

VaBHMA

The Virginia Black History Month Association

EIN#: 26-3986256

PO Box 41924

Fredericksburg, VA 22404

(540) 907-1857 (cell)

Dear Sponsor:

Since 1996, the President of the United States has published an annual proclamation announcing the month of February as African American History Month, also known as Black History Month. During the month of February, the proclamation calls upon “*public officials, educators, and all Americans to observe this month with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.*” In February 2000, a group of military veterans and myself came together to establish the Virginia Black History Month Association (VaBHMA).

The VaBHMA is a nonprofit 501 (c) (3) tax-exempt charitable organization. During the first few years, our mission was to provide active-duty military personnel and their families with positive activities during Black History Month. Since then, our events have grown in popularity which has expanded our mission to include everyone within the DMV eager to learn about the positive achievements of African Americans.

This year, the 2024 Black History Month theme is **African Americans and the Arts**, which highlights African-American contributions in the fields of visual and performing arts, literature, fashion, folklore, language, film, music, architecture, culinary, and other forms of cultural expressions where the African American influence has been paramount.

After more than 24 years the VaBHMA continues the legacy of serving the community by organizing cultural activities for Virginia families, with educating our children as the main focus of our events. One way we enrich the community is by providing several scholarships to deserving students who are looking to attend a college or university after graduating from high school. We provide these monetary awards in honor of African American community leaders who have left an indelible legacy within the Northern Virginia region.

During our annual gala, we award three students with the **Dr. James Farmer Scholarship**, named in honor of the late civil rights leader, professor and, author, Dr. James L. Farmer, Jr. Secondly, we award one winner with the **Audrey Jones Scholarship of Excellence**, in honor of Mrs. Audrey Jones, who was known for her civic work and many years of service within the Virginia Education System. And recently added was the **Jennie Dean Scholarship of Merit**, in honor of Prince William County educator, missionary and school founder. As a result, we have provided scholarships for more than 60 students to aid in their pursuit of higher education.

Our most widely attended event is the **Annual Virginia Black History Month Gala**. With more than 700 guests attending our gala every year, we are proud to boast that at least 100 of those guests are children under the age of 18 years old. For many who attend the gala, the highlight of the evening is watching the winners of our **Annual Children’s Writing Contest** receive their monetary awards from our organization. These 5th grade students are judged based on their writing skills, grammar, and proper punctuation concerning a specific topic surrounding the annual Black History Month theme. Over the years, several Virginia elementary schools have even incorporated our contest into their annual curriculum by making the contest entry a part of their creative writing programs and education on African American history.

To ensure children of all economic backgrounds can experience our events, each year our organization provides 20 to 25 complimentary gala tickets, hotel rooms, and rental vans to at-risk-children from the **Carl Sandburg Middle School "BE Club."** The BE Club provides mentors to young African American students and furnishes them with the proper tools to stay in school, establish sound study habits, become self-reliant, model good character, improve academic success, and encourage school/community involvement. For more than 15 years, we have provided over 300 "BE Club" students, and other at-risk-children with complimentary tickets to our annual events.

In preparation for the 2024 Gala, the VABHMA is currently seeking sponsorship in support for this year's Black History events. Funds are needed to support activities like our **Annual Scholarships, Children's Writing Contest, BE Club students support, audiovisual support, ballroom rental, advertisement, printing, awards,** and many other required items. We invite you and your corporation to consider one of the **five sponsorship packages** below, which include complimentary VIP Tickets to our Gala, access to the VIP Social with our Featured Speaker(s), advertisement, and special recognition during our presentation.

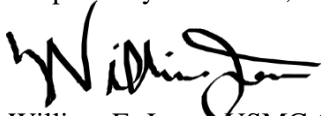
We anticipate that more than 700 people from across the United States will attend our 2024 Gala. In the past, our organization has been privileged to host several nationally acclaimed keynote speakers, including: lawyer and civil rights leader, **Dr. Bernice King**; television/radio host, **Roland Martin**; professor, author, **Dr. Michael Eric Dyson**; educator, author and businessman, **Dr. Steadman Graham**; actresses, **Vivica A. Fox**; **Kim Fields**, and **Tasha Smith**; actors, **Lamman Rucker**, and **Laz Alonso**, **Leon Robinson**, Judge **Lynn Toler** and many others.

In preparation for our 2024 Gala, we have confirmed the keynote speaker at next year's Annual Black History Month Gala as actor, director, producer, and musician, **Malcolm-Jamal Warner** made famous for playing the character "**Theo**" in the television show, "The Cosby Show," and Malcolm, in the television show, "Malcolm & Eddie." Presently, Warner can be seen starring on FOX's hit medical drama "The Resident." Originally cast for a 3-episode arc at the end of season one, he quickly became a fan favorite and was promoted to a series regular as cardio-thoracic surgeon AJ Austin aka 'The Raptor,' whose uncontrollable personality makes him a liability within the hospital walls. For more information on our Gala, and how you and your corporation can participate, please visit our website at www.vabhma.org.

- **Who:** The Virginia Black History Month Association
- **What:** **The 24th Annual Virginia Black History Month Gala**
- **When:** Saturday, 24 February 2024 (6 pm to 9 pm) VIP Social (4:45 pm to 5:45 pm)
- **Where:** The Falls Church Marriott Fairview Park Hotel, Falls Church, Virginia

On behalf of the Virginia Black History Month Association, we thank you in advance for your thoughtful contribution and support.

Respectfully Submitted,



William E. Jones, USMC (ret.)
President, VaBHMA

(Please check the appropriate boxes)

Below is our list of Corporate Sponsor Packages which include items in support of the 2024 Virginia Black History Month Gala. Review each package and determine your level of sponsorship. Check at least one box below. Payment can be made on our website at www.vabhma.org. Make checks payable to: **VIRGINIA BLACK HISTORY MONTH ASSOCIATION**. Mail to: President William Jones, Virginia Black History Month Association, P.O. Box 41924, Fredericksburg, VA 22404. You may contact me by at phone: (540) 907-1857 (cell) or Email: President@vabhma.com for other types of payment arrangements.

Corporate Sponsor Packages

Platinum Sponsor (Donations of \$20,000 dollars or more) includes:

- **Three Full VIP Tables (24 seats)**
- Opportunity to address our audience
- Verbal Recognition at the VIP Social
- Display of your Corporate Logo on all Event Branding
- Full Page Ad in the Souvenir Bulletin

Gold Sponsor (Donations of \$15,000 dollars) includes:

- **Two Full VIP Tables (16 seats)**
- Opportunity to address our audience
- Verbal Recognition at the VIP Social
- Display of your Corporate Logo on all Event Branding
- Full Page Ad in the Souvenir Bulletin

Silver Sponsor (Donations of \$10,000 dollars) includes:

- **One Full VIP Tables (8 seats)**
- Opportunity to address our audience
- Verbal Recognition at the VIP Social
- Display of your Corporate Logo on all Event Branding
- Full Page Ad in the Souvenir Bulletin

Diamond Sponsor (Donations of \$5,000 dollars) includes:

- **Four VIP Tickets**
- Verbal Recognition at the VIP Social and Gala
- Display of your Corporate Logo on all Event Branding
- Full Page Ad in the Souvenir Bulletin

Bronze Sponsor (Donations of \$2,500 dollars) includes:

- **Three VIP Tickets**
- Verbal Recognition at the VIP Social and Gala
- Display of your Corporate Logo on all Event Branding
- Full Page Ad in the Souvenir Bulletin

(Please check the appropriate boxes)

Business Sponsor Packages

Dr. Carter G. Woodson (Donations of \$1,500 dollars) includes:

- **Eight VIP Tickets (Full Table) or Five (Online Connections)**
- **Full Page Ad in the Souvenir Bulletin**

Harriet Tubman (Donations of \$1,000 dollars) includes:

- **Four VIP Tickets or Five (Online Connections)**
- **Full Page Ad in the Souvenir Bulletin**

Frederick Douglass (Donations of \$500 dollars) includes:

- **Three VIP Tickets or Five (Online Connections)**
- **Full Page Ad in the Souvenir Bulletin**

Advertisement in the 2024 Virginia Black History Gala Bulletin

Full Page - Ad

Ad must be camera ready
Ad must fit into this 8 ½ by 11 space

Company Information

Name: _____

Home Phone Number: _____

Name of Business

Mailing Address

City

State

Zip

Business Phone Number

Email Address

Semper Fidelis (*Always Faithful*)

Quarter Page - Ad

Ad must be camera ready
Ad must fit into this space

(Business Card Size)

Half Page - Ad

Ad must be camera ready
Ad must fit into this space

Please Circle the Appropriate Ad Size

Full

Half

Quarter

Email all Presentation Information to:

Email: President@vabhma.com

Phone: (540) 907-1857 (cell)