HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES: GUARDIANS OF AFRICAN AMERICAN CULTURE

Dating back to the latter 19th century, and established to serve African Americans at a time when they were prohibited from attending predominantly white institutions of higher-learning, HBCUs remain today not only beacons for leadership and scholarship in a diverse range of disciplines, but continue their lesser known roles as repositories of fine art, archives and material culture that document African American history and culture.

On December 4-5, 2018, the Office of Strategic Partnerships at the National Museum of African American History and Culture (NMAAHC) hosted the inaugural HBCU Leadership Summit, convening 10 select HBCU Presidents and Directors of their respective campus museums and archives.

The Summit focused on the importance of HBCU cultural institutions and their central role in preserving the legacy of persons of African descent in this country, African American history broadly, as well as the greater African diaspora.

The facilitated conversation between University Presidents and Directors centered on the unique positioning of HBCU cultural institutions, and how strategic a commitment from the President’s office can better position the resources of HBCU museums and archives, into the student experience, faculty development and retention, curriculum development, educational programming, and funding opportunities.

The National Museum of African American History and Culture is committed to working with and supporting the work of its HBCU cultural institutions as integral contributors to the African American – an integral part of the national American story.

A full report of the HBCU Leadership Summit will be published Summer 2019. This publication will provide strategic recommendations and action steps for collaboration across HBCU institutions in partnership with NMAAHC around sharing resources, expanding professional training and enhancing collaborative programming opportunities.
HBCU LEADERSHIP SENIOR ADVISORS
Dr. Johnnetta B. Cole, Former President, Bennett College & Spelman University
Dr. Ruth Simmons, President, Prairie View A & M University

HBCU LEADERSHIP SUMMIT PARTICIPANTS
Dr. Lynda Brown-Wright, Provost, Jackson State University
Ms. Carolyn Campbell, Director of Protocol, Prairie View A & M University
Dr. Dana Chandler, Archivist, Tuskegee University
Dr. Schroeder Cherry, Director Designee, James E. Lewis Museum of Art, Morgan State University
Dr. Michelle Delaney, Senior Program Officer, Office of the Provost, Smithsonian Institution
Dr. Anthony Dixon, Chief Archivist, Bethune-Cookman University
Ms. Makeba Dixon-Hill, Director Designee, Spelman College Museum of Art
Dr. Needha Boutte-Queen, Provost, Texas Southern University
Dr. Tasha Lucas-Youmans, Dean of Library, Bethune-Cookman University
Dr. Robert Luckett, Director, Margaret Walker Center, Jackson State University
Dr. Nashid Madyun, Director, The Southeastern Regional Black Archives Research Center, Florida A & M University
Dr. Lopez Matthews, Digital Production Librarian, Moorland-Springarn Research Center, Howard University
Dr. Lucille Maugé, President, Clark Atlanta University
Dr. Lily McNair, President, Tuskegee University
Dr. Larry Robinson, President, Florida A & M University
Dr. Danille Taylor, Dean, Clark Atlanta University
Dr. Vanessa Thaxton-Ward, Director, Hampton University Museum
Dr. Alvia Wardlaw, Director, Texas Southern University Museum