



REGINALD F. LEWIS MUSEUM
of Maryland African American
History & Culture

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**2009 BLACK HISTORY MONTH EVENTS AND PROGRAMS TAKE CENTER STAGE
AT THE REGINALD F. LEWIS MUSEUM**

January 28, 2009 – (Baltimore, MD) The Reginald F. Lewis Museum of Maryland African American History & Culture celebrates Black History Month with a month full of educational programs, family events, interesting exhibitions, an oratory contest and an unveiling of the new Civil Rights Series and Abraham Lincoln stamps from the U.S. Post Office.

Events include:

Saturday, February 7, 2 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the NAACP

Spend the afternoon with Marvin “Doc” Cheatham the president of the Baltimore City Chapter of the NAACP as he discusses the illustrious history of this organization.

Cost: Free with museum admission

Saturday, February 7, 3 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Imagine Our Ancestors: Children Heroes of the Civil Rights Movement

Join the museum as *Imagine Our Ancestors* traveling youth group portrays Linda Brown, Ruby Bridges and Elizabeth Eckford, young civil rights champions, who helped desegregate schools in the U.S. After the performance, children will create a school booklet to preserve historical memories of this era. Recommended for ages 6-10.

Cost: Free with Museum Admission

Friday, February 13, 7:30 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Floetic Fridays

Attend an evening of poetry and music hosted by the museum’s Youth Volunteer Program, *The Travelers*. Enjoy the sounds of the Black Diamond Band, open mic and a featured performer.

Cost: \$8.00

Saturday, February 14, 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Lillie Carroll Jackson and The NAACP

Fraser Smith, senior news analyst/editor at WYPR and columnist at the Baltimore Sun discusses Lillie Carroll Jackson and her tenure as President of the Baltimore’s NAACP Chapter, who is prominently featured in his book, *Here Lies Jim Crow: Civil Rights in Maryland*. A book signing will follow the lecture.

Cost: Free with museum admission

MORE

Sunday, February 15, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., 2nd Floor Theater

WJZ-TV Black History Oratory Contest

The best twenty of Maryland's high school orators compete in the 2009 oratory contest. Judges include Dr. David Terry, Executive Director, RFLM and Dr. Carla Hayden, Executive Director, Enoch Pratt Free Library.

Cost: Free with museum admission

Friday, February 20 – June 14, 2009

Exhibition: *Sisters, Soldiers: Black Women and the Modern Military*

This dynamic exhibition explores the past and present military service of black women from the Civil War to the War on Terror.

Cost: Free with museum admission

Saturday, February 21, 1 p.m.

The NAACP 100th Anniversary

Celebrate the NAACP anniversary through performances that highlight the contributions made by the NAACP toward the fight for equality, by the New Psalmist Baptist Church Fine Arts Ministry and Community Dancers of Dance Baltimore.

Cost: Free with Museum Admission

Saturday, February 21, 2 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

The Lines Connect Book Club

Readers can participate in the February book discussion of *Friends: A Love Story* by Angela Bassett & Courtney B. Vance. No membership required. Please call (443) 263-1827 to register.

Cost: Free, does not require paying museum admission

Tuesday, February 24, 4:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.

BACVA Town Hall Meeting & Mixer

Join BACVA in a discussion about the expected economic challenges ahead and the industry's response.

Panelists include: Tom Noonan (BACVA); Margot Amelia (MD Office of Tourism); Paul Hartgen (Restaurant Association of MD); Mary Jo McCulloch (MD Hotel and Lodging Association); Anirban Basu (Sage Policy Group). Contact Tia Wilson at 410-659-7022 or twilson@baltimore.org to register.

Cost: \$30 for members | \$40 for non-members

Wednesday, February 25, 11 a.m.

U.S. Post Office – Stamp Unveiling

The U.S. Post Office unveils two stamp series: Civil Rights Series and the Abraham Lincoln stamp. Stamps will be available for purchase.

Cost: Free with museum admission

The Reginald F. Lewis Museum is Baltimore's premier facility highlighting the history and accomplishments of African Americans with a special focus on Maryland's African American community. The Museum is the East Coast's largest African American museum occupying an 82,000 square-foot facility with ample permanent and special exhibition space, interactive learning environments, auditorium, resource center, oral history recording studio, museum shop, café, classrooms, meeting rooms, outside terrace and reception areas. The museum is located near Baltimore's Inner Harbor at the corner of Pratt and President Streets. For more information, please call 443-263-1800 or visit the museum's website at www.AfricanAmericanCulture.org