 2022-27 Strategic Plan, *Let's SOAR!* Informed by extensive community input and led by a committee incorporating a cross-section of participants from our Board of Directors and staff members, the strategic planning process reframed our organizational brand story and identified five Strategic Imperatives and a set of support objectives that would serve as the North Star of our work for the next five years. FY 2023 served as a foundational year for the implementation of the strategic plan. We met several of our objectives and realized the opportunity for continued growth in the remaining years of the plan.

Accession of more than **200** new objects into the permanent collection

16,579 General Admission Attendees

3,191 Students served through in-person or virtual tours

2,411 In-person and virtual programming attendees



345K+ combined social media reach
(Facebook, Instagram & LinkedIn aggregate total)

455 Unique Articles **3.24 billion** total unique visitors
viewing online coverage per month

\$29.97 million
in Advertising Value Equivalency

180,332 Page views on
LewisMuseum.org

\$636,061 in facilities rentals and catering commission

\$787,984 in corporate, philanthropic and individual support

\$48,992 in memberships from **459** members



Strategic Imperative II

Brand Clarity and Effectiveness

The Reginald F. Lewis Museum will be recognized as having a meaningful impact over the next five years. The knowledge of the Museum will expand through approximately 50% of the state, engaging at least 11 counties outside of Baltimore City and Baltimore County.

Extensive work was accomplished to solidify, clarify, and expand knowledge of The Lewis Museum brand during FY 2023. With the election of the State's first Black governor in November 2022, The Lewis Museum found itself center stage in the celebration of this historic moment. In addition to hosting guests from across the country during Inaugural festivities, Gov. Moore chose to host his first Black History Month program at the Museum. School children and municipal and state dignitaries alike were in attendance.

Through supporting investments in the CIAA Conference weekend as a local partner and site of numerous conference-related events. The Lewis Museum partnered with Baltimore-based brands to activate events that leveraged increased tourist traffic. The combination of these two tactics resulted in increased exposure. Additionally, our work on our website has improved the visitor experience while better leveraging the available real estate to promote upcoming events and exhibitions.

The expansion of brand recognition was also realized by intentionally incorporating statewide input and emphasis in our exhibitions and programming. For example, the 2023 High School Juried Art Show was curated by Baltimore City Public Schools students and included works from students in seven municipalities across the state. Additionally, we highlighted the life and love of reading of Talbot County native Frederick Douglass.

In August 2022, we hosted members of the Maryland Legislative Black Caucus who represent the leadership of several counties across the state at a dinner and discussion of our strategic plan with our President, Board Chair, and senior museum staff. We additionally partnered with the Honorable Adrienne Jones, Speaker of the Maryland House of Delegates, in recognizing pioneering Black women from across the state in March 2023.

Terri Lee Freeman (top right) is shown with the leaders of eight of the 14 Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association (CIAA) institutions. Front row, left to right: Dr. Dwaun J. Warmack, President, Claflin University; Dr. Elwood L. Robinson, Chancellor, Winston Salem State University; Dr. Karrie G. Dixon, Chancellor, Elizabeth City State University. Second row: Dr. Christine Johnson McPhail, President, St. Augustine's University; Paulette Dillard, Ph.D., President, Shaw University; Brenda A. Allen, Ph.D., President, Lincoln University (PA); Top row: Clarence D. Armbrister, Johnson C. Smith University; Makola M. Abdullah, Ph.D., President, Virginia State University.

Photo by Rachel D. Graham/Reginald F. Lewis Museum



Strategic Imperative III

Community Involvement

We will be a desired partner to accomplish projects in our community. Our partnerships will include grassroots organizations, scholarly institutions, national and local museums, historical societies, corporations, and foundations. We will also be known as an anti-racist organization that proactively seeks to work with communities to dismantle practices or systems that prey on disadvantaged communities, in particular Black communities.

The Reginald F. Lewis Museum intentionally strives to be more than a building that solely showcases art on the walls and objects under glass. We endeavor to be regarded as the public square that encourages and hosts pivotal conversations that move communities toward positive change. We are committed to taking the museum outside of the walls.

In FY 2023, the museum was represented at four community events. One of the most impactful activities was our participation in AFRAM 2023, one of the largest African American festivals on the East Coast attracting over 100,000 attendees annually. In addition to an interactive booth for festival attendees, we partnered with the Mayor's Office and the Office of Recreation and Parks to execute an interactive community engagement installation based on the *IMAGINARIUM: A Social Imagination Experience* installation with the prompt "In the future, Black People will..." at three sites across the festival footprint.

The Lewis Museum - in partnership with the Baltimore City NAACP, Baltimore Votes, Black Girls Vote, the Greater Baltimore Urban League, the League of Women Voters Maryland, and Out for Justice - hosted a Gubernatorial Candidate Forum centering issues impacting Black Marylanders. Forum candidates were asked a series of questions focused on Education, Healthcare, Justice Reform, Economic Development, and the protection of Voter Rights and Civic Engagement.

Fiscal Year 2023 also saw increased partnership between The Lewis Museum and the Mayor's Office. In October, we hosted one of the Baltimore City Squeegee Collaborative's first meetings. We went on to partner with the Baltimore National Heritage Area (BNHA) to screen a documentary that presented the perspective of the participants in the squeegee industry. The screening was followed by a conversation with panelists Shauntee Daniels, executive director, BNHA, and the documentary's producer; Jason Bass, former Director of Culture and Impact, Hotel Revival; the late Leon Bey-Smith of the Arch Social Club Community Network and former squeegee worker Walker Gladden who are featured in the documentary; and Faith P. Leach, then Deputy Mayor of Equity, Health and Human Services for the City of Baltimore.



Strategic Imperative IV

Supporting Educational Excellence

We will have a 21st century Museum that tells the story of the African diaspora journey in Maryland, our triumphs, struggles, accomplishments, and impact on the whole of the state and nation. Because of the breadth of our storytelling and the quality of both our permanent and temporary exhibitions, the museum's audience will average 65,000 to 70,000 visitors annually. Visitors will reflect the diversity of the state of Maryland, Chesapeake region and mid-Atlantic.

In FY 2023, our Department of Interpretation, Collections & Education shifted our presentation of exhibitions and programs to a seasonal format, aligning both around central themes. September brought with it the launch of *Reading the Culture: Celebrating Our Stories in All of Their Forms*. A play on words centering on Black vernacular, *Reading the Culture* examined “reading” not only in traditional forms of literacy, but also in the multiple ways that Black traditions invoke the idea of reading—from looking closely at images and text, to offering critiques in the barbershop or via Black Twitter, to engaging enthusiastically with ideas, to the ways that Black gay culture has taken up the notion of a “read” to mean telling a truth that shames the devil.

This year, in light of conflicts surrounding banned books, The Lewis Museum celebrated books by some of the most frequently banned BIPOC authors. The guiding principle of *Reading the Culture* programs was to foster a space of learning, investigation, curiosity, imagination, and deep reflection grounded in a love of reading. The centerpiece of the season was an interactive installation on Frederick Douglass, his love of reading, and his belief in it as a pathway to liberation for Black people.

In the late spring, we celebrated *Black Futures, Black Imaginings*. Anchored by the participatory installation *IMAGINARIUM: A Social Imagination Experience* and the highly anticipated exhibition *Afro-Futurist Manifesto: Blackness Reimagined*. *Black Futures, Black Imaginings* explored the concept of Black futurism as an imaginative and liberatory practice. *Black Futurism, Afro-Futurism, Astro Blackness*, and its other titles center around themes of liberation for Black people, reclamation of self and culture, and imagining the future.

This high-quality content as well as the loosening or ending of pandemic restrictions contributed to an increase in overall attendance with significant upticks in total group sales throughout the year and school field trips during the second half of the year.

Museum favorite Culture Queen guides a youth-focused tour of Afro-Futurist Manifesto: Blackness Reimagined during the exhibition's opening weekend celebration.

Photo by Francesca Dorsey/Reginald F. Lewis Museum

FUTURES
BLACK
IMAGININGS

HIGH SCHOOL JURIED ART SHOW

MAY 9, 2023 **JULY 16, 2023**

THE REGINALD F. LEWIS MUSEUM OF MARYLAND AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY AND CULTURE

CELEBRATE THE WINNERS OF THE 18th ANNUAL HIGH SCHOOL JURIED ART SHOW

Monday | June 19, 2023
11AM to Noon

The Reginald F. Lewis Museum of Maryland African American History and Culture will celebrate its 18th anniversary by showcasing the winners of our **JUNETEENTH CELEBRATIONS: Emvisioning a New Future** juried art show. Curated by Reginald F. Lewis Museum staff and community art professionals, the show will feature the artistic vision and expression of 18 winners.
MONICA IKEDWU

Enjoy **FREE** Admissions!!

This year, The Reginald F. Lewis Museum marked 18 years since launching our High School Juried Art Show which strives to honor the artistic talent of Maryland youth from all 25 school districts in the state. The show has provided students with the opportunity to exercise and showcase their artistic vision and expression. This year, The Lewis Museum continued its partnership with the Maryland State Education Association (MSEA), and asked participants to explore what young people imagine and conceive of for their future. This year’s selections were made by a cohort of students from Baltimore City Public Schools’ BMORE ME program who worked behind the scenes with museum staff and community art professionals to learn the practice of curation and design. The cohort included Chlor McNeill and Judith Velch of Baltimore School of the Arts and Taleal Robinson. The 2023 winners represented Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Charles, Harford, Howard, and Prince George’s Counties and Baltimore City and were celebrated at an awards ceremony held as part of The Lewis Museum’s Juneteenth Celebration.

- 1st Place: Chloe Monroe, G.W. Carver Center for the Arts and Technology (Baltimore County)
- 2nd Place: Quinn Bryant, Baltimore School for the Arts (Baltimore City)
- 3rd Place: Samadhi Jones, Suitland High School (Prince George’s County)
- Honorable Mention: Sydney McDonald, G.W. Carver Center for the Arts and Technology (Baltimore County) and Jada McAliley, G.W. Carver Center for the Arts and Technology (Baltimore County)
- Ifeoluwa Naluwa Adeyooye, G.W. Carver Center for the Arts and Technology (Baltimore County)
- Khyree Bonds, G.W. Carver Center for the Arts and Technology (Baltimore County)
- Destiny Boyd, Harford Technical High School (Harford County)
- Hyla-Marie Franklin, Baltimore City College High School (Baltimore City)
- Sanyé “Zero” Grace, Milford HS (Baltimore County)
- Jasmin Gedlu, Eastern Tech High School (Baltimore County)

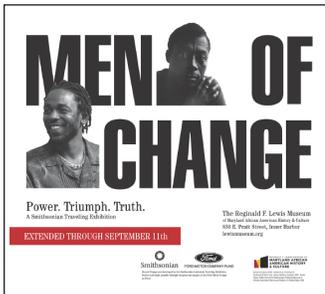
- Liberty Hamilton, G.W. Carver Center for the Arts and Technology (Baltimore County)
- Macy Horton, G.W. Carver Center for the Arts and Technology (Baltimore County)
- Aaliyah Jegels, Maurice J. McDonogh High School (Charles County)
- Cayde Jenkins, Perry Hall High School (Baltimore County)
- Makaya Lancaster, Calvert High School (Calvert County)
- Hamini Lewis, G.W. Carver Center for the Arts and Technology (Baltimore County)
- Divora Massa, G.W. Carver Center for the Arts and Technology (Baltimore County)
- LaShawna Perry, Laurel High School (Prince George’s County)
- Nasir Robinson, Meade High School (Anne Arundel County)
- Jordan Rumano, G.W. Carver Center for the Arts and Technology (Baltimore County)
- Micah Swinton, Eastern Tech High School (Baltimore County)
- Richard Tenia II, Hammond High School (Howard County)
- Takara Wilson, Dulaney High School (Baltimore County)

Exhibitions & Installations

Men of Change: Power. Triumph. Truth.

February 11, 2022 through September 11, 2022

Men of Change: Power. Triumph. Truth. profiled the revolutionary men—including Muhammad Ali, James Baldwin, Ta-Nehisi Coates, W.E.B Du Bois, and Kendrick Lamar—whose journeys have altered the history and culture of the country. The achievements of the men are woven within the legacy and traditions of the African American journey—achievements of excellence in spite of society’s barriers. Through literary and historic quotes, poetry, original works of art, dramatic photographs, and a dynamic space that encourages self-reflection, this innovative exhibition weaves together the historical and the contemporary to illuminate the importance of these men within the context of rich community traditions. **Men of Change** was developed by the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service and made possible through the generous support of the Ford Motor Company Fund.



All On The Court: An Installation by Chrystal Seawood

June 10, 2022 through November 2022

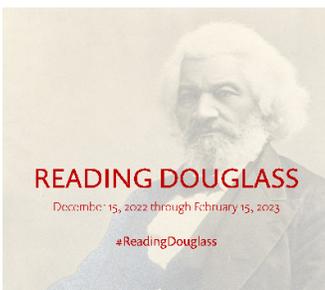
Featuring eight original artworks created by artist Chrystal Seawood in a site-specific installation, **All on the Court** offered a unique, compassionate, and compelling exploration of where Black masculine youth are allowed joy, grief, rage, camaraderie, and hope. All on the Court: An Installation by Chrystal Seawood invited the viewer to consider the intersection of Black masculine identities and spaces of emotional release.



Reading Douglass

December 15, 2022 through February 15, 2023

In **Reading Douglass**, we explored Frederick Douglass’ passion for reading as a form of resistance. Designed as an interactive installation that invoked the power of reading by recreating a library, the installation invited visitors to - in the words of Douglass - “open ourselves up to the ideas of other people.” The renowned abolitionist knew how deeply political, powerful, and liberating knowledge could be. Douglass always held that through reading “we can begin to see the world in new ways.” This installation provided space for guests to explore their own curiosities while learning about how books and reading shaped his life.



IMAGINARIUM: Social Imagination Experience

February 22, 2023 through April 9, 2023

The IMAGINARIUM is birthed from the theme Black futures/Black imaginings, which is an effort to explore the concept of Black futurism as an imaginative and liberatory practice. Black Futurism, Afro-Futurism, Astro Blackness, and its other names center themes of liberation for Black people, reclamation of self and culture, and imagining the future. Afro-Futurism is frequently framed in a fictional, technoculture, and speculative narrative; the IMAGINARIUM was a space that centered the visitor’s voices through an afro-speculative lens using history, interactive visual design, and mind-mapping.



Afro-Futurist Manifesto: Blackness Reimagined

March 2, 2023 through September 5, 2023

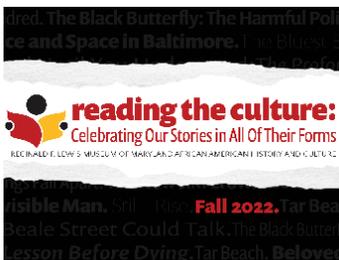
The Reginald F. Lewis Museum was excited to partner with **Galerie Myrtis** and the **James E. Lewis Museum of Art at Morgan State University** to present the groundbreaking exhibition **Afro-Futurist Manifesto: Blackness Reimagined** for the first time in the United States. Curated by **Myrtis Bedolla** for the 2022 Venice Biennale, **Afro-Futurist Manifesto** brought together a stellar assemblage of African-American Artists who constructed a future forged in transatlantic links and Afrofuturism’s ideology to expand the notion of Blackness at the intersection of technology and liberation. This existence was conceived, as asserted by author Kevin Young, in “Elsewhere ... the remapping of what’s here,” forming an alternative reality where one’s freedom and humanity is found.



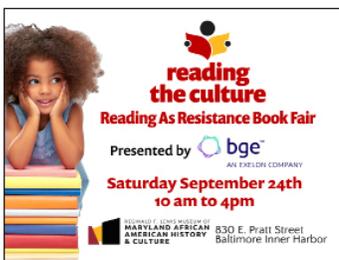
Engagement Programs



To close out its run of the *Men of Change: Power. Triumph. Truth.* exhibition, The Lewis Museum hosted a panel discussion with several sports analysts on how Black athletes have taken on the mantle of activism to propel justice in their communities in spite of severe backlash. Award-winning journalists **William C. "Bill" Rhoden**, editor-at-large with *Andscape*, and **Len Elmore** - a former player with the American Basketball Association and National Basketball Association and announcer for ESPN, CBS Sports and Fox Sports/FS1 for 31 years - engaged in a lively discourse moderated by veteran journalist and founder of *TheShadowLeague.com* **Keith Clinkscales**.



In the Fall of 2022, programming at The Lewis Museum centered around the theme, *Reading The Culture: Celebrating Our Stories in All of Their Forms*. In light of conflicts surrounding banned books, we celebrated books by some of the most frequently banned Black authors and authors of color. Virtual and in-person programming included such notables as **Shannen Dee Williams, Ph.D.**, author of *Subversive Habits: Black Catholic Nuns in the Long African American Freedom Struggle*; the author of the One Maryland One Book selection *What's Yours is Mine*, **Naima Coster**; and **Dr. Lawrence Brown**, author of the book *The Black Butterfly*. As the season also included the *Reading Douglass* installation, The Lewis Museum also featured a screening of the PBS documentary, *Becoming Frederick Douglass*.



Fiscal Year 2023 brought back a Lewis Museum favorite with a twist. The *Reading The Culture Reading as Resistance Book Fair* highlighted the writings of Black, Indigenous, Latine, Asian, and LGBTQ+ authors who are most likely to be banned and censored. The day was filled with hybrid programming featuring children's authors, young adult literature, and a wide-array of adult fiction and non-fiction. Guests included **Derrick Barnes**, **Paul Coates**, **Heidi W. Durrow**, **Dr. Lawrence Jackson**, **Sarah Jung**, **Frank Morrison**, **Olugbemisola Rhuday-Perkovich**, **Nic Stone**, **R. Eric Thomas**, **A. J. Verdelle**, **D. Watkins**, **Carole Boston Weatherford**, and **Bellen Woodard**. The *Reading as Resistance Book Fair* was made possible through the generous support of BGE.



To commemorate the King Day Holiday in 2023, The Lewis Museum reflected on prophetic themes from Dr. King's last book, *Where Do We Go From Here: Chaos or Community?*, in which he analyzes the future state of America's race relations in regard to jobs, poverty, education, housing, wages, and voting. The day kicked off with excerpt performances from Micky Grant's groundbreaking Broadway show *Don't Bother Me, I Can't Cope*. Vocalist **Keith Snipes** performed an inspirational tribute to democracy and freedom. The day concluded with a Criminal Justice Reform Symposium in Partnership with the **Greater Baltimore Urban League**, the **Baltimore Branch of the NAACP**, and the **Downtown Partnership of Baltimore**.



Centering its two anchor exhibitions - **IMAGINARIUM** and *Afro-Futurist Manifesto: Blackness Reimagined* - The Lewis Museum's fall season explored the concept of Black futurism as an imaginative and liberatory practice. Programming for the season kicked off with the originating curator for *Afro-Futurist Manifesto*, **Myrtis Bedolla** in conversation with some of the outstanding artist included in the show: **Tawny Chatmon**, **Monica Ikegwu**, **Delita Martin**, **Arvie Smith**, **Felandus Thames**, **M. Scott Johnson**, and **Morel Doucet**. Additional programming in Fiscal Year 2023 included a screening of the documentary *Afrofuturism: The Origin Story & Amethyst LoveGodz*, an author talk with **Dr. Chandra Prescod-Weinstein**, and *Kindred* Summer Book Club Virtual Meet-up with noted author **Tananarive Due**.



The museum celebrated Juneteenth 2023 with a look towards the future. Visitors learned about the holiday's origins by enjoying musical performances by the **Mid-Atlantic Symphony Orchestra**, **Benny Russell Big Band** and actor and vocalist **Keith Snipes**. They created a time capsule with **Culture Queen** and shared their memories in our time capsule video booth. We saluted the winners of our Black Futures, Black Imagining High School Juried Art Show with an artist talk by *Afro-Futurist Manifesto: Blackness Reimagined* exhibition artist **Monica Ikegwu**. Scholars **Dr. Daniel J. Broyld** of University of Massachusetts-Lowell and **Angela T. Tate** of National Museum of African American History & Culture concluded the day with discussion on how 19th-century Black freedom fighters reimagined a free Black society.

Strategic Imperative V

Fiscal Vision & Stewardship

We will increase our sustainability by expanding our contributed revenue by 65%. Gifts will be received from diverse sources – individuals, corporations, small businesses and foundations.



W. Drew Hawkins, Board Chair, The Reginald F. Lewis Museum (far left), and museum president Terri Lee Freeman (far right) join 2023 Into Utopia gala honorees (left to right): Entertainment Mogul and philanthropist Kevin Lyles, Titan Honoree; Speaker of the Maryland House of Delegates Adrienne Jones, Trailblazer honoree; Jason C. Bass, Hotel Revival, Maverick honoree; Bishop Walter Scott Thomas, pastor, New Psalmist Baptist Church, Trailblazer Award Winner. Photo by Jae Sip Photography.

In FY 2023, The Lewis Museum exceeded our individual contributions, admissions revenue, and facility rentals. In fact, facility rentals showed significant growth from an actual of \$248,433 in FY22 to more than \$600,000 in FY23. While this is all good news, we did fall short of our corporate, foundation and membership revenue targets. With the addition of new Development Department staff, we anticipate hitting our targets in Fiscal Year 2024.

In keeping with the seasonal focus on Afro-futurism, *Into Utopia: The 2023 Reginald F. Lewis Museum Gala*, invited guests to escape to a world where fantasy and futurism reigned supreme. The event transported guests to a place filled with limitless possibilities, recognizing luminaries who boldly imagined the seemingly impossible and made it reality.

More than 400 guests including Governor Wes Moore, Mayor Brandon M. Scott, State Senator Antonio Hayes, and Delegate Marlon Amprey were in attendance as we celebrated this year's honorees including Titan Award winner Kevin Lyles, Trailblazers Speaker of the House of Delegates Adrienne Jones and Bishop Walter Scott Thomas, and Maverick Award winners Jason Bass and Hotel Revival.

Through the generous support of our sponsors and supporters, *Into Utopia* raised more than \$415,000.



Kwame Akoto
 The Honorable Marlon Amprey
 Atlas Restaurants
 Derick Ausby, Sr.
 AutoTrader
 Anthony Baird
 Nora Bamberg
 The Baltimore Symphony
 Orchestra
 The Baltimore Orioles
 Baltimore Washington International
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 Mia Blom
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 Jazmin Mora
 Candice Myers
 Asma Naeem
 DekaNur

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 Destiny-Simone Ramjohn
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 Alma Roberts
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The work of The Lewis Museum is possible due in large part to the work of a committed group of docents and volunteers. In FY2023, this group served as the first point of interaction with guests and community members both onsite at the museum and during our community engagement activities.

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STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS OF JUNE 30, 2023 AND 2022

ASSETS	2023	2022
Current Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 420,605	\$ 555,330
Accounts receivable	628,956	44,625
Gift shop inventory	27,363	37,993
Prepaid expenses	7,897	7,840
Total Current Assets	1,084,821	645,788
Property and Equipment, net	416,746	418,928
Non-Current Assets		
Endowments		
Investments	8,696,593	8,847,885
Restricted cash	100,548	100,199
Total Non-Current Assets	8,797,141	8,948,084
Total Assets	\$10,298,708	\$10,012,800

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Liabilities		
Accounts payable	\$ 355,524	\$ 311,272
Accrued payroll expenses	128,403	73,258
Accrued expenses	82,873	76,665
Line of credit	80,624	80,624
Deferred revenue	106,619	54,822
Lease Liability	22,528	29,448
Total Liabilities	776,571	626,089
Net Assets		
Without donor restrictions		
Undesignated	201,112	438,626
Designated by the Board for endowment	2,217,006	2,134,400
Total	2,418,118	2,573,026
With donor restrictions		
Perpetual in nature	6,794,845	6,794,846
Purpose restrictions	309,174	18,839
Total	7,104,019	6,813,685
Total Net Assets	9,522,137	9,386,711
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$10,298,708	\$10,012,800

STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

AS OF JUNE 30, 2023 AND 2022

	2023			2022
	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total	
Revenue and Support				
Grants	\$ 2,259,442	\$ 309,173	\$ 2,568,615	\$ 2,139,232
Contributions	1,081,627	-	1,081,627	1,142,874
Admissions	138,434	-	138,434	137,595
Membership dues	48,992	-	48,992	50,992
Interest & Dividends	380,914	-	380,914	119,464
Other income	725,688	-	725,688	618,578
Donated Goods and Services (GIK)	51,366	-	51,366	-
Net assets released from restrictions	18,839	(18,839)	-	-
Total revenue and support	4,705,302	290,334	4,995,636	4,208,735
Expenses				
Program Services	3,477,810	-	3,477,810	2,902,101
Management and General	641,550	-	641,550	540,118
Fundraising	598,442	-	598,442	384,382
Total expenses	4,717,802	-	4,717,802	3,826,601
Change in Net Assets from Operations	(12,500)	290,334	277,834	382,054
Unrealized gain (loss) on endowments	(142,400)	-	(142,400)	(349,185)
Change in net assets	(154,900)	290,334	135,434	32,869
Net assets beginning of year	2,573,018	6,813,685	9,386,703	9,353,834
Net Assets End of Year	\$ 2,418,118	\$ 7,104,019	\$ 9,522,137	\$ 9,386,703

Our Staff

Terri Lee Freeman
President

Carole Johnson
Museum Administration & Board Relations Manager

José Alvarado
Exhibit Technician

Juan Ambrose
Facilities Technician

Christy Applegate
Director of Finance

Dennis Bell
Facilities Manager

Arthur Brown
Office Administrator

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Museum Shop Visual Merchandiser & Sales Associate

Camille Cipollone
Registrar & Collections Manager

Kiersten Cleveland
Visitor Services & Volunteer Manager

Allanah Cohen
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Education Consultant

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Digital Media & Design Specialist

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Community Engagement Fellow

Mark Garrison
Development Specialist

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Director of Operations

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Joy Hall
Communications & Community Engagement Specialist

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Keep going, no matter what.

– Reginald F. Lewis



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