



To celebrate and inspire the Community through the cultivation, preservation, and presentation of the cultural and artistic contributions of African Americans in Prince George's County, Maryland.

PGAAMCC Newsfocus

Our Commitment to Prince George's County



Unwind Wednesdays – page 2.



PGAAMCC receives grant from Wells Fargo – page 2.



Donor Spotlight – page 3.



Our Vision – The PGAAMCC will be recognized as a national and international model for innovative documentation, interpretation, presentation, and preservation of local and regional African American history and culture. **Welcoming** – We believe in the power of inclusivity. We value openness and transparency in all interactions and extend our embrace to all. **Authenticity** -- In a world in which the 'virtual' often competes with the 'actual,' we value the real thing. Our stewardship of material objects in our care gives voice to the community we represent and reflects our long history and culture of caring. 'Real' experiences and 'real' objects possess a power no representation, however precise and thoughtful, can ever express. **Innovation** – We value innovation and forward thinking and create our plans with bold vision. We nurture creative expression in all its forms and foster curiosity, exploration and a spirit of playfulness in our staff, our guests, and our partners. We link innovation and creativity with intellectual rigor and a profound respect for scholarship. **Learning** – We pride ourselves on being a learning organization for our visitors and our staff and volunteers alike. We recognize that learning occurs in unexpected ways all around us, and that we have the potential to arouse curiosity and encourage discovery. We value our role as a center for life-long learning in our community. **Excellence** -- We value excellence and strive to produce programs and exhibits of distinction, offer the highest quality guest experience, conduct our business with the highest ethical standards, and observe best practices in all our operations.



The PGAAMCC staff with PageSouthernland Page's James Wright William Brown.



PGAAMCC staff member Yolonda Evans with the Honorable Andrea Harrison at Unwind Wednesday II at Gallery 110.



N'Style Hair Salon owner Nate Crittenden and the Honorable Carolyn Cook from Cheverly at Unwind Wednesday II.

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PGAAMCC News and Information . . .

The Prince George's African American Museum and Cultural Center received a \$10,000 grant from *Wells Fargo*. The grant will support the "Culture Keepers" program. The "Culture Keepers" program is a youth outreach project that serves Prince George's County middle school and high school youth populations. Through arts and cultural activities, Culture Keepers participants learn about African American history and heritage in Prince George's County and beyond.

"We are really excited about Wells Fargo's generous grant," said Dr. Jacqueline Brown, the Executive Director of PGAAMCC. "This grant will help us to expand our youth programs."

Unwind Wednesdays have been a social networking success. The event is an invitation to visit the museum at Gallery 110 in an after hour cocktail setting infusing history, art, culture and the business community.

The inaugural event happened on August 3rd with approximately 40 professionals stopping in and enjoying delicious meatballs, cheese, fruit and wine. The second Unwind Wednesday was ushered in with Tropical Storm Lee and many braved the rain, including the Honorable *Andrea Harrison* from District 5 along with Cheverly Town Council Member, *Carolyn Cook*. Both events introduced many newcomers to the museum with personal tours and explained the perks of membership and the many programs that the museum has to offer both youth and adults.

Unwind Wednesdays was sponsored by *N'Style Hair Salon* located at 10201 Martin Luther King Hwy in Bowie. All current members will receive \$10 off any full service on Tuesday's during the month of September. All businesses are encouraged to contact the museum and find out how they can sponsor and partner with the Unwind Wednesdays event. For more information, call 301 209 0592.

Unwind Wednesday's occur every 1st Wednesday of the month from 6:30 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. and will end in December and resume in April 2012. Join us for Unwind Wednesday's and support your museum, a local business, and connect with other professionals in the county. We hope to see you at the next event.

Unwind Wednesdays Schedule:

- October 5, 2011, 6:30 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. at Franklin's Restaurant.
- November 2, 2011, 6:30 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. location TBD
- December 7, 2011, 6:30 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. location TBD

PGAAMCC summer programs and events . . . Gallery 110 staff celebrated Independence Day on July 9th with group tours and a mini-mural celebrating the Tuskegee Airmen. Also, goodie bags, face painting, and arts and crafts were enjoyed throughout this educational family fun event!

The Early Keepers program (Pre-K years) ran from August 22nd through the 29th. Early Keepers explore African American cultural heritage through story-telling, music, movement and visual arts. Parents spend quality time with their children while engaging in fun and culturally rich activities that incorporate problem solving, math, and reading.

The Culture Keepers Mural Project was completed in early September. The 100-foot mural (larger than a NBA Basketball Court) was installed in the Gateway Arts District by teenagers from the **Southview Apartments**.

Youth participants are members of the Prince George's African American Museum & Cultural Center's (PGAAMCC) Culture Keepers program.

The Prince George's African American Museum & Cultural Center will be constructed on a 2.5 acre site in North Brentwood, the first municipality in Prince George's County incorporated by African American citizens. An anchor project in the Gateway Arts District, the state-of-art facility will be characterized by innovative architectural and environmental design. Visitors will be able to explore the County's African American heritage in exhibitions galleries, classrooms, meeting spaces, a theater and a roof top terrace.

Donor Spotlight!



PageSoutherlandPage William A. Brown Sr., Marquisha Powell, and James M. Wright

When PageSoutherlandPage's James Wright, AIA, talks about architectural design you can clearly hear his attention to detail and project excellence. It is standard operating practice for PageSoutherlandPage,(PSP) which is one of the world's top Architectural & Engineering firms.

Wright is one of eight principal partners at PSP where he has led the design of more than \$2.7 billion in building construction in the US and 36 other countries. *Under Wright's leadership, PSP has quietly donated more than \$100,000 in consulting fees to the Prince George's African American Museum & Cultural Center (PGAAMCC).*

Wright says this is a reflection of his spiritual beliefs to support local non-profit organizations that are enhancing the quality of peoples' lives.

“The goal of the Prince George's African American Museum & Cultural Center is worthy, Wright said. “We are proud to be associated with this type of project and we know the building type very well.”

The PGAAMCC plans to start construction on a \$25 million, 50,000 square foot multi-purpose building within the next three years. PSP’s guidance has been invaluable.

“Were it not for PSP donating professional architectural consultation to this project, PGAAMCC would not have the critical benefit of in-house guidance and support,” said PGAAMCC Executive Director Dr. Jacqueline Brown. “PGAAMCC is extremely grateful for the generous gift of over \$100,000 worth of pro bono service.”

The pro bono consulting fees contributed to the PGAAMCC are generated mainly through the work of PSP’s Executive Vice President William A. Brown Sr., P.E., Hon AIA. Under Brown’s guidance, PSP acts as an owner’s representative for the PGAAMCC, reviewing all building design and construction details for the new \$25 million museum and cultural center.

“You get one shot to do it right,” Brown said. “PageSoutherlandPage brings a lot of technical expertise to the table. “This is a professional service that the (PGAAMCC) Board of Directors would normally have to go out and pay a lot of money for.”

Brown attends PGAAMCC architectural meetings where his technical expertise is needed to direct board members and executive staff through complex design and construction topics and matters.

The PGAAMCC will get even more design and technical support from PSP as Project Designer Marquisha Powell will team up with William Brown.

Powell lives in the Prince George’s Gateway Arts District and has a personal interest in seeing the success of the PGAAMCC and the community.

“I pass the (PGAAMCC) museum property everyday on my way to work,” Powell said. “I am excited about this project because it will enhance my neighborhood.”

Powell said the Prince George’s County Gateway Arts District is hungry for retail shopping and the PGAAMCC will be the anchor facility that attracts business as well as new Arts District’s residents.

“We are ready for a walk-able community,” Powell said.



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