



SAN FRANCISCO
*African American
 Historical & Cultural Society*

Praisesinger Newsletter, Summer 2019

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Greetings members and friends. Summer is upon us, and the Society is still moving on.

We are continuing to develop programs and exhibits that respond to the interest of our members, our youth, and the broader public.

Please renew your membership and support the Society. Your suggestions and involvement are welcomed and appreciated!

400 YEARS OF AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY

The 400 Years of African-American History Commission, was established by Congress to plan, develop, and carry out programs and activities to recognize and highlight 400 years of African-American contributions.

Commemorative activities will include the **NAACP's** journey in August from Jamestown, Virginia, to Jamestown in West Africa and the Reverend & Mrs. Amos C. Brown's family and friends' December journey to West Africa. Look for and join in these historic events.

AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORICAL CONTEXT STATEMENT ADOPTED BY SOCIETY BOARD

The purpose of the African American Historical Context Statement, developed by the San Francisco Department of Planning, is to assist the City and the community with "Proactive preservation efforts to designate important properties as local or national landmarks..." The Context Statement is to be finalized this Fall. The Society continues to play an important role in the roll-out of this report and designation of historical landmarks.

"CROWNS OF GLORY, I CORINTHIANS 11:15"

The Society's new exhibit features magnificent hats worn to church and on other special occasions. Well dressed women and men wore hats to complete their attire and make a statement. The exhibit is curated by Dr. William Hoskins, Society Executive Director.

The African American Historical & Culture Society presents...

Crowns of Glory

1 CORINTHIANS 11:15

The exhibit explores the world of millinery art as reflected in the African American women tradition to wear a special headdress to church and special events. This unique centuries-old self-expression by African American women has both spiritual and cultural significance. The church hats have evolved into an important art form and cultural symbol.

PARTICIPATING ARTISTS

Virginia Jordan
 Hilda Robinson

RECEPTION

Thursday, August 15, 2019
 5:30 – 7:30 PM

EXHIBIT

July 31, 2019 – December 31, 2019

GALLERY HOURS

Tuesday – Saturday
 1 – 5 PM or by appointment

LOCATION

African American Art & Cultural
 Complex
 762 Fulton Street, 2nd Floor
 San Francisco, CA 94102

sfaahcs.org
 info@sfaahcs.org / 415-292-6172

Curated by William Hoskins



Paint: Crown Hat by Virginia Jordan

"Crowns of Glory" exhibit opening & reception:

Thursday, August 15, 6:30 -8:30 pm

Society Gallery, 762 Fulton Street, 2nd floor

July 31 through December 31, 2019.

2020 Black History Month Theme:

AFRICAN AMERICANS AND THE VOTE

Each year, the SFAAHCS adopts the **Black History Month Theme** of the Association for the Study of African American Life and History.



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BHM 2020, continued

Membership on the Black History Month Committee is open to Society members and non-members. To join the Committee, call or email the Society at

415-292-6172 or info@sfaahcs.org

DAVID JOHNSON DOCUMENTARY

David Johnson, past Society president, was present at the showing of “**Positive Negative**,” an award-winning documentary of his life, at the Ritz Theater & Museum in Jacksonville, Florida, on June 15, 2019. Johnson was an important chronicler of African American life in San Francisco during the mid-twentieth century. At age 92, David Johnson returned to Jacksonville, Florida, his home, where he was a 1945 Stanton high school graduate.

David is a photographic journalist who has a collection in the Library of Congress and a photographic book, [A Dream Begun So Long Ago](#) written with his wife, Jacqueline Sue.

Congratulations David Johnson!

SFAAHCS WEBSITE

Thanks to longtime Society member Max Millard, the Society’s website is under a major reconstruction, Micky Lee, a colleague of his. Several Society members are helping Micky in site redevelopment. We are deeply grateful for Max’s ongoing contributions to the Society.

Max Millard wrote the biography of the late Thomas Fleming, longtime editor of the “Sun Reporter” & close friend of the late Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett.

SFAAHCS website, continued

Stay tuned for the launch of the new, improved website coming soon at the same website address, sfaahcs.org. You will be pleased!

MONTHLY BOARD MEETINGS:

1st Thursday of the month at 6:00

MEET YOUR NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Following the March Annual Society Membership meeting, the Nominations Committee completed a slate of candidates to fill vacancies on the Board of Directors. At a subsequent Society membership meeting, the following people were elected to serve on the Board, along with continuing members:

Louis Garrett – longtime Society member

Kiwan Gore – “legacy” Society member

Cheryl Thornton – Black History Month committee member

Continuing Board members are:

Al Williams, President

William Hoskins, Executive Director

Carl Williams, Secretary

Carol Moss, Treasurer

Ginger Smyly

Marisa Williams



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**A PICTURE IS WORTH A THOUSAND WORDS -
 SOCIETY ARCHIVES**



archives at Brooks Hall, note pink and yellow labels

For the past 7 years, the Society has not had a permanent space for its archives. Over the last 12 months, volunteers have ventured to the off-site storage and opened, inventoried, and catalogued items in the archive. As of the end of July, we have viewed and catalogued well over 1001 individual items. The accompanying photograph shows boxes with pink and yellow labels; those have been roughly catalogued. But, we have many more items and boxes to go. Once completed, the archive catalogue will make it possible to create exhibits, be research accessible, and permit the Society to apply for funding to support a permanent space and staff for the library and archives.

Do you have an idea for a permanent location? Want to help inventory and catalogue? Contact Ms. Smyly at the Society.

415-292-6172 or info@sfaahcs.org

San Francisco African American Historical and Cultural Society

762 Fulton Street, 2nd fl.
 San Francisco, CA 94115

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

PHONE _____ **CELL** _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

Please sign me up as a:

___ Student \$15 ___ Organizations \$250

___ Senior \$25 ___ Small Business \$350

___ Adult \$50 ___ Large Business \$700

___ Family \$100

Contribution: \$ _____

Total: \$ _____

Membership fees and contributions are tax deductible

Make Your Check Payable/Mail To:

**San Francisco African American Historical & Cultural Society
 (SFAAHCS)**

762 Fulton Street, 2nd Floor
 San Francisco, CA 94102
415/292-6172

VOLUNTEERS ARE URGENTLY NEEDED

*Volunteers are needed Tuesday thru Saturday
 to keep the Society open to the public.*

*Make a MEMBERSHIP GIFT to a family member
 or friend!*

Summer 2019 Newsletter Editor

ELDORIS CAMERON