

“JOY!”

A Quarterly Newsletter

Volume 4 / Issue 2 - October 2024

THANKS FOR GIVING!

Some individuals take on tasks expecting paid compensation. However, not all tasks are paid tasks, nor should they be. Some tasks are performed merely to help where help is needed. Many find gratification in simply giving back in some way.

Why is giving back to community important? Community volunteering can help improve the lives of community members and make the community a better place to live. It can help foster unity and mutual understanding among diverse community members. It allows us to get to know one another. Unpaid volunteers are often the glue that holds a community together. We know this firsthand by watching the good works that Mrs. Gilliam performed during her lifetime. How one individual could galvanize or inspire so many people to work together to accomplish so much is beyond amazing.

Helping out with the smallest tasks can make a real difference in the lives of people or to organizations in need. Volunteering also offers health benefits. Yes, it improves physical and mental health. It lowers rates of depression and anxiety, especially for people 65 and older. It reduces stress and increases positive, relaxed feelings by releasing dopamine.

Volunteering offers new skills and work experience; allows you to make new friends; gives something back; improves confidence; and shows commitment.

There are many areas where we could use your volunteer assistance at the Museum. We welcome your help.

-- KJGM

KJGM is currently cataloging the many books that Mrs. Gilliam left behind as well as the many books that have been donated to the project. We hope to re-introduce the community, especially our youth, to formal reading of actual hand-held books. Our intent is to create communication with one another via reading, discussion and sharing thoughts/opinions in a positive way. We realize we must identify what we have on hand so that we can share with others. An organized listing of what is housed at the Museum is in preparation. We are looking for volunteers to assist in the task of archiving our books. (Dr. Claudia DeShay) is providing the skill of cataloging to those who are interested. *Library Day* at the Museum is scheduled for Saturdays. *Thanks for giving*, Dr. DeShay.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

**Pg. 1 – Who Will Volunteer?
Southwest Airlines**

Pg. 2 – Picture Worth a Million Words

**Pg. 3 – What a Difference
Tech Tid-Bits**



Our last fundraiser was a success!!!! Thanks to all who participated. Video footage of the drawing is available on the KJGM website. The winner of the drawing was Sharon and Willie Deberry. Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Deberry. Another SW drawing will take place in November 2024. Don't forget to purchase your lucky ticket!!

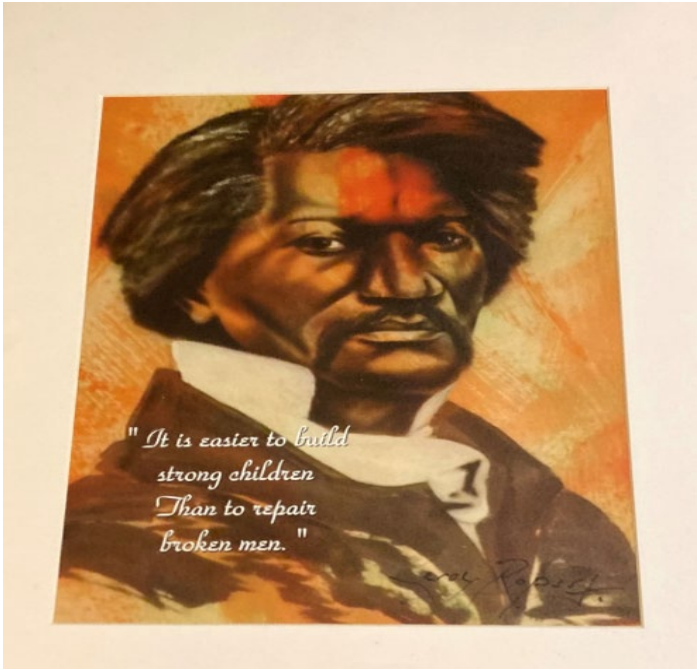
Thanks for giving Gerald Dunn! Gerald wears many hats at the Museum. He volunteers to write for this publication. He also serves as our Webmaster. Gerald ensures we are in good standing with Southwest Airlines to maintain our SW fundraiser program and he serves as a KJGM Board Director. His volunteer service is invaluable.

Thanks for giving Carla Ranger! Carla works closely with the Museum. Because of her nurturing nature, the youth who frequent the Museum have come to love and respect all that she does to encourage them in all that they do. She too volunteers her services. We thank you “Earth Angel.”

Attorney Cheryl Wattley and son Andrew Wattley are volunteering debate training for 3rd, 4th and 5th graders at the Museum. What a passion they have for working with boys and girls. They understand the importance of proper communication. They make each session educational while making learning fun! This year's resolution speaks to "youth suffrage." Students are preparing to compete in Atlanta in March 2025. Under the coaches guidance, we know they will do well in their competition. *Thanks for giving Coach Cheryl and Coach Drew!*

Alpha Thomas helps locate youth and adults alike to participate in our "Reading Under the Oak" program. She also ensures that guests are well taken care of while visiting the Museum. Alpha offers her energetic tour guide assistance, when busloads of visitors come to the Museum. *Thanks for giving Alpha!*

A PICTURE IS WORTH A THOUSAND WORDS . . .



This painting was donated to the Museum by Mr. Leroy Roper. Mr. Roper is a local artist in the South Dallas community who possesses a talent that few have seen. We want to acknowledge his talent as well as his giving spirit to the Museum. We have situated this print in our Reading Resource Room for all to see. *Thanks for giving Mr. Roper!*

To our incredible storytellers who volunteer their time and energy during our "Reading Under the Oak" events -- Leo Hassan; retired State Representative Harryette Erhardt; Dr. Claudia DeShay; Leena Quest; Amanda Johnson, and Monica Robinson all bring words to life during their readings. Thank you for inspiring the youth and for inspiring community service. Your service will never go unnoticed. *Thanks for giving!*

Thank you to Mr. Robert Edison, our Coach Emeritus who created a dream of teaching young students how to debate at a very early age. They said it couldn't be done but he knew otherwise. Because of your vision Mr. Edison, we are developing bright minds for the future. Thank you for your sound suggestions, encouragement and leadership. *Thanks for giving!*

What a Difference Ten Years Can Make

These two young men were members of our first debate team class. Both graduated top of their classes this year (2024). Braydon Brown (Wilmer Hutchins 2024 Valedictorian) and Dallas Ross (Lincoln High School 2024 -- #7 graduate). Are you able to locate them in both photos?



Tech Tid-Bits Projects



Gerald Dunn

Volunteerism is a form of helping in which people actively seek out opportunities to assist others in need, make considerable and continuing commitments to provide assistance while bettering your community.

In pre-modern tech times, volunteerism was strictly in person. With technology, people can now make virtual contributions through social media and attending virtual meetings for such things as mentorships and event coordination.

Technology has made great strides removing barriers across this country and the world. Users can now lend assistance to anyone virtually across the globe. Building

virtual communities can also link local organizations to a broader audience.

With new advances in technology no longer is time a barrier. Find out how you can contribute and take the opportunity to assist someone in need or get the assistance that you need.

[Gerald Dunn is a Systems Engineer and Master of Science in Data Science]

“HAVE A HAPPY THANKSGIVING AND A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS!”



Thank You to All Sponsors and Donors!



National Trust for Historical Preservation

"This project in part has been funded by a grant from Fondren Fund for Texas of the National Trust for Historic Preservation."



National Council for Negro Women, Minnie H. Page Section



Union Pacific Foundation



Hoblitzelle Foundation



The Meadows Foundation



Summerlee Foundation



The Real Estate Council





Texas Historical Foundation

For a complete list of stewards and donors, please see our website at:
www.kathlynjoygilliammuseum.org

For Correspondence & Donations:

P.O. Box 152593
Dallas, TX 75315-2593
Telephone: (469) 458-0208
Email: admin@kathlynjoygilliammuseum.org

 **Facebook:** Kathlyn Joy Gilliam Museum
 **Twitter:** Kathlyn Joy Gilliam Museum

Editor: Connie Harris
Co-Editor: Gerald Dunn

KATHLYN JOY GILLIAM MUSEUM
3817 Wendelkin Street
Dallas, Texas 75215