

African American Heritage Museum to Open in Noyes Museum Arts Garage Stockton College

Will Move to 2,000-Square-Foot Space in Atlantic City This Fall

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Contact: Maryjane Briant

News and Media Relations Director Galloway Township, NJ 08205 Maryjane.Briant@stockton.edu

(609) 652-4593

Galloway, NJ – The African American Heritage Museum of Southern New Jersey will open in The Noyes Museum Arts Garage Stockton College in Atlantic City this fall, part of the resort's developing Arts District.

The African American Heritage Museum (AAHM), founded by Ralph Hunter Sr., will occupy 2,000 square feet of the Arts Retail space located on the first floor of The Wave parking garage along Mississippi Avenue.

The museum brings to life the African American experience of the 20th Century as it documents the struggle of one group of Americans to carve their own place in the wider cultural landscape.

"Stockton is pleased to contribute to Atlantic City's cultural renaissance by creating a new art gallery and retail space that will also include the African American Heritage Museum of Southern New Jersey," said President Herman Saatkamp. "We are working with the community to create an Arts District worthy of Atlantic City in all its diversity."

The Noyes Museum of Stockton, which manages the site leased by the college, will have a 900-square-foot exhibition space of primarily New Jersey artists' work and a 550-square-foot gift shop selling the work of local artists and crafts people.

"The great thing about this project is it will bring a variety of diverse artists together under one roof to create and to bring their artistic wares to the marketplace," said Michael Cagno, executive director of The Noyes.

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-Continued from Page 1-

The African American Heritage Museum has access to more than 11,000 items such as graphics, drawings, paintings, advertisements, household and decorative items, all depicting blacks in a historical context.

"In a decade-by-decade account - a progression from Aunt Jemima to Tiger Woods - the museum provides a visual and intuitive understanding as to how the African American heritage has changed over time," Hunter said.

Through narrative, photos, video and artifacts, museum visitors can experience a lifetime of heritage through another person's eyes and have a chance to purchase unique arrtieumhrcf (phot)-6.6count 0.