

African American Museum of History and Culture Loray Mill



"If a race has no history, if it has no worthwhile tradition, it becomes a negligible factor in the thought of the world, and it stands in danger of being exterminated."
Dr. Carter G. Woodson

Co-Founders – Dot and Bobby Guthrie

The Guthries felt that Gaston County should have a museum that houses and reflects documented artifacts of the contributions of African Americans to the development, history, and culture of the county. After discussing the importance and desire to have such a venue with their friend and colleague, **James "Jim" Biggers** (1948-2019) whose dream was similar, Dot Guthrie was inspired to explore a site to fulfill the dream.



Museum Planning Board

Ina Biggers, Tour Guide	Kathleen Blake, Public Relations
Karen Bringle, Newsletter	Carolyn West-Brown, Newsletter
Mamie Chisholm, Programming	Aurelia Falls, Secretary
Hattie Hardin, Programming	Beverly Holmes, Public Relations
Mary Ann Smith, Fundraising	Carolyn Watson, Treasurer
Charles Whitesides, Financial Records	

****We are all involved in Fundraising for the Museum.**

Mission of African American Museum of History and Culture Loray Mill

Mission

The mission of the museum is to provide the citizens of Gaston County the opportunity to explore, examine, engage and encourage all to seek a better understanding and deeper appreciation for the contributions made and achievements attained at the local, regional and national levels.

The museum will benefit the community by providing information showing that African Americans have an important presence in Gaston County and globally.

Museum Contact Information:

Website: blackhistorymuseumgastonia.org

Email: africanamericangaston@gmail.com

National Authors' Day – November 1

National Authors' Day



Every year on November 1, millions of people celebrate authors and the books that they write on National Author's Day. Books have a mind of their own. They take time to develop, research, draft, edit, revise, and rewrite. The stories we devour and indulge in as we drift off to sleep, travel, or allow to collect dust on several flat surfaces in our homes may take years to reach a publisher. We may have only one favorite author or many collected works with which we cannot part. Whether we prefer fiction, non-fiction, or a mix of both, authors have been telling stories to fill our heads for thousands of years.

Authors keep a record of history through their stories. They mark time through their observations. Their tales create remarkable memories of place, sealing it between the pages of the binding. Their books allow us to keep coming back to visit again and again.

Our Museum is pleased to recognize National Authors' Day (which is officially November 1) by launching our Gaston Reading African American Books, a weekly reading program, on November 4th at 10:00 a.m. by placing another Gaston County author in the spotlight. Our featured author is Jennifer Davis, who will tell us about her book *A Faith Greater Than Grief*.

Honoring Our Veterans Day – November 11, 10am



The African American Museum of History and Culture at Loray Mill will celebrate Veterans Day on November 11, at 10am.

Veteran Rev. R. O. Setzer, will share some of his experiences as a veteran with those that will join us via Zoom at 10am. Also, Rev. Setzer will share parts of a great picture book at the time.

Rev. Setzer is Pastor of Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church, located at 5504 Little Mountain Road in Gastonia, North Carolina

Air Force Brigadier General Horace Russell (1937-2019)

He was Director of Defense Program for the National Security Council and worked for Presidents Jimmy Carter and Ronald Reagan.



Lieutenant Cecily Chambers-Mintz
United States Navy
Naval Medical Center
San Diego, California

Many thanks, to Mrs. Patricia Butler, Tabernacle Baptist Church, for providing the museum with a list of Veterans that worship at Tabernacle Baptist Church in Gastonia, NC.

[HTTP://TUSKEGEEAIRMEN.ORG/](http://tuskegeeeairmen.org/)

[HTTPS://WWW.BATTLEFIELDS.ORG/LEARN/ARTICLES/BLACK-CONFEDERATES](https://www.battlefields.org/learn/articles/black-confederates)

[HTTPS://WWW.ARMY.MIL/AFRICANAMERICANS/TIMELINE.HTML](https://www.army.mil/africanamericans/timeline.html)

[HTTP://WWW.AMERICAN-HISTORAMA.ORG/1929-1945-DEPRESSION-WW2-ERA/TUSKEGEE-AIRMEN.HTM](http://www.american-historama.org/1929-1945-depression-ww2-era/tuskegee-airmen.htm)

[HTTPS://WWW.BRITANNICA.COM/TOPI/HARLEM-HELLFIGHTERS](https://www.britannica.com/topic/harlem-hellfighters)

AMERICAN EDUCATION WEEK

NOVEMBER 16 -20

www.neadjustice.org

November – Picture Book Month

Picture Book Month is an international literacy initiative that celebrates the print picture book during the month of November.

The founders, five women from around the world, who are authors and illustrators, put together their worldwide connections to make this happen.

Every day in November, there is a new post from a picture book champion explaining why he/she thinks picture books are important.

In this digital age where people are predicting the coming death of print books, picture books (the print kind) need love. And the world needs picture books. There's nothing like the physical page turn of a beautifully crafted picture book.

Join The (G. R. A. B.) a Book Reading Club

Let us celebrate African American Authors, Illustrators, The Coretta Scott King Book Awards, Children and BOOKS! Every Wednesday, beginning November 11, at 10:00 a.m., as we celebrate Veterans Day, the African American Museum will launch its "G. R. A. B. a Book Reading Club." Below, you will find information on ways to connect with us via Zoom.

The African Proverb, "It takes a village to raise a child." The village will participate in this great literacy initiative. We have volunteers to read. We KNOW that our children have suffered reading loss due to the pandemic. So, please contact the museum, if you wish to become a partner in "growing readers."

The museum will provide a schedule, booklist, and the books.

Intended Audience: K-5

Meeting ID: 846-511-9686 For additional information please call 704-616-5185.

Zoom Read-Aloud Programs – 10am (Every Wednesday)

ZOOM READ-ALOUDS FOR NOVEMBER

INTENDED AUDIENCE: ELEMENTARY GRADES

NOVEMBER 11

BUFFALO SOLDIERS

REV. R. O. SETZER, READER

NOVEMBER 18

PARKER LOOKS UP: AN EXTRAORDINARY MOMENT

FIRST LADY STEPHANIE LITTLEJOHN CRUMP

EDUCATOR, SOUTHWEST MIDDLE SCHOOL

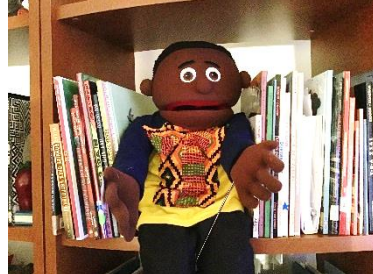
NOVEMBER 25

STRAWBEATER'S THANKSGIVING

MRS. SANDRA JETER, ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA SORORITY

The Culture Keepers Covers Kids

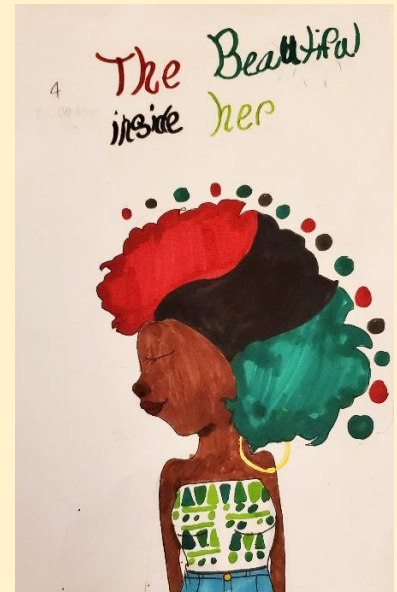
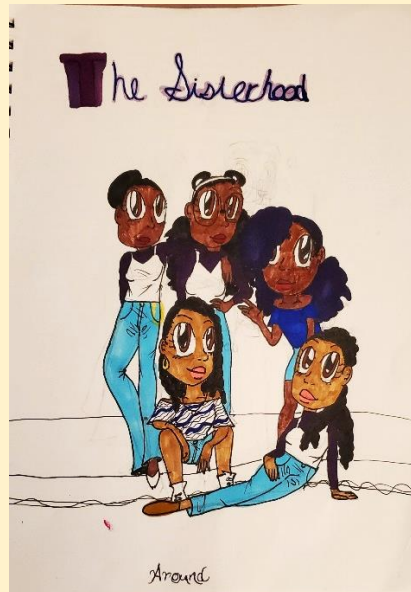
The girl is **Loray** and the boy is named **Museum**. Ms. Dot and the Museum Kids are excited to join you on Tuesday mornings for a 30 min. program, at teachers' requests.



For additional information, or to schedule a Zoom presentation, please email the museum.

africanamericangaston@gmail.com

Intended audience: Every Grade Level

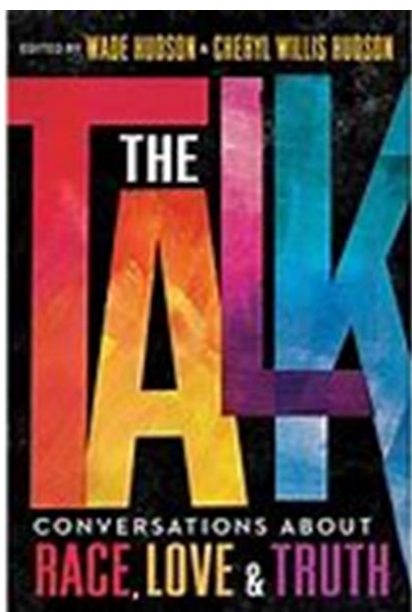


Meet Ms. Sanaa Swain, Artist

Sanaa is a fifth-grade student at Pleasant Ridge Elementary School. She enjoys reading, writing, drawing, and sewing. Her favorite color is turquoise. Her favorite foods are salmon, steamed asparagus in curry garlic sauce. Her favorite movie is The Black Panther. Sanaa uses for her artwork a combination of mediums such as paper mate mechanical pencils and a Sketch Book made by UCreate.

NEA Racial Justice in Education

Recent events in our nation have once again put a spotlight on a long legacy of racism, violence, and white supremacy in our communities. As COVID-19 continues to ravage communities of color, the recent murders of George Floyd, Ahmaud Aubrey, and Breonna Taylor have highlighted an inherently broken system and illustrated how deep injustice runs through our health, income, housing, education and policing systems.



In her statement on the murder of George Floyd, NEA President Lily Eskelsen García said, “We must examine how white supremacy culture impacts our biases, our practices, and the policies in our own schools and communities. It is our responsibility as educators to create the space for students to explore, by first evaluating our own biases, privilege and collusion”.

NEA is committed to working with educators towards eradicating racist systems that keep students from attaining the best public education possible. They have published a book entitled *NEA Racial Justice in Education Resource Guide*. Numerous other resources are listed on their website www.neaedjustice.org.

Recommended Book-of-the-Month

(Permission to use Book Cover by **Wade Hudson**, Author)

Museum Donations and Grants

The museum is happy to announce the donation of five original pieces of artwork painted by Mr. Charles W. Pearson.



Harriet Tubman, Jackie Robinson, Malcolm X, James Baldwin, and Fredrick Douglass



We are pleased to receive grants from The Glenn Foundation and The Gaston County Advisory Board.

These dollars will provide the museum with critical funds needed for developing Online Virtual Field Trips, Educational Enrichment and Literacy Programming, Notable and Renowned Exhibitions and Fine Arts Programming.

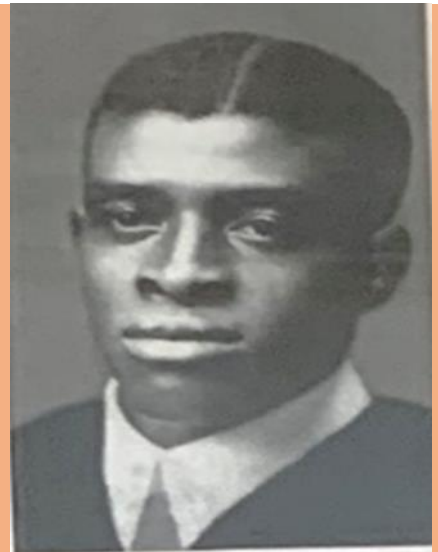



We are happy to announce the approval of two grants:

1. The Glenn Foundation
2. The Gaston County Family Advisory Board


It's Quiz Time!

Can You Identify These Notable African Americans or Landmarks? The answers will appear in next month's newsletter.







Join us!
Remote Wednesdays – 10am
G. R. A. B. A Story Book Club
presented by
The African American Museum of
History and Culture – Loray Mill
Meeting ID
846 511 9686
For additional information, please call,
704.616.5185




Jerry Pinkney, Illustrator
Sharon Draper, Author




James Ramsey, Illustrator




Jason Reynolds, Author



Deloris Jordan
M's Mother



John Lewis, Author



Nikita Grimes, Author

To join any program, please click on the link below.
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8465119686>

Special thanks to:
Gaston County Organization for Community Concerns, Gaston Family Advisory Board,
Gastonia City Council

