Issue 2 / October 2021

Communities for Immunity Awards Grant to Calaboose Museum

AN AMERICAN HISTORY MUSEUM

Communities for Immunity recently awarded the Calaboose Museum a grant in the amount of \$10,000 as part of its unprecedented partnership to boost COVID-19 vaccine information and confidence in communities across the United States, leveraging the unique position of museums and libraries to employ highly localized approaches to reach the most needed audiences. This important project launches as the United States is experiencing both a surge in COVID-19 cases related to dangerous



Communities for Immunity

Museums and Libraries as Trusted Community Partners

new coronavirus variants and an urgent need to dramatically increase vaccination rates.

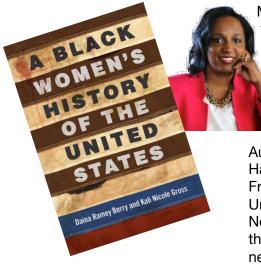
Communities for Immunity is being led by the Association of Science and Technology Centers (ASTC) and the American Alliance of Museums (AAM)

with support from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) in partnership with the American Library Association (ALA), National Network of the Library of Medicine (NNLM) and in collaboration with the Association of African American Museums (AAAM), the Association of Children's Museums (ACM), the Association for Rural and Small Libraries (ARSL), the Association of Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums (ATALM), and the Urban Libraries Council (ULC).

Upcoming Vaccine Drive Hosted by the Calaboose Museum and Where We Thrive

Free COVID-19 vaccines will be available at the Calaboose's Ulysses Cephas house, 213 Martin Luther King Drive, San Marcos, (across from the museum) 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 16, 2021.

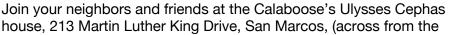
Calaboose to Host Award-Winning Author and Historian Dr. Daina Berry



Mark your calendars for Friday, Feb. 4, 2022, for a Black History Month treat you will not want to miss. The Calaboose Museum is hosting a book reading, book signing and lecture with award-winning historian and author Dr. Daina Ramey Berry at the Ulysses Cephas, 213 Martin Luther King Drive, across from the museum.

Dr. Berry, the Oliver H. Radkey Regents Professor of History and Chair of the University of Texas at Austin History Department, has earned the 2018 Hamilton Book Prize and was a finalist for the 2018 Frederick Douglass Book Prize awarded by Yale University and the Gilder Lehrman Institute of New York. Check <u>www.calaboosemuseum.org</u>, the Calaboose Instagram account and upcoming newsletters for future details.

Halloween and COVID Vaccines on the Calaboose Scene Saturday, Oct. 30





museum), 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 30, 2021, for a scream of a vaccine drive and great fun for youth. Officials will administer free COVID-19 vaccinations as permitted by age. Children also will enjoy spooky stories, face painting, mask making, arts and crafts, games, music and more! This community event is sponsored by CAAHM and Where We Thrive.

Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF

Additionally, United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) collection boxes will be set

up to accept donations during CAAHM hours, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturdays during October and during the vaccine drive. Since 1950, UNICEF has been enlisting children during its "Trickor-Treat" Halloween goodie gathering. These gifts add up to provide food, medicine, clothing, shelter, and other essentials for children in crisis around the

world. Bring your goodies to donate to the UNICEF collection boxes. For more information about the UNICEF seasonal campaign, email LindaKelseyJones@gmail.com.

Fall African American History Observances

Woodson Founds Organization to Study Black History



Photo located online at: https://www.blackpast.org/african-americanhistory/woodson-carter-g-1875-1950/ (Courtesy of West Virginia State Archives, Ancella Bickley Collection).

Dr. Carter G. Woodson, the "father of Black History," on Sept. 15, 1915, founded the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History, which is now known as the Association for the Study of African American Life and History. Born in Virginia to former slaves in 1875, Woodson attended Berea College in Kentucky earning his bachelor's degree in 1903. He earned his master's degree in History, Romance Languages and Literature in 1908 from the University of Chicago in Illinois, and in 1912 earned his doctorate in history from Harvard University.

Philosophers have long conceded, however, that every man has two educators: that which is given to him and that which he gives himself. Of the two kinds, the latter is the more desirable. Indeed, all that is most worthy in man, he must work out and conquer for himself. Dr. Carter G. Woodson

Forced Federal Integration of the University of Mississippi

Another African American history observance for September occurred in 1962, when the U.S. Supreme Court forced the University of Mississippi to allow James Meredith on campus as a student. The now late Governor Ross Barnett defied the court order and blocked Meredith's entrance to

the university in an effort to maintain segregation at the institution. Ultimately, federal troops escorted Meredith onto campus Sept. 30, 1962.



Associated Press File Photo

Fall African American History Observances (continued)

Newton and Seale Found Black Panther Party

Founded in October 1966 by Huey Newton and Bobby Seale in Oakland, Calif., the Black Panther Party, a black power political organization. The Black Panthers were dissolved in the U.S. in 1982. One of the practices



of the Black Panthers was to engage in "open carry" police watching to monitor police brutality. They also instituted community programs, such as free meals for children and health clinics. The Party's membership plateaued in 1970 with 68 chapters throughout the country. The Black Panthers became heavily surveilled by law enforcement. In 1967, Newton was involved in an altercation with an Oakland police officer and later convicted of his shooting death. He was released after three years after a successful appeal. In 1974, Newton fled into exile in Cuba to avoid prosecution for other crimes. He was shot to death in 1989. In 1968, Seale was charged with inciting a riot at the Democratic National Convention in Chicago and

spent time in prison. Later, Seale ran for mayor of Oakland in 1973 receiving the second most votes but lost in a runoff. Seale, 84, has authored a number of books and resides in Oakland.

First Million Man March Occurs

Billed as a call to African American men to take charge in rebuilding their communities and respecting themselves, Oct. 16, 1995, was the day of the Million Man March, which was held on the National Mall in Washington, D.C. The Million Man March was initiated by Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan but organized in conjunction with a variety of civil rights organizations.

Other Fall African American History Observances

- Oct. 16, 1940 Benjamin O. Davis. Sr., becomes the first African American general in the U.S. Army
 Oct. 7, 1993 Toni Morrison becomes first African American to win Nobel Prize in Literature
 - Oct. 25, 1997 Million Woman March in Philadelphia
 - Nov. 7, 1989 Douglas Wilder, elected governor of Virginia,
 - Dec. 18, 1865 becoming the first U.S. African American governor Congress passes the 13th Amendment outlawing slavery in the U.S.
 - Dec. 1, 1955 Rosa Parks refused to change seats on a bus in Montgomery, Ala.

But today, voice of old spirit sound. Speak to us in words profound,

Across the years, across the centuries, across the oceans, and across the seas.

They say, draw near to one another, save your race. You have been paid for in a distant place,

The old ones remind us that slavery's chains have paid for our freedom again and again.

Million Man March Poem excerpt, Maya Angelou

Meet the Calaboose Museum Board of Directors / Long Serving and New



Dr. Skyller Walkes, President of the Calaboose African American History Museum (CAAHM) Board of Directors, also is Assistant Dean for Diversity and Inclusion and Assistant Professor of Instruction for the College of Pharmacy at the University of Texas at Austin. She also represents the College of Pharmacy on U.T.'s Council for Racial and Ethnic Equity and Diversity (CREED).

Dr. Skyller Walkes



Brent Salone serves as Vice President of the Calaboose Museum Board of Directors and the organization's Facilities Trustee. Mr. Salone is retired but is active in civic affairs in San Marcos and the Central Texas community, including serving as Vice President of the Board of Directors for the San Marcos Art League.

Brent Salone



Also retired, Ginger Salone, serves as Secretary for the Calaboose Museum Board of Directors. Mrs. Salone has been active in civic capacities for many years with church, schools, youth groups and scouts.



Dr. Elvin Holt serves as Archivist of the Calaboose Museum Board of Directors. A founding Board member, Dr. Holt previously served as CAAHM President for 11 years, as well as most other board offices during his tenure. Professor Emeritus Holt was the first tenured African American professor in Texas State University's Department of English where he taught from 1983 to 2000.

Dr. Elvin Holt



Ms. Linda Kelsey-Jones, another long-serving Board member, serves as curator for the Calaboose Museum Board of Directors. Ms. Kelsey-Jones serves on the Art Education faculty at Texas State University and is Director of Art Space at Centro Cultural Hispano de San Marcos.

Linda Kelsey-Jones



Diana Garcia serves as Children's Activities Coordinator of the Calaboose Museum Board of Directors. Ms. Garcia, a graduate of the University of Texas at Austin who joined the Board in 2018, is a dual language teacher with the San Marcos Consolidated Independent School District. Some of her interests are education, social justice, film, art, and music.

Diana Garcia

Meet the Calaboose Museum Board of Directors / Long Serving and New (continued)



Mrs. Rose Brooks

Mrs. Rose Brooks serves as the Community Liaison for the Calaboose Museum Board of Directors and has long been a pillar in the San Marcos community with extensive involvement. She also has served on the Board of Commissioners of the San Marcos Housing Authority. Among many recognitions, she was the first recipient of the San Marcos Outstanding Senior Citizen Volunteer Award.



Dr. Dana Fitzpatrick is chair of the Gala Committee for the Calaboose Museum Board of Directors. She was a classroom teacher in Illinois, Indiana and Texas and became a principal intern before joining Texas State University as Diversity and Inclusion Coordinator. She earned her bachelor's from Chicago State University, two master's degrees from Concordia University in Chicago and her doctoral degree from Texas State University.

Dr. Dana Fitzpatrick



Mark Rockeymoore

Mark Rockeymoore, an English teacher at Del Valle High School and a veteran of the Gulf War, recently joined the Calaboose Museum Board of Directors. He earned his bachelor's degree from Prairie View A&M University, master's degree from Indiana University Bloomington, and he reached ABD toward his doctoral degree at Texas State University. He also e served on the City of San Marcos (COSM) Ethics Review Commission before serving two years on City Council between 2018-20. He is running again for a seat on the San Marcos City Council.

Rebecca Rockeymoore joined the Calaboose Museum Board of Directors in July. She has a bachelor's degree in fine arts and in art history and is certified to teach art, special education, 4-8th grade generalist, primary Montessori, LMT and MTI. She also serves on the Board of the San Marcos Unitarian Universalist Church and has volunteered with Animal Wildlife Rescue in Austin and other organizations. Her interests include fine arts,

Rebecca Rockeymoore nature, camping, and vegetarian cooking.



LaMarriol Smith, Director of Communications for the City of Buda, serves as vice chair of the Gala Committee and Newsletter Editor for the Calaboose Museum Board of Directors. She earned a bachelor's degree from Baylor University, a master's degree from the LBJ School of Public Affairs at the University of Texas in Austin and continues working toward doctoral completion at Texas State University.

LaMarriol Smith

Members who have rotated off or otherwise on the Calaboose Museum's Board of Directors this year include **William "Bill" Brkich, Jan Pomeroy, Omari Souza**, and **Alex Banbury, Jr.** The Board thanks each of them for their unique contributions and endearing commitment to the Calaboose Museum and its mission.

Efforts Underway to Preserve Another Historic Dunbar Neighborhood Home



Home of Naomi Cephas

The Calaboose African American History Museum (CAAHM), the Dunbar Heritage Association and other community members are working through City of San Marcos officials to preserve and restore the home pictured to the left. This modest white house holds its own history that desperately needs to be preserved. This house was owned by Naomi Cephas, daughter of Ulysses Cephas, who was the son of slaves and an accomplished blacksmith. CAAHM has already acquired the Ulysses Cephas house through the City of San Marcos.

The Naomi Cephas house is located across the street from the Old Baptist Church and sits diagonal to the Ulysses Cephas house. This house is a part of

this area's local history and a part of the rich African American history that exists in both San Marcos and Hays County and deserves preservation. Join the local cultural organizations in the fight to honor the Naomi Cephas house through historic preservation efforts in the Dunbar Neighborhood.

Calaboose Makes Distinctive Museum Social Impact Initiative

In the entire United States, the Calaboose African American History Museum became one of only 38 museums selected for the Measurement



of Museum Social Impact (MOMSI) initiative. The Calaboose Museum has a mission of preserving African American history and culture, but also to serve as a center of support for the San Marcos community. To be included as part of the MOMSI initiative is an honor for the Calaboose, but the museum needs your support for the funding component of the MOMSI program. Please visit the Calaboose Museum at least three times over the next year. Sign up through MOMSI to help document those visits:

https://museumsocialimpact.org/apply/.

Historical Artifacts Recently Acquired for Calaboose Museum Display

The Calaboose is a repository for historical artifacts and its inventory is growing. Calaboose Museum officials recently acquired several significant items via donation:

- An antiques collector in Martindale donated a two-piece shoeshine stand used by Louis Cheatham in local barbershops
- Another local resident donated a vintage Obama campaign tote bag
- Ralph Merriweather donated two volumes of his recently completed family history, *The Cyphers Family Story: A True Story of How We Came to be a Beginning with No End.*

Every family has a history. The African American community and all communities of color, as well as the allies of these communities, must work to preserve the rich heritage that far too often goes forgotten. The Calaboose Museum can be a repository for those written histories and the tangible accompaniments from your homes, attics and basements, barns, shops, cars and trucks, stores, churches, and storage units. The Calaboose potentially could be your vehicle of preservation. If you have items of historical significance to the African American community and Texas and that you believe ought to be preserved, please contact the Calaboose at 512-393-8421 or email info@calaboosemuseum.org.



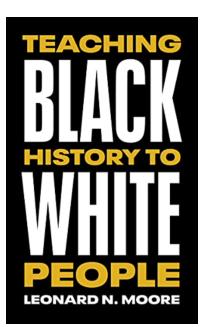


Calaboose Board President Skyller Walkes (L) stands with Board Member Mrs. Rose Brooks (R), who recently was honored as Mermaid Queen for San Marcos, Texas. Congratulations!!



Cibolo residents Pamela (C) and Robert Thackston make the Calaboose part of their day trip on a weekend in October and stop for a photo with two Calaboose docents. We look forward to seeing you again soon!!

Dr. Leonard Moore Returns to Calaboose for Black History Month



Calaboose Museum Juneteenth keynote speaker, Dr. Leonard Moore brings his special brand of community engagement back to the Calaboose during Black History Month. Save the date, Saturday, Feb. 12, 2022, for a special book reading, book signing and mini lecture with Dr. Moore. Time and location details are being planned, so please check visit the website <u>www.calaboosemuseum.org</u>, the Calaboose Instagram account and upcoming newsletters for details as they become available.



Dr. Moore is Vice President for Diversity and Community Engagement and the George Littlefield Professor of American History at the University of Texas-Austin. He has earned the Jean Holloway Award for Excellence in Teaching and the John Warfield Teaching Award. He also is author of several books on black politics, including *The Defeat of Black Power: Civil Rights and the National Black Political Convention of 1972.*

Our Mission

The Calaboose Museum serves as a home for African American history and culture in San Marcos and Hays County. Through preservation, events, and education, the museum strives to serve as not only an African American History museum, but a center of support for the San Marcos community.

Board of Directors

Dr. Skyller Walkes Brent Salone Ginger Salone Dr. Elvin Holt Linda Kelsey-Jones Alex Banbury, Jr. Diana Garcia Mrs. Rose Brooks Dr. Dana Fitzpatrick Mark Rockeymoore Rebecca Rockeymoore LaMarriol Smith President Vice President Secretary Archivist Curator Co-Curator Children's Activities Coord. Community Liaison Gala Committee Chair

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Find the Calaboose Museum on social media:



LaMarriol Smith, Newsletter Editor

EEO / ADA Statement: The Calaboose African American History Museum does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, veteran status, age or disability in employment or procurement practices or delivery of services.