



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.

Next year, the 2023 Black History Month theme is **Black Resistance**, defined as actions such as sit-ins, boycotts, walk outs, and strikes led by African Americans and their allies in the fight for justice against discrimination in all sectors of society.

After more than 23 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 **Cynthia Lewis Scholarship of Service**, in honor of Mrs. Cynthia Lewis, a retired government civil servant known for her many years of service to the Fredericksburg, Virginia community. 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 500 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 2023 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 500 people from across the United States will attend our 2023 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**, Judge **Lynn Toler** and many others.

In preparation for our 2023 Gala, we have confirmed the keynote speaker at next year's Annual Black History Month Gala as veteran actor, singer, and producer known professionally as "Leon" Robinson. 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 23rd Annual Virginia Black History Month Gala**
- **When:** Saturday, 25 February 2023 (6 pm to 9 pm) VIP Social (4:45 pm to 5:45 pm)
- **Where:** The Hilton Alexandria Mark Center, Alexandria, 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 2023 Virginia Black History Month Gala. Review each package and determine your level of sponsorship. Check at least one box below. 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:

- **Two 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 \$1,000 dollars) includes:

- **Five Regular Tickets or Two VIP Tickets**
- **Full Page Ad in the Souvenir Bulletin**

Harriet Tubman (Donations of \$750 dollars) includes:

- **Four Regular Tickets or Two VIP Tickets**
- **Half Page Ad in the Souvenir Bulletin**

Frederick Douglass (Donations of \$500 dollars) includes

- **Three Regular Tickets or Two VIP Ticket**
- **Quarter Page Ad in the Souvenir Bulletin**

Advertisement in the 2023 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)