



Digitizing Community Collections at
America's Black Holocaust Museum
9/18/26





**What are you looking forward
to this fall?**

Our Presenters



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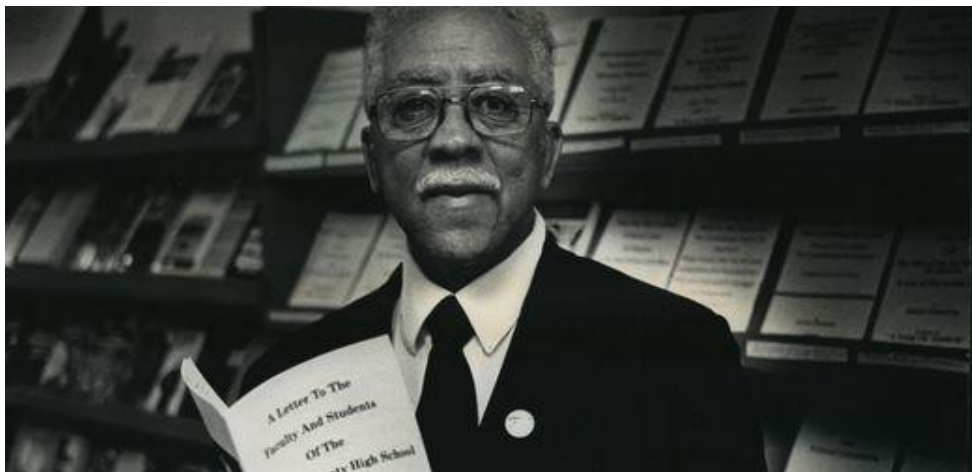
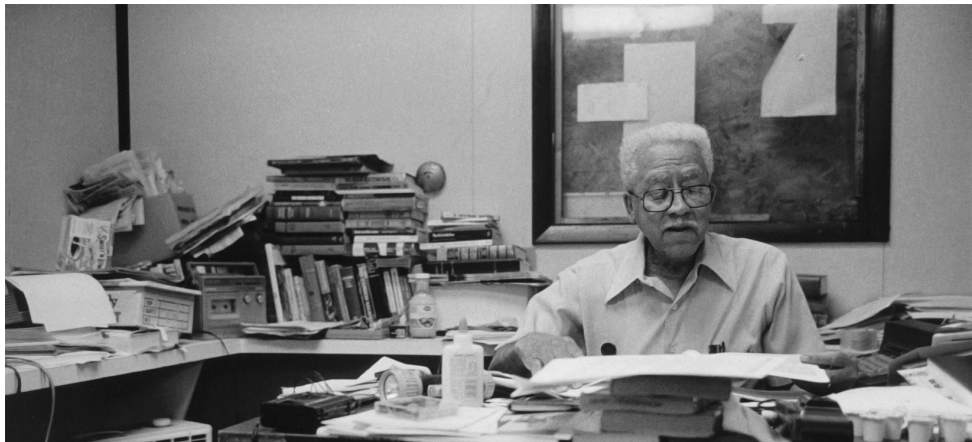
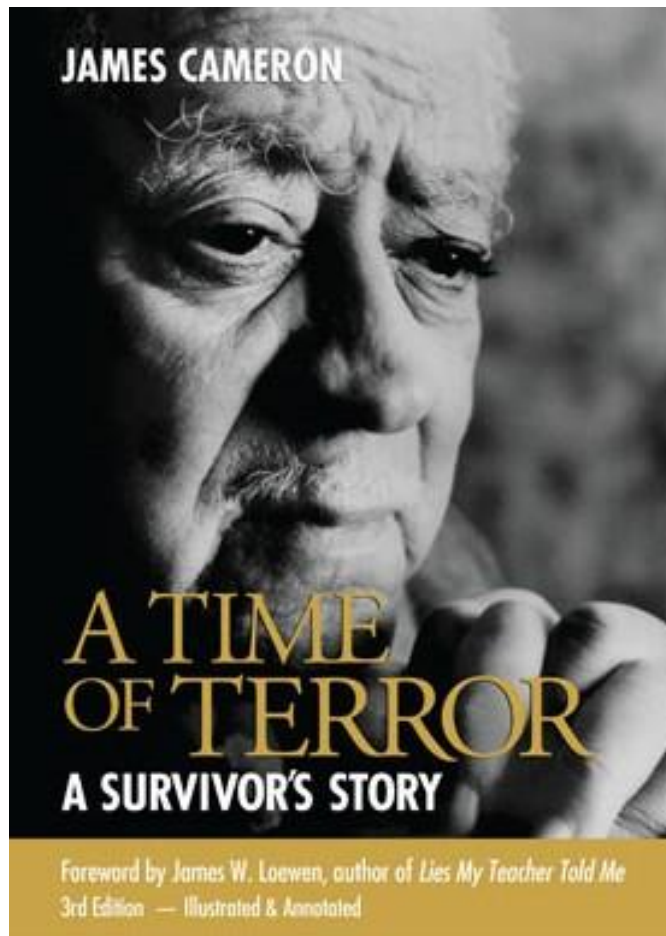


Autumnn Vang

University of
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Masters Student

Ongoing WiLS Collaborations









Virtual Museum www.abhmuseum.org

Launched February 25th, 2012 with over 3,500 exhibits
37,000 visitors from 168 countries in first year

THE TIME HAS COME!

BLACK HISTORY MONTH GRAND REOPENING

America's Black Holocaust Museum, shuttered since 2008, reopened as a virtual museum on February 25, 2012, in honor of the birthday of founder James Cameron, the only known survivor of a lynching. The interactive website is the first phase of a cutting-edge 21st century museum – an asset to the general public, scholars, teachers and students.

Its mission: to tell the seldom-told stories of the Africans brought in chains to America, their descendants, and their allies; contribute to scholarship about the Black Holocaust; provide a safe place for cross-racial dialogue; and promote the highest ideals of American democracy.

AMERICA'S BLACK HOLOCAUST MUSEUM

Bringing Our History To Light

EXPLORE THE MUSEUM!

www.abhmuseum.org

- Exhibits designed for adults and students over 13
- Many short videos and photographs
- Interactive features including:
 - * Memorial to the Victims of Lynching
 - * Freedom Lovers' Roll Call Wall
 - * Tell Your Dr. Cameron Story
 - * Community Information for each exhibit

HAPPY BIRTHDAY DR. JAMES CAMERON



Virtual Museum www.abhmuseum.org

Relaunched August 2020 with over 2,900 exhibits
Visited by over a million people annually since 2016

History Galleries And Special Exhibits

This is the museum's lobby. From here you can choose which gallery to enter.

There are seven **History Galleries**. These tell the story of the Black Holocaust in chronological order from life in Africa before captivity to African American life today. Each history gallery has a home page where you can view all its current exhibits, find resources for further learning, and peek at planned exhibits.

Click on the **Special Exhibits Gallery** to visit our Memorial to the Victims of Lynching, the Freedom-Lovers' Roll Call Wall, an art exhibit, and featured temporary exhibits.

Explore the galleries in order – or start in one and jump to another. Stories within each gallery contain links, so you can follow interconnected stories from one exhibit to another. Or from one gallery to another.

The museum is constantly adding exhibits. Cyberspace is virtually infinite, so you will always find your favorite exhibits alongside the new ones.



Meharry Medical College, a Historically Black College/University (HBCU) in 1948. HBCUs have played an historical role in enhancing equal educational opportunity for all students. More than 80% of all black Americans who received degrees in medicine and dentistry were trained at the two traditionally black institutions of medicine and dentistry: Howard University and Meharry Medical College. Today, these institutions still account for 19.7% of degrees awarded in medicine and dentistry to black students.

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Select A Gallery

African Peoples Before Captivity

Many of us believe African was "uncivilized" before Europeans arrived. In fact, many of the technologies, medicines, mathematics, architecture, medicine, astronomy, agriculture, marine technology, art – and more.

[View Exhibits >](#)

Kidnapped: The Middle Passage

From the 1400s to the 1800s, the voyages known as the "triangular slave trade" were part of a complex international system of commerce. Many people involved in this commerce made fortunes by capturing, selling, buying, transporting, and forcing adults and children into hard labor as prisoners for life.

[View Exhibits >](#)

Nearly Three Centuries Of Enslavement

Learn how this so-called "peculiar institution" shaped our country's past – to understand how it continues to shape our economic, political, legal, and social systems today. This gallery explores the brutal realities of enslavement. It also tells uplifting stories of resistance and redemption by the enslaved and their allies.

[View Exhibits >](#)

Reconstruction: A Brief Glimpse Of Freedom

This gallery explores the complex story of the promises of full citizenship made to black Americans – and then broken – in the dozen years following Emancipation. It also reveals some of the ways African Americans developed new community institutions that contributed greatly to our country's development during this tough period and beyond.

[View Exhibits >](#)

One Hundred Years Of Jim Crow

Following the Civil War and Reconstruction, white people – in both the South and the North – found ways to maintain their accustomed power over black people. They did this through a combination of laws, social customs, and mob violence. This oppressive system is known as "Jim Crow" or "The South."

[View Exhibits >](#)

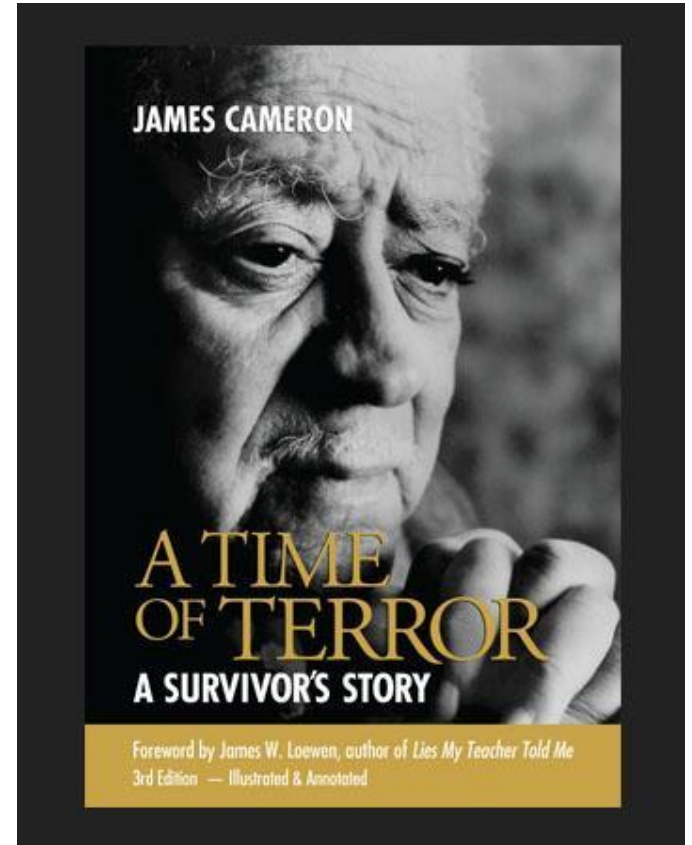
I Am Somebody! The Struggle For Justice

The struggle for justice and equality stretched across the entire 20th Century. We call the especially active years of the 1950s and 1960s "the Civil Rights Era." African Americans developed creative ways to protest racial inequality and gain new legal rights.

[View Exhibits >](#)

Curricular Overview for Time of Terror

- Jim Crow Era
 - Migration
 - Lynching
 - Activism
- Migration North to South, South to North
- Racial Violence/Lynching
 - Social Control, Public, & Political
- Coming of Age Story







Collections After Closure/Current State



Emily's Work (Funded by Ideas to Action Grant)

Core Documents Created & Updated:

- Accessioning Form
- Acquisition Proposal Form
- Catalogue and Condition Report Form
- Deed of Gift Document
- Finding Aid Template
- Museum Item Incident Report Form
- Instruction Guide
- Collections Policy
- ABHM Collection Finding Aid

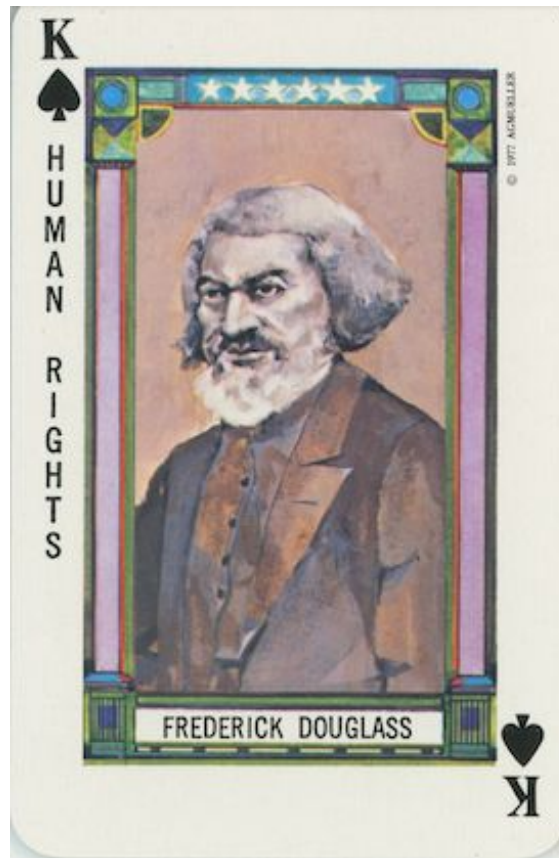
Artifact Storage & Organization Materials Updated:

- Identified Workspace Needs
- Created Artifact Housing with supplies from the Ideas to Action Grant



Outcomes

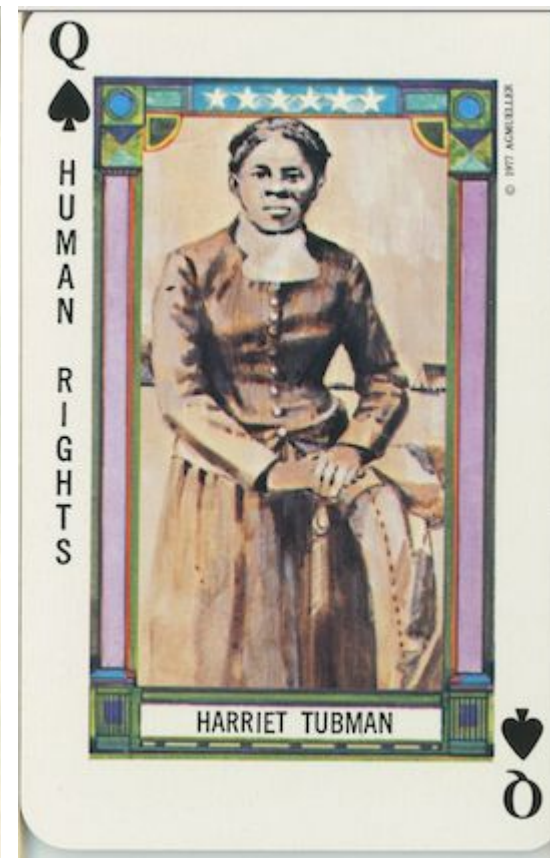
1. 265 Artifacts accessioned and catalogued, with associated digital imagery easily accessible.
2. A set of core documents capable of being built upon for future needs, including a dedicated section addressing the emotional effects of working on sensitive materials.
3. Functioning workspace for future museum artifacts to be incorporated into the ABHM educational body.



Collection: Black History Playing Card Deck

Item Number: 2026.5.3

Title: Frederick Douglas



Collection: Black History Playing Card Deck

Item Number: 2026.5.4

Title: Harriet Tubman

Autumn's Work (Funded by Association of African American Museums Grant)

Digitization Workflow

1. Capturing Images
 - 2D Objects → Scanner
 - 3D Objects → DSLR Camera
2. Image Editing
3. Metadata Sheets
4. Uploading to Recollection WI
 - Provides access



**Reflections on emotional impact of working
with sensitive materials**

Virtual Exhibit

You can view all of the digitized collections on the ABHM's online collections database located at this link here:

<https://cdm16698.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/ABHM/search>



America's Black Holocaust Museum

Collections

- ☐ Select All Collections
- ☐ Albertson Memorial Library
- ☒ America's Black Holocaust Museum
- ☐ Angie W. Cox Library, Pardeeville
- ☐ Appleton Historical Society
- ☐ Appleton Memory Project

Show All

Cancel

Update

Collection

[an american inheritance: the story of racist memorabilia in wisconsin and the u.s. \(193\)](#)

[beckum-stapleton little league \(97\)](#)

[milwaukee community journal - dr. james cameron \(36\)](#)

[found in collection \(35\)](#)

[milwaukee community journal - america's black holocaust museum \(31\)](#)

[milwaukee community journal - museum adjacent \(22\)](#)

Browsing items in:
America's Black Holocaust Museum

Sort by:

Records 1-10 of 415



18 children, teens homicide victim

Homicide; Little League baseball
Milwaukee, WI: Milwaukee Journal &
America's Black Holocaust Museum



1971 Directory and Report of Milw

Milwaukee (inhabited place); Urban
A series of governmental boards for
America's Black Holocaust Museum

America's Black Holocaust Museum



A Busy Day in the Cotton Field pc

Collectibles; Caricatures; Postcards
A postcard depicting a rural farm scene
America's Black Holocaust Museum

Questions or Comments?

Thank you!

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