

John Lewis National African American Museum.

“Every person who visits this beautiful museum will walk away deeply inspired-filled”.



A POWERFUL LEGACY

ep. John Lewis, D-Ga. speaks during the opening ceremony of the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture on the National Mall in Washington, Saturday, Sept. 24, 2016. (AP Photo/Manuel Balce Ceneta) transcript

President and Mrs. Obama, President and Mrs. Bush, Mr. Chief Justice and members of the Board of Regents, to the museum Advisory Council, Secretary David Skorton, and Dr. Lonnie Bunch.....To the leadership of the U.S. Congress, and all my colleagues in both the House and Senate... in memory of the late Rep. Mickey Leland of Texas...To the City of the District of Columbia, the architects of this incredible building.... to all the staff of the White House, the federal agencies, the Congress, the Smithsonian who pushed and pulled together to help make this moment happen, and to all the construction companies and their crews–thank you. Thank you for all you did to help lead our society to this magnificent day. As long as there is a United States of America, now there will be a National Museum of African American History and Culture. This is a great achievement.

I tell you I feel like singing the song Mahalia Jackson sung at the March on Washington over 50 years ago, “How We Got Over”.

There were some who said it couldn’t happen, who said “You can’t do it”, but we did.

We are gathered here today to dedicate a building, but this place is more than a building. It is a dream come true. You and I–each and every one of us–were caught up in a seed of light. We were a vision, born in the minds of black Civil War veterans and their supporters. They met right here in Washington, DC, in 1916, exactly 100 years ago, at 19th Street Baptist Church, still in existence today. Oh say! See what a dream can do!

If you could roll up the sleeves of those veterans or touch the rubble on their backs, you might find the wounds of shackles and whips. Most could not read the Declaration of Independence or even write their names, but in their hearts burned an enduring vision of true democracy that no threat of death could ever erase. They understood the meaning of their contribution, and they set a possibility in motion–passed down through the ages from heart to heart and breath to breath–that we are giving birth to today.

This museum is a testament to the dignity of the dispossessed in every corner of the globe who yearn for freedom. It is a song to the scholars and scribes, scientists and teachers, to the revolutionaries and voices of protest, to the ministers and the authors of peace. It is the story of life, the story of our lives, wrapped up in a beautiful golden crown of grace.

I can hear the distant voice of our ancestors whispering by the night fire, “Steal away, Steal away home. We ain’t got time to stay here”. Or a big, bold choir shouting, “I woke up this morning with my mind stayed on freedom.” All their voices–roaming for centuries–have finally found their home here, in this great monument to our pain, our suffering, and our victory. When I was a little child growing up in rural Alabama, a short walk to the cotton fields, but hundreds of miles from the Washington Monument or the Lincoln Memorial, my teachers would tell us to cut out photographs of great African Americans for Carter G. Woodson’s Negro History Week, now called African American History month.

I became inspired by the stories of George Washington Carver, Jackie Robinson, Rosa Parks, and so many others whose life and work will be enshrined in this museum. As these doors open, it is my hope that each and every person who visits this beautiful museum will walk away deeply inspired–filled with a greater respect for the dignity and worth of every human being and a stronger commitment to the ideals of justice, equality and a true democracy. Thank you . ” <https://nmaahc.si.edu/>



JOIN CBTU

About CBTU

Since the earliest days of this nation when democracy was built on racial exploitation, black workers have risked their lives to protect and empower their communities through agitation, collective action and faith. The Coalition of Black Trade Unionists proudly carries that tradition into the 21st century.


CBTU is not a black separatist or civil rights organization. It is the fiercely independent voice of black workers within the trade union movement, challenging organized labor to be more relevant to the needs and aspirations of a diverse work force and poor workers.

At the same time, CBTU is recognized as a potent economic and political force within the African American community. One of every five black workers (20%) belongs to a union, and black union members earn 40 percent more than do non-union black workers. In the political arena, CBTU has leveraged the vast resources of unions to mobilize black voters to influence elections and public policy at every level of government.

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www.cbtu-rochesterchapter.org



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Meetings are the third Saturday of every month at
10:30am-11:30am



COALITION OF BLACK TRADE UNIONISTS ROCHESTER CHAPTER

GOTV- GET OUT THE VOTE

JULY 23, 2016 , CBTU Voter Registration Drive Jones Park, ROC the Peace festival with event coordinator Sirena Cotton



August 14, 2016 CBTU was invited to Roc Summer Explosion for voter Registration, featuring artist Jarule, Juvenile and DMX. CBTU Members attended: Destini, Charnette, Zola and Walter . Special shout out to cbtu member Shelly Clements's family for great show.



August 21, 2016 CBTU Voter Registration at the Rochester first Black Pride LGBTQ weekend event .



August 22, 2016 Clarrissa Street Reunion CBTU partnered with Alpha Phi Alpha for voter registration drive. The annual festival celebrates a vibrant and culturally rich neighborhood that rejoices in the sounds of Jazz.



August 21 -24, 2016 CBTU Regional Conference. Women's day set the mood with thought provoking workshops and dynamic speaker. Rochester's Tracy Jordan was awarded the Leonard C Ball Service award at annual dinner



August – September Summer Sunday's Kick the Violence event , promoted peace through kickball series . CBTU was invited to do voter education and registration. Congrats to CBTU's Demond Meeks and the Omega' PSI PHI team for winning the tournament.



September 24, 2016 CBTU does voter registration at the social gathering for women and young girls sponsored by Trillium Health Coordinator Jackie Dozier



CBTU Rochester Board Members



Debbie Lee
President
FSA /CSEA



Zola Brown
Executive Vice-President
1199SEIU



Randy White
Executive Vice
President Emeritus
CSEA



Phyllis Matthews
Secretary
CSEA



1st Vice President
PEF / SEIU / AFT



Tracy Jordan
Treasurer/1199 tax
program



Jimmy Haynes
Sergeant-At-Arms
Laborers' Local 435



Aloma Cason
Trustee
AFSCME/BENTE



Evelyn Evans
Trustee/IUE/CWA



Shelly Clements
Trustee NYSUT

2016 CALENDER

January 9th – Membership Meeting / C.A.S.H Tax Program

February 13th – Membership Meeting

March 12th – Membership Meeting /

April 22, 2015 – Annual Dinner

May 25th – 29th – Annual Convention Washington D.C.

June 11th– Annual Scholarship Gospel Concert

July 23th – Annual Membership Cook Out

August 18th – Regional Conference Buffalo, 8/6 Puerto

Rican Parade, 8/20 Clarissa Street Voter Registration

September 10th - Membership Meeting/Labor Day Parade

October 15th – Membership Meeting

November 8th – Get Out The Vote (volunteer)

December 2nd – Holiday Meet and Greet (Fusion
Restaurant 5:30pm – 7:30pm)



Robert Barley
MDR Investment
Management
585-427-0650 or
585-506-2147
Proudly Supports CBTU

Historically, we as African Americans don't grow up speaking about Financial Investment topics like 401k, 403b, Deferred Compensation, Pension and IRAs. However, times are changing and we must look to be savvier about investing in stocks, bonds and mutual funds. After all, our purchasing power helps the economy and companies like Apple, Verizon, Home Depot, Facebook & Microsoft to grow to make outstanding revenue and earnings.



CBTU FAMILY SUPPORTING CSEA DURING CONTRACT FIGHT THIS SUMMER, photo by CBTU Member Rose McKinney

CBTU Committees Chairs



Women's Committee
Geena Cruz



Men's Committee
Leone Speight



Fundraising
Kendall Bell



Under 40 Programs
Demond Meeks

New Organizing

Zola Brown

Environmental Justice Program

Tracy Jordan

Education

Shelly Clements

Politics-GOTV

Aloma Cason

Communications

Karen Spotford



CBTU

The Coalition of Black Trade Unionists (CBTU) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization of trade union members and affiliates who give voice to issues that affect African American workers and workers of color. CBTU works in concert with Labor Unions and community organizations for improvements in the workplace and the elevation of the community.