



## **Banneker-Douglass Museum 2011-2012 School Program Opportunities**

### **About the Museum**

The Banneker-Douglass Museum, named for Benjamin Banneker and Frederick Douglass, is dedicated to preserving Maryland's African American heritage and serves as the state's official repository of African American material culture. The museum was dedicated on February 24, 1984. The original museum was housed within the former old Mount Moriah African Methodist Episcopal Church in the heart of historic Annapolis. This building was completed and dedicated in 1874. Among the notable guests present at the dedication was native Marylander and celebrated abolitionist Frederick Douglass.

After the Mount Moriah congregation moved to a new location in Annapolis, the building was left vacant until it was targeted for demolition to make room for the expansion of the Anne Arundel County Courthouse. Through the efforts of many local historians, preservationists, and the Mt. Moriah congregation, the building was saved from destruction and came under the stewardship of the Maryland Commission on African American History and Culture and the State of Maryland.

The building was included on the National Register of Historic Places in 1973. The building officially opened as the Banneker-Douglass Museum on February 24, 1984. In 2006, the Banneker-Douglass Museum completed a four-story addition (one underground story) which uses the nineteenth-century brick of the church's façade as its interior lobby wall. In 2009, the Banneker-Douglass Museum celebrated its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary.



**Banneker-Douglass Museum**



**MCAAHC**  
*Maryland Commission on  
African American History and Culture*

## Museum Exhibition Tours

The Banneker-Douglass Museum offers guided and unguided tours of its permanent and temporary exhibitions for school groups throughout the school year. Guided tours may be customized to an individual group's needs and interests.

Guided tours of the Banneker-Douglass Museum are available for \$25.00 per class (30 students + chaperones). Guided tours of any and/or all of the museum exhibitions are available and must be scheduled at least 2 weeks in advance. Tour durations are listed below.

- Due to the temporary exhibitions on display during the 2011-2012 school year, the museum will be able to accommodate groups of no more than 60 students at one time.

Permanent Exhibition Tour only	1.5 hours
Permanent and Temporary Exhibitions Tour	2 hours

### **Deep Roots, Rising Waters** (Permanent Exhibition)



This exhibition provides an overview of African American history in Maryland from 1633 through present day. The exhibition highlights the contributions of famous Marylanders including Mathias De Sousa, Kunta Kinte, Benjamin Banneker, James Pennington, Frederick Douglass, Harriet Tubman, Matthew Henson, Herbert Frisby, Thurgood Marshall, and many more. While touring the exhibition students will have the opportunity to:

- Find out about Maryland's first African American settler, Mathias De Sousa.
- Learn how Benjamin Banneker was able to use his almanac into an anti-slavery protest to Thomas Jefferson.
- Hear one of Frederick Douglass's speeches against racism and slavery.
- View a reward poster for Harriet Tubman.
- Explore Maryland's ties to North Pole expeditions through citizens Matthew Henson and Herbert Frisby.
- Discover how Thurgood Marshall fought for civil rights in the United States.

### **Temporary Exhibitions**

The Banneker-Douglass Museum hosts several temporary exhibitions focused on Maryland's African American history and culture throughout the year. Temporary exhibitions focus on a variety of topics including historical figures and events, archaeology, fine arts, Maryland communities, quilts, photography, and painting.

*Music to Our Ears: The African American Experience at Carr's and Sparrow's Beaches*  
May 31, 2011 – September 5, 2011

- Carr's and Sparrow's Beaches, located on the Annapolis Neck Peninsula, were entertainment venues for African Americans during the segregation era.

*This project is a collaborative effort between Anne Arundel County Public Schools, Banneker-Douglass Museum, Banneker-Douglass Museum, and Blacks of the Chesapeake Foundation.*

*Loring Cornish: In Each Other's Shoes*

October 1, 2011 – March 31, 2012

- Depictions of pain and pride of African Americans and similar feelings in the Jewish community through large scale mosaic artworks.

*Chief Joseph Johnson*

January – July 2012

- A biographical exhibition on Annapolis' first African American Chief of Police.

## Museum Exhibition Tour Add-On Activity

For a fee of \$35.00 for every 30 students, a hands-on activity may be added to your tour. These add-on activities are 45 minutes in length and are not included in the original duration of a tour.

### ***My Maryland, My Museum***

Students design an artwork chronicling a person, place, or event they feel is important to Maryland history. The artworks will be based on artworks on display in the museum. Upon completion of their piece, students write a descriptive label detailing their selection. At the end of the program, all artworks are placed together for a class photo and presentation for the entire class. Students will take their artworks home at the conclusion of the program.

## Banneker-Douglass Museum in the Classroom

In addition to on-site programs and museum tours, the Banneker-Douglass Museum offers Hands On Museum Workshops and speakers for your school and/or classroom.

On-site workshops are available Monday through Friday with flexible start times. To book an off-site program, contact the museum at least three weeks in advance of your desired date. Contact the museum's Education Department for more details and to book your on-site museum experience.

### ***Hands On Museum Workshops***

Museum Workshops are 2 hours in length and focus on a particular theme through the use of discussion and hands-on activities. Please note that Museum Workshops will require 30 minutes before and after the program for clean up and set up. All Museum Workshops are \$100 per presentation plus mileage.



### ***Beginning African American History*** (Recommended for grades K-3) *New for 2011-2012!*

- Begin the exploration of Maryland's African American History through hands on activities based on many of Maryland's influential figures. Students will learn about Adinkra symbols from Western Africa, an area where many African American Marylanders can trace their roots; design a compass for way finding like Harriet Tubman and Matthew Henson; create a book like Frederick Douglass, William Still, and James Pennington; and create a protest sign like the Civil Rights Era protesters.

### ***Follow the North Star*** (Recommended for grades 3-8)

- Learn about the importance of the North Star for three prominent Marylanders – Benjamin Banneker, Frederick Douglass, and Harriet Tubman. Students will investigate Benjamin Banneker's love for astronomy and how he was able to use the movement of the stars to create one of the most accurate almanacs of his time. Then students will learn about Frederick Douglass's *North Star* – the most influential black antislavery paper published during the antebellum era. Students will discover the importance of the North Star and the constellations for Harriet Tubman as a conductor on the Underground Railroad.

## ***Hands On Museum Workshops continued***

### ***Riding on the Underground Railroad*** (Recommended for grades 4-8)

- Follow the Underground Railroad through the stories of the people who help thousands of slaves to freedom. In this program, students will hear about the many people working in the Abolitionist Movement and supporting the Underground Railroad. Students will learn about the many different ways slaves escaped and the difficult journey to the Free States and Canada. During the program, students will learn about methods of escape employed, the secret messages of the Underground Railroad, and participate in a role playing exercise where they must help people escape to freedom.

### ***Telling My Story*** (Recommended for grades 6-12)

- Students will learn about the tradition of oral history and its importance in various cultures throughout the world. Students will see how oral history has provided information about people and cultures that may otherwise have gone undocumented. Using oral history projects such as the Slave Narratives collected during the 1930s as a WPA project for inspiration, students will interview each other about their life experiences growing up in Maryland during the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> Centuries.

### ***On-Site Speakers***

The Banneker-Douglass Museum offers on-site talks on a variety of subjects for schools and organizations throughout the state of Maryland. Speakers may be arranged to come to you and provide a talk for up to one hour on a selected topic. On-Site speaker fees are \$50 per talk plus mileage fees. Speaker requests must be received *at least three weeks* in advance. To learn more about our On-Site Speaker program and a full list of speaker topics, please contact the Banneker-Douglass Museum Education Department at 410.216.6186 or BDMPrograms@goci.state.md.us.

---

## **Scheduling a Visit to the Banneker Douglass Museum**

### **1. Select Your Program and Decide When to Visit.**

On-site museum school programs are offered Tuesday–Friday between 10:00 am and 4:00 pm. Tours may be scheduled at any point during this time period. All on-site programs and tours must be booked *at least two weeks* in advance. Off-site programs are offered Monday through Friday throughout the school day. All off-site programs must be booked *at least three weeks* in advance. *The museum's tour and programming schedule fills up quickly in January, February, and March so book early.*

#### ➤ ***Please Note: Chaperones & Lunch Space***

One adult must accompany every 10 students. Chaperones remain with the group at all times, help maintain orderly student behavior, and assist the students during the program. *The museum is unable to provide space for classes to eat lunch.*

### **2. Call or email the museum with your program request.**

Registration requests may be addressed to the BDM Education Department at 410.216.6186 or at BDMPrograms@goci.state.md.us. Once the museum received your request, a program confirmation letter/invoice will be sent to you completing your registration.

### **3. Cost and Payment.**

The Museum requires 50% payment prior to a scheduled visit and reserves the right to cancel a program if payment is not received. Payment may be made after the written confirmation (which serves as the invoice) is received. Payment may be made by check payable to the Banneker-Douglass Museum or in cash.

#### ➤ ***Cancellations and Late Arrivals***

For cancellations or rescheduling of programs, please call 410.216.6186. Please notify the museum of any cancellations at least 48 hours in advance of your program. Failure to do so will result in a forfeiture of the group's deposit. If a school cancels because of inclement weather, the Museum will reschedule the program or provide a full refund. If you are late for your scheduled program, the Museum reserves the right to cancel the program.