



Minnesota African American Heritage Museum and Gallery

Dear Committee,

The Minnesota African American Heritage Museum and Gallery (MAAHMG) is the only African American museum in the State.

The mission is to preserve, document and celebrate the achievements, contributions and experiences of African Americans in Minnesota. This mission is carried out through exhibitions and programs that educate and inform the public about the history, art and culture of African Americans in Minnesota. MAAHMG is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization registered with the State of Minnesota.

The museum offers critical services of Black history, culture, art and education. It fills a void as Black history is not adequately taught in schools, but instead marginalized to a few facts related to slavery, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Rosa Park. To deal with the serious issues of systemic racism, Black history cannot be relegated to one month, but must be included in all historical narratives as Black history is American history. MAAHMG strives to elevate Black voices that are often omitted, silenced or diminished.

Funding is needed to continue our mission of providing exhibitions and programs to the public. We plan to use the funding as follows (this is not an exhaustive list):

1. Civil Rights in Minnesota exhibit.
2. History of the Black Press in Minnesota exhibit,
3. COVID-19 and its impact on the Black community, oral history project.
4. Artist-In-Residence and History Fellowship programs, continue.
5. Develop a curriculum for K-8 for our “Unbreakable” exhibition.
6. Develop online, virtual exhibitions and programs which are critical during the pandemic and will become a key to the survival of all museums in the future.
7. Oral history project on various topics.
8. Children’s Reading Circle, continue (books, art supplies and other materials).
9. History Harvest event.
10. Genealogy seminars and workshops.

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