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The National Great Blacks in Wax Museum *Where Every Day is Black History Month*



Dr. Joanne Martin, co-founder of The National Great Black in Wax Museum stands among a display of life-size, life-like wax figures. The National Great Blacks in Wax Museum highlights historical and contemporary personalities of African ancestry. Committed solely to the study and preservation of African American history, and its presentation of ancestry, the museum has been in existence for 40 years after being established in 1983 by Dr. Joanne Martin and her late husband, Dr. Elmer Martin. File Photo (See more on page 10)

HBCU Alumna and Scientist Empowers Next Generation of STEM Leaders, Founds Nonprofit

By Andrea Blackstone

February 11th has become recognized as The International Day of Women and Girls in Science. It was founded by HRH Princess Dr. Nisreen El-Hashemite, an Iraqi scientist and activist who promotes gender equality.

“We can all do our part to unleash our world’s enormous untapped talent – starting with filling classrooms, laboratories, and boardrooms with women scientists,” according to UN Secretary-General António Guterres.

Sarah Adewumi, 24, is doing just that. The young leader is already challenging stereotypes when it comes to imagining who may work in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) fields. Adewumi loves playing tennis as a former Division I collegiate athlete. She has had opportunities to merge her passion for fashion with her technical expertise by using artificial intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning to work with a few brands across the globe.

The eclectic NASA scientist knows firsthand that the world could use more women in STEM. Adewumi is also a STEM advocate who works at NASA’s Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Maryland. She reflected on her journey to become a cybersecurity specialist and nonprofit founder.

“I became interested in science around the age of seven when my dad brought me to a ‘bring your child to work day.’ That day became a core memory as it was the first time I was ever immersed in the world of technology and engineering. We created

rockets out of water bottles, which I thought was the coolest thing ever. It later sparked my interest towards wanting to pursue a career in STEM,” Adewumi said. “I completed my Bachelor of Science degree in Aviation Science at my illustrious HBCU, the University of Maryland Eastern Shore. I received my Master of Science degree in Information Systems from the University of Maryland College Park.”

Adewumi has worked full-time with NASA for two years. In prior times, she completed four internships with NASA during her collegiate career. But Adewumi felt shocked when she realized that she was only one of approximately five women in her major.

“This period of time made me quite unsure if this career path was for me. However, after overcoming uncertainty, I sought to show young women coming after me that there is space for

them in the STEM industry,” she said.

Adewumi’s father is an engineer. Her oldest sister inspired her as the first woman in her family to pursue a STEM career. Additionally, locating mentors who supported her as role models and advocates was a strategy Adewumi used to help achieve her career goals.

“One of my current mentors, the

Honorable Richard Healing, has been pivotal in shaping my post-collegiate career not only professionally, but in efforts for my nonprofit organization as well. Having someone who has already ‘been there and done that’ was crucial for me in developing a network and in being advised on my next steps,” Adewumi said.

She created the nonprofit, NextGen in STEM, “to reach back and empower

the next generation of girls who desire to pursue careers in STEM.” Since Adewumi was fortunate to find many women role models in the STEM industry, she wanted to help other girls through mentorship, resources, and overall support.

“Women are still very underrepresented in the STEM industry, which is why it’s extremely important to invest in the next generation of STEM leaders. By showing our youth that they have a place in STEM, we can further encourage more girls and women in this space,” she said.

Adewumi said that she would advise girls to look into as many possibilities as they can to learn about STEM and the many careers that exist within the industry. She also helped to make science-learning attainable for K-12 youth across the United States by creating science episodes and communicating technical aspects so that youth can stay engaged and learn.

“Through televised experiments, students can learn about science at home while realizing that STEM can be very fun,” Adewumi explained.

On the official NASA eClips website, <https://nasaclips.arc.nasa.gov>, a collection of archived episodes and videos can be located for youth to watch. Adewumi served as an on-camera host for episodes between 2020-2022, but she now writes scripts. Adewumi also noted that many



Sarah Adewumi, left, shows children a science experiment.

Photo courtesy of Sarah Adewumi

online resources can help young girls find out more about careers in the field, including The If/Then Collection via <https://www.ifthencollection.org>. NextGen in STEM will soon be releasing a monthly newsletter. A ‘Mentor of the Month’ will highlight a phenomenal woman in STEM in each publication. This will enable girls to learn about a variety of career possibilities. The nonprofit will initiate other outreach initiatives, too.

“We really hope to impact twice as many students this year and continue to contribute to the mission of promoting the education of the next generation of leaders in STEM,” Adewumi said. Visit www.sarahadewumi.com for more information.

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A photograph of a basketball hoop and ball in a gymnasium. The ball is orange and is positioned just above the hoop. The background is a blurred crowd of spectators under bright arena lights.

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A "Few of the Many" Awards Black History Month Celebration

On Thursday, February 26, 2023, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., the Anne Arundel County Executive Stuart Pittman's in partnership with the Caucus of African American Leaders, will hold its signature Black History Month event, The "Few of the Many" Awards. The award program recognizes African American residents in Anne Arundel County who have made lasting contributions to their communities. The event is being held at Blue Heron Center, Quiet Waters Park, 600 Quiet Waters Park Road, Annapolis, Maryland and is free to the public; however, registration is required.

The two honors—The Sojourner Truth Award, recognizing women leaders, and The Elijah Cummings Award, recognizing male leaders, were created posthumously to recognize two towering landmark figures whose lives left indelible marks on the struggle for equal justice and humanity.

This year's theme is "Black Resilience," which calls on residents to reflect on how the African American

community continues to find ways to build communities and thrive against insurmountable odds. Honorees are selected using the following criteria: an African American leader, a resident of Anne Arundel County; not a previous award recipient and an individual who exemplifies this year's theme.

This year's Sojourner Truth Award honorees are Nelsa Brown; Shelyia Brown; Phyllis Currie Spencer; Honorable Eric Griswold; Arlene Jackson; Roslyn D. Johnson-Jones; and Priscilla Monroe. The Congressman Elijah Cummings Award honorees are Reverend Rickey Nelson Jones; C. Pierre Parkers; Eugene Peterson; Keanuu Smith-Brown; Demontae L. Reid; Sheriff Everett Sesker; and Judge Shaem C. P. Spencer.

Visit aaccounty.org/fewoftheman to RSVP and for additional event details. Event is free. Registration is required.



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Baltimore County Council Unanimously Confirms Re-appointment of Dr. Gregory Wm. Branch

Branch to continue as Baltimore County Health Officer and Director for Health and Human Services

Baltimore County, MD – Baltimore County Executive Johnny Olszewski re-nominated Gregory Wm. Branch, M.D., MBA, CPE, FACP as County Health Officer and Director of the Department of Health and Human Services. The Baltimore County Council unanimously voted to support the nomination at the County Council Board Meeting held on January 17, 2023.

During the Board's confirmation hearings, Branch shared information around work his Department has done to address the opioid epidemic, environmental health, children and family services, healthcare disparities, mental health, animal services, and efforts to mitigate the COVID-19 pandemic and other emerging infectious diseases.

Additionally, Branch spoke about his mother, who was pre-mature when she was born in the South in 1936.



Dr. Gregory Wm. Branch has served as Baltimore County Health Officer for more than 16 years. Courtesy Photo

"Although incubator technology was readily available at that time, this life-saving treatment was denied to Negro infants in the south," said Branch. Her family brought her north to receive the healthcare she needed. "My mother's experience continually drives my mission to ensure that excellent public health and human services are accessible to everyone."

Branch has served as Baltimore County Health Officer for more than 16 years. His re-appointment and confirmation is a testament to his commitment to make Baltimore County a healthy place to live, work and play for people and their pets.

What African Americans Want Most from Congress in 2023



By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Senior National Correspondent
@StacyBrownMedia

As 2022 closed, Black Americans saw gains with historic candidates and timely legislation.

President Joe Biden signed the Emmett Till Antilynching Act and later, the Respect for Marriage Act, which protected interracial marriages.

A slim majority in Congress prevented other significant bills from reaching the president's desk.

As Black History Month begins, there remains key issues that African Americans want to see happen.

A December poll of Black voters revealed that African Americans want the government to do more to fight white supremacy.

That FBI helped underscore that need when it issued a report noting that hate crimes disproportionately target African Americans.

With mass shootings continuing at a record pace, gun control remains a hot-

button issue for Black America.

Further, many Black voters have suggested strong desires for a comprehensive voting rights package, whether that's in the form of the Freedom to Vote Act, or the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act.

The former would expand mail-in, early voting, and automatic voter registration, while the latter would restore the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

And, following the brutal murder of Tyre Nichols at the hands of five Tennessee police officers, African Americans have continued to voice outrage over the failure of lawmakers to pass the George Floyd Justice in Police Act. While the bill has twice passed the House, the measure has stalled in the Senate despite a Democrat majority there.

The legislation would end qualified immunity, which many believe would greatly curtail the type of police behavior that led to the deaths of Nichols, Floyd, and so many other African Americans.

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Upcoming Event Aimed at Job Seekers, Small Business Owners Through HopkinsLocal

By Andrea Blackstone

Johns Hopkins University (JHU) is globally and locally known as a leading university that is deeply rooted in Baltimore, Maryland. It opened in 1876. The Johns Hopkins Hospital has been ranked #5 nationally and #1 in Maryland by U.S. News & World Report as a part of the Best Hospitals 2022–23 Honor Roll. More than 4,500 hospitals were assessed, per Johns Hopkins Medicine’s website.

Johns Hopkins is expanding its legacy by strengthening Baltimore and providing opportunities to individuals and businesses through Level Up with HopkinsLocal. Johns Hopkins University and Health System have made a commitment to connect local talent to local opportunities. Alexandra “Lexx” Mills, Director of Economic Inclusion & Impact for Johns Hopkins University and Johns Hopkins Health System is responsible for leading the initiative.

“HopkinsLocal is our firm commitment to leverage the economic power of Johns Hopkins University and Health System to build, hire and buy locally, so that we can expand the participation of local and minority-owned businesses and construction opportunities, increase our hiring of [Baltimore] City residents, and then also enhance economic growth, and employment and investment in Baltimore through our purchasing activities,” Mills said.

She also explained that Johns Hopkins has a long-standing relationship with Baltimore City and commitment to economic inclusion, but following the death of Freddie Gray, the launch of HopkinsLocal was accelerated in 2015. Protests were sparked following Gray’s death from a severe spinal cord injury, after police arrested him.

In 2015, Johns Hopkins Hub reported that Ronald J. Daniels, president of Johns Hopkins University,

and Ronald R. Peterson, president of Johns Hopkins Hospital and Health System wrote a message that was sent to faculty, students, and staff. It mentioned that “unrest in Baltimore shed light on the racial and economic disparities that challenge our city and our nation.” The correspondence also informed that Johns Hopkins University and the Johns Hopkins Health System joined forces with community, political, and faith leaders to renew and reaffirm its commitment to support Baltimore City and fellow citizens. HopkinsLocal was cited with specific goals of the initiative that was created to promote additional local economic growth and employment opportunities in Baltimore City. Noted benchmarks included increasing hiring from within the city’s most distressed communities and increasing goods and services the university and health system purchases from Baltimore-based businesses, including minority and women owned ones.

“The university (JHU) and the health system have hired over 3,000 Baltimoreans and over 1,500 returning citizens. We have also spent more than \$888 million in local businesses. And then finally, within our design and construction commitments, we’ve committed over \$244 million to minority and women-owned and disadvantaged businesses, and over \$281 million to local Baltimore City businesses for design and construction projects,” Mills said, explaining the progress of HopkinsLocal.

She added that the program is in the third phase.

A Level Up with HopkinsLocal event will be held on Friday, February 17, 2023, from 8:15 AM – 1:30 p.m. at the Reginald F. Lewis Museum, located at 830 East Pratt Street in Baltimore, Maryland. Small business owners and job seekers are invited to attend. Job seekers who are Baltimore City residents can apply for career opportunities with Hopkins. The Level



(Front row, l-r) Alexandra “Lexx” Mills, Director of Economic Inclusion & Impact for Johns Hopkins University and Johns Hopkins Health System, Jaymie Hornberger, Assistant Talent Acquisition Manager and LaToya Dow, Senior Talent Acquisition Specialist. (Back row, l-r) Lisa Brown-Hall, Talent Acquisition Specialist (The Johns Hopkins Health System) and Jonathan E. Thompson, Director of Talent Acquisition (JHU).

Photo credit: Will Kirk, Photography Manager, University Communications, Johns Hopkins University

Up Career Fair will enable them to meet recruiters and hiring managers. Resume reviews will be available. Workshops for small business owners will provide information about Johns Hopkins’ design and construction business practices at the University and Health System, joint Vendor Review Committee, upcoming projects, programs and resources to help individuals to grow and scale their businesses.

Joseph Starchia, Diversity Recruiting Program Manager for Johns Hopkins University and Medicine said that the Hopkins HireLocal initiative is dedicated to connecting local talent to local opportunities.

“What we would like to do is have individuals consider Johns Hopkins University and Johns Hopkins healthcare system in a way that maybe

they have not thought of or interacted with before,” he said.

Starchia explained that work is done to energize the community. Candidates are empowered through resume review, opportunities to meet with recruiters and ultimately becoming employed. Starchia wants candidates to feel like they can apply to Hopkins and feel ready. Employment possibilities extend beyond openings for professors at JHU and doctors or nurses working in the healthcare system.

“There is so much more to both entities than that,” Starchia said.

Learn more about HopkinsLocal by visiting <https://hopkinslocal.jhu.edu>. Please register for the Level Up with HopkinsLocal February 17 event via <https://bit.ly/JHHLLevelUp2023> by the end of the day on February 15, 2023.

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A Baltimorean's Rise to Artistic Greatness

By Andrea Blackstone

Artistic excellence comes in many forms of creative expression. Akio Evans, a graduate of Northern High School, hails from East Baltimore. His ability to use his gift to merge art with fashion, history and culture has gained recognition in celebrity circles.

"I'm a designer, filmmaker and a storyteller more so because I try to tell stories when designing art or doing film," Evans said. "I do commission pieces, but in recent years since 2020, I've been commissioned to do projects for HBO Max, STARZ, Peacock. All of these are for commissioned pieces from either wardrobe or stylists."

Evans founded his company called AkiO's Glorious Heroes in 2015 after formally acknowledging his calling. According to his website, Evans "taught himself how to put art on clothing" at the age of 17.

The creative Baltimorean spent time in the state of Washington and Phoenix, Arizona. He knows what it is like to be a young man having to clean up personal scrapes and bounce back from obstacles because of them, including legal issues and homelessness.

"I was always making things, even when I was homeless. I would get kicked out of the Phoenix, Arizona malls for trying to sell my shirts

that I would make. I would go to the malls into the bathrooms early before they opened at nine o'clock, take my

iron and things that I printed out from the library and make shirts before people would start to come into malls around 10 or 11 o'clock," Evans said.

People who discovered that Evans was from Baltimore asked him if he knew about "The Wire" television series. Evans ultimately returned to his hometown in 2007 after being away for several years. Upon returning, Evans ended up meeting a few people who were affiliated with "The Wire," including a notable semi-fictional character who played on the show.

"I met Snoop [Felicia Pearson]. It was funny because it was like a manifestation. It was the last season of "The Wire" that was being filmed, and I said, 'Man, I've got to make it to Baltimore to do something.' And then I applied to this Craigslist posting, and they called me back and said, 'Hey, would you like to be an extra?'" Evans said.

According to Evans, he ultimately gained the attention of Snoop's

manager after posting one of his tennis shoe designs on the social networking site, MySpace. It led to an opportunity for Evans to create a shoe for Snoop to wear during the 2007 NBA All-Star Weekend that was held in Las Vegas. He later filmed parties and ended up shooting a documentary for his friend.

The project led to other opportunities. He recalls interviewing Spike Lee for his first documentary feature film in 2014. Snoop reminded



Akio Evans makes sneakers for actor Will Smith.
Photo credit: Hearts and Heroes Studios

Evans that he could be a filmmaker and return to creating designs on clothes. He designed Timberlands that caught the attention of some of Snoop's friends. Evans' new career picked up. Comedian and actor Dave Chappelle is among well-known people who have worn Evans' custom designed shoes, blazers and shirts. Imagery that Evans selected for shirts manifested while bringing them into his life.

"With all that and even now, I was innately channeling trying to find what I was attempting to do in my gift. It was like I was guided and I just listened at those small, small whispers in the ear," Evans said. "Creating art is really a manifestation tool. It's been some magical moments."

When the time arose to officially name his creative ventures as a business, Evans wanted to commemorate his late mother, Glorious Taylor. She was a seamstress, deep thinker and single parent. She died of a heart attack. Evans named his company AkiO's Glorious Heroes. Evans' creative process requires an

ample amount of research when he creates items for individuals while including minute details.

"I do airbrushing and painting. I've added materials like glass," Evans said, reflecting on projects that he created.

And now, Evans has completed orders for a long list of celebrities and movie sets. Work of the abolitionist Harriet Tubman will be shown on "Swagger," Season 2 that will stream in the future. Evans works part-time, manages growth of his business, and shows up to work on sets when he is contacted for a project that may require him to make a specific number of products. His website offers pre-ordered merchandise that anyone can purchase. Orders can be made based on availability of his slots.

Evans attributes his positive progression and manifestation success to utilizing prayer and his decision to stop drinking in 2019.

"I think discipline is what activates the manifestation," he said.

Visit <https://www.byakioevans.com> for more information about Evans and his work.



Akio Evans holds up commission pieces that he made for actress Dominique Thorne's friends and castmates of Marvel's 'Ironheart' series.

Photo credit: Hearts and Heroes Studios

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Every Day is Black History Month at The National Great Blacks in Wax Museum

By Ursula V. Battle

In celebration of Black History Month, *The Baltimore Times* will be publishing a series of articles about *The National Great Blacks in Wax Museum*. Located at 1601-1603 E. North Avenue, the museum was established in 1983 by Dr. Joanne Martin and her late husband, Dr. Elmer Martin. The museum is the first wax museum of African American history in the nation. This is the first of the series, which will also highlight some of the museum's wax figures.

February marks Black History Month, a special annual observance honoring the triumphs and struggles of African Americans throughout U.S. history. Situated at 1601-1603 E. North Avenue in Baltimore City is a place that highlights these triumphs and struggles throughout the entire year. It's the National Great Blacks in Wax Museum.

Recorded in wax are all the noble ways African Americans have participated in the building of this country, from soldiers in the Civil War to members of the Freemasons. From the Western frontier to polar exploration to the space race, African Americans are highlighted for their contributions.

Committed solely to the study and preservation of African American history, and its presentation of life-size, life-like wax figures that highlight historical and contemporary personalities of African ancestry, the museum has been in existence for 40 years after being established in 1983 by Dr. Joanne Martin and her late husband, Dr. Elmer Martin.

"We took Elmer's grandmother to a wax museum in St. Augustine, Florida," said Dr. Martin recalling how the museum started. "I had never been, and for me and Elmer, just the experience of the wax museum was so compelling to us. It would become a life-changing moment. When we came back, Elmer spent a day in the Library of Congress researching whether there was a Black History wax museum."

She added, "He came back and said there was none. We wanted to put a face on our history that had been faceless, and all of this would lead to us



Yesterday: *The National Great Blacks in Wax Museum's first location was a storefront on Saratoga Street.* Courtesy photos/The National Great Blacks in Wax



Today: *The National Great Blacks in Wax is currently located at 1601-1603 E. North Avenue*



Tomorrow and Beyond: *Rendering of a multi-million dollar facility spanning 1601- 1611 East North Avenue*

embarking on what would become The National Great Blacks in Wax Museum."

The Martins used their savings to embark on their trailblazing journey.

"Our dream took form in 1980 when we purchased four wax figures with the money we had saved to make a down payment on a house," recalled Dr. Martin. "We carried the figures to schools, churches, shopping malls, and almost anywhere people would allow us to set up an exhibit. Little did we know that by 1983, we would have a small storefront museum in downtown Baltimore, twenty-two wax figures, and the good wishes and support of many loyal friends."

She added, "The possibility that in 1988 we would be celebrating the grand opening of a 10,000-square-foot facility on East North Avenue seemed almost unimaginable. But we always knew that a higher power than the two of us was guiding this effort."

The storefront location was on Saratoga Street, and the initial four wax figures were Mary McLeod Bethune, Frederick Douglass, Nat Turner, and John Brown, who would soon be joined by Harriet Tubman and Booker T. Washington.

Its North Avenue location features an array of exhibits and wax figures. They include "A Journey to Freedom" whose wax figures include Henry "Box" Brown, and W.E.B. DuBois, "The Underground Railroad" featuring wax figures of Thomas Garrett and Harriet Tubman, and "The Slavery Era" with its immersive "Middle Passage" and "The Horror of Captivity."

An immersive slave ship replica, which touts a life-size re-creation of the dark belly of a 19th-century slave ship, shows figures in the dank ship's hold—their bodies crushed, but not their spirits. Dr. Martin credits the remarkable slave ship replica and much of all that the museum offers to the vision of her late husband. Dr. Martin passed away in 2001, while the couple were in Egypt.

"I'm always going to give honor to Elmer because he was our visionary, and so much of what we do can be credited to him," said Dr. Martin. "I marvel at his genius and just pray to God that I can



Dr. Elmer Martin

come close to it in carrying on his memory.”

A noted historian, educator, and researcher, Dr. Martin continues to carry on the legacy of her pioneering husband. Dr. Martin who received a BA from



Dr. Joanne Martin co-founded the National Great Blacks in Wax Museum with her late husband and co-founder Dr. Elmer Martin. Dr. Martin is holding a portrait depicting the couple given to her by her husband. Photo: Ursula V. Battle

Florida A&M University; MA degrees from Atlanta University, Atlanta Georgia and Case Western Reserve University; and her PhD from Howard University,

performs most of the museum’s curatorial duties and has laid the groundwork for both architectural and exhibition design for their expanded museum.

National Great Blacks in Wax Profile:

Ida B. Wells-Barnett

By Ursula V. Battle

A journalist, activist, and researcher, in the late 19th and early 20th centuries Ida B. Wells-Barnett was one of the founders of the NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People) and dedicated her life to fighting against prejudice and violence against African Americans. Born into slavery in Holly Springs, Mississippi on July 16, 1862, Wells-Barnett’s wax figure is among those you will find at the National Great Blacks in Wax Museum located at 1601-1603 E. North Avenue.

“She fought to have anti-lynching legislation passed by Congress, the U.S. Senate, and the House of Representatives after two of her friends were killed,” said Dr. Joanne Martin, co-founder of the National Great Blacks in Wax Museum. “She used her skills as a journalist, and was considered to be one of the most famous Black female journalists of her day. She published *The Red Record*, which seriously focused on the lynchings of Black people.”

Wells-Barnett published *The Red*



Ida B. Wells

Record in 1895, a 100-page pamphlet describing lynching in the United States since the Emancipation Proclamation of 1863. The publication covered Black people’s struggles in the South since the Civil War and explored the alarmingly high rates of lynching in the United States, noting “ten thousand Negroes have been killed in cold blood, [through lynching] without the formality of judicial trial and legal execution.”

Her skepticism about the reasons Black men were lynched led Wells-Bar-

nett to investigate several cases. She published her findings, and wrote several columns. Her expose about an 1892 lynching enraged locals.

“People don’t get any tougher than Ida Wells,” said Dr. Martin. “She not only would print her newspaper, but she would print the names of perpetrators, and the names of people who committed and had been involved in violence against Blacks. White folks got so upset they burned down her newspaper and caused her to have to flee from Memphis.”

In 1895, she married famed African American lawyer Ferdinand Barnett, who founded *The Chicago Conservator*. Wells wrote for the newspaper, later acquired a partial ownership interest, and after marrying Barnett, assumed the role of editor.

“They came together and used journalism to fight against social ills,” said Dr. Martin. “Together, they used their newspaper to expose injustices perpetrated against Blacks.”

Wells-Barnett traveled internationally, shedding light on lynching to foreign au-

The National Great Blacks in Wax Museum is gearing up for a multi-million dollar facility spanning 1601-1611 East North Avenue that would require the temporary relocation of its treasured wax figures. Described as the cornerstone of a vibrant revitalization initiative in the East Baltimore corridor, these efforts include 25,000 square feet of new construction; 10,000 square feet of renovated space; 25,000 square feet of permanent and changing exhibition areas, an orientation theatre; community event space; a café; 200-seat theatre/auditorium; and a Museum store.

Immersive 3D Virtual Reality Tours, Augmented Reality Experiences, Holographic displays, and animation along with an ADA accessible facility with a new elevator are also being planned.

For more information visit <https://www.greatblacksinwax.org/>

diences. Abroad, she openly confronted white women in the suffrage movement who ignored lynching. One of the little known facts about Wells-Barnett is the lawsuit she filed against a Memphis train car company.

“Ida Wells had a First Class train ticket and sat in the front,” said Dr. Martin. “Blacks were expected to sit in the back, not the front. She was literally thrown off the train, but she fought her case going all the way to the Supreme Court.”

Dr. Martin added, “It took a great deal of courage to do the things she did. It was very dangerous and very risky. But she felt the danger was worth the risk. She took on all types of fights, had to flee and constantly live under the cloud of danger. But she would flee and start fighting again. She symbolized fighting for what you believe in.”

To see the wax figure of Ida B. Wells-Barnett and other African American champions, visit the Great Blacks in Wax Museum. For more information including hours of operation visit <https://www.greatblacksinwax.org/>

Special Black History Month Performances of “Serenity House” Coming to the Chesapeake Arts Center Feb. 25th & 26th

BALTIMORE, MD – In honor of Black History Month, the highly-acclaimed stage play, Ursula V. Battle’s “Serenity House: From Addiction to Deliverance” returns for encore performances on Sat., Feb. 25, 2023 (3 p.m.) and Sun., Feb. 26, 2023 (3 p.m.) at the Chesapeake Arts Center, 194 Hammonds Lane, Suite 194 in Brooklyn Park.

The presentation is being presented by The AngelWing Project in partnership with Battle Stage Plays. The performances are part of a Serenity House From Addiction to Deliverance Tour which also includes upcoming shows at The Randallstown Community Center and the Sollers Point Multi-Purpose Center. Written by Baltimore playwright and journalist Ursula V. Battle, the show is coming off hugely successful performances in Baltimore, Virginia and other areas.

The highly-acclaimed stage play takes a riveting and thought-provoking look at the opioid epidemic which has worsened since the COVID pandemic. The production features National Recording Artist Randy “Fruity” Roberts of The Choir Boyz. Roberts, a real-life former drug dealer who turned his life around, portrays “James Franklin” in the production, and performs Watch Me Work from his hit CD This Is My Story This is My Song featuring “Kingdom.”

The production, which debuted in 2017, also features internationally-renowned gospel female trio “SERENITY,” and powerhouse soloists Charisse-Caldwell-Bowen and Kay Jefferson. Playwright Angela Wilson (Dr. Lila Mae Hawkins), Noah Watts (Michael ‘Lil Mike’ Adams) and Mariah Barbee (Young Dancer Hawkins) will make their debut appearances in this run of the production.

The piece is written by Playwright Battle who is a writer for The Baltimore Times, and directed by Baltimore

County Health Officer Dr. Gregory Wm. Branch. Dr. Branch’s interest in Medicine dates back to his childhood, seeing a former neighbor struggle with addiction, who ultimately succumbs to an overdose. The production speaks to addiction across multiple platforms, including eating disorders and prescription drug abuse. “Serenity House: From Addiction to Deliverance” also touches on domestic violence, incest, and child sex trafficking.

The production’s storyline centers around the journey six men and women - who are three months in recovery, take after arriving at the imaginary United in Victory Tabernacle on the Hill Freewill Catholic Baptist and Episcopal Church of God in Christ’s newly opened “Serenity House.”

Through ministry, music, an unforgettable story, and dance, the production takes a heart-wrenching, yet heart-warming look at the devastating impact that addiction has on society – particularly on families that in some cases, spans generations. The production is also the impetus for Playwright Battle’s new breakout novel of the same name.

Ursula V. Battle’s “Serenity House” is rated PG-13 due to some strong content and profanity. Tickets are \$25 in advance. For more information call (443) 531-4787 or visit www.battlestageplays.com.

MEET THE CAST

Serenity House: From Addiction to Deliverance

WRITTEN BY **URSULA V. BATTLE** DIRECTED BY **DR. GREGORY WM. BRANCH**

February 25 & 26, 2023
Chesapeake Arts Center
194 Hammonds Lane
Brooklyn Park, MD 21225

www.theangelwingproject.org www.battlestageplays.com



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www.GreatBlacksInWax.org



Ravens Continue Offensive Coordinator Search



Todd Monken

Photo Credit : Joshua L. Jones/USA TODAY Images

By Tyler Hamilton

The Baltimore Ravens search for their next offensive coordinator continues as the NFL enters the final stage of the 2022 season. The vacancy was created when the team parted ways with Greg Roman last month.

Roman was the Ravens playcaller from 2019 - 2022. In his first year, Roman produced one of the NFL's most prolific offenses in 2019 when he was named the AP Assistant Coach of the Year. That was the same year that Lamar Jackson's 37 touchdown passes led all quarterbacks and he was named league MVP.

Ravens coach John Harbaugh is looking for his seventh offensive coordinator since taking over in 2008. Harbaugh has always stuck to a run-heavy offense over the years, but he hinted at the possibility of a slight change.

"In terms of the vision for the offense, the identity of the offense is what is important in that vision. We've established an identity for our offense," Harbaugh said.

"Everything changes, [and] everything evolves. You have to keep it moving. So, we'll definitely keep it moving in ways that fit the players that we have, but it'll definitely be within the identity that we have for our offense."

Who will be tasked with shaping the identity? Former Cleveland Browns and current University of Georgia offensive coordinator Todd Monken has received a second interview. So has pass game coordinator of the Minnesota Vikings, Brian Angelichio, and Dave Canales, who is the quarterback's coach of the Seattle Seahawks.

Justin Outten, who was the Denver Broncos' offensive coordinator last season, also was slated to get a second look. Former Tampa Bay Buccaneers offensive coordinator Byron Leftwich, has also reportedly spoken to the Ravens about their vacancy. Leftwich has also been in talks with Notre Dame for their offensive coordinator spot. The Ravens reportedly put in a request to interview Kansas City Chiefs offensive coordinator Eric Bienemy for the same position as well. Bienemy's contract

is set to expire after this season, but he said at the Super Bowl that he is only fielding head coach interviews.

The team will include Jackson in their coordinator search. That's significant because Jackson just completed the final year of his rookie contract by playing on the fifth-year option. Talks of a new contract are ongoing for Jackson. The Ravens can place the franchise tag on Jackson and try to hammer out a long-teal deal. The general consensus is that Jackson is best served in a multiple tight end with a fullback offense, but an opportunity to play in a spread system would be ideal.

Looking back to Jackson's days as a Heisman-winning quarterback at Louisville, Jackson played under Bobby Petrino in a scheme that spread the field and gave him space to operate.

A new coordinator will be able to bring fresh ideas. However, there are some things that Harbaugh would like to retain from before.

"We've got coaches here, players here who have run those schemes, that have a feel for those schemes, so

yes, that'll be part of the new process," Harbaugh explained.

"I'd like to keep a lot of those schemes around, and that's passing schemes, too. The passing game that we put together [and] the schemes we have are excellent. So, whatever parts of the offense are able to kind of go forward, we'll see how that goes."

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NOTICE TO BID

Minority Subcontractor/Supplier Schummer, Inc. seeking Certified Minority Subcontractors for: MES Project #1-23-4-44-5, Brown Station Road Sanitary Landfill Water Distribution System Replacement. Bids due in our office 2/24/23. Certified MBE's & WBE's for: Pipe, Excavation, Paving, Piping, Plumbing, Aggregates, Concrete, and Trucking. Fax quotes to: 410-798-1709 or email: schummerinc@aol.com For more information call 410-956-8080.

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**CERTIFICATION OF PUBLICATION
CITY OF BALTIMORE
OFFICE OF BOARDS
AND COMMISSIONS
PUBLIC NOTICE
PROJECT No. 1356R-MS4 BMP
MONITORING SERVICES**

The City of Baltimore Office of Boards and Commissions has been requested by the Department of Public Works, Bureau of Water and Wastewater, to advertise for Civil/ Environmental Engineering firms to provide MS4 BMP Monitoring Services for the City's Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Permit Program.

The following services to be provided including, but are not limited to:

1. Post-construction or post-storm event assessment and monitoring of stream restoration and urban water quality BMP projects. Post-construction or post-event stream monitoring is required under federal and state regulatory permits. The duration of monitoring is typically three years after substantial construction completion.
2. Design of related urgent needs stream repair and maintenance projects, construction inspection and environmental support services.
3. Monitor assigned completed stream projects using standard industry function-based rapid stream assessment methodology including but not limited to:
 - a. To evaluate functional stability and functional success of a restored stream
 - b. Identify potential causes for impairment.
 - c. Identify potential corrective actions.
4. Assess damage to restored stream due to unusual high-intensity storms and redline as-built drawings for repairs using urgent need repair contracts items.
5. Obtain necessary permit approvals for repairs.
6. Monitoring of urban BMPs.
7. Provide appropriate training and support for staff development.

Depending on the nature of other work and City Staff requirements, personnel representing the selected firm shall be available on an as-needed basis.

The firms interested in providing these services must demonstrate and document:

1. Experience in using drone technology for monitoring BMPs.

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2. Experience post-construction and post-storm damage assessment of stream restoration projects required by federal and state joint permits.

3. Experience in geomorphological stream assessments, fluvial geomorphology, and stream restoration using natural channel design approach and bioengineering techniques.

4. Experience in the preparation of reports, detailed cost estimates, and contract documents as required by the City including the processing of permits required for the construction and operation of the facility, rights of way, easements, and related items necessary for the procurement of construction.

5. Project management and contract administration services.

6. Ability to complete design of urban BMPs for large drainage areas

7. Experience in facility construction, operation, and maintenance.

8. Experience in reviewing shop drawings, preparing operation and maintenance manuals, and evaluating potential change orders during construction.

9. Experience in using Geogation Systems a database manager.

10. Experience in Invasive Vegetation Management, forest stand delineation, and forest conservation plans.

11. Demonstrate strong QA/QC skills.

The Office of Engineering and Construction reserves the right to have a second interview with eligible consulting firms.

The City intends to select the service of Two (2) firm for a period of five (5) years at an estimated fee not to exceed \$1,000,000.00 each, with an option to extend for one (1) year additional term.

Should you have any questions regarding the scope of the project, please contact **Mr. Jalil Abdul at (410) 396-3440** or by email at jalil.abdul@baltimorecity.gov.

Prequalification Requirement

All firms listed in the specific proposal for the Project **must** be prequalified by the Office of Boards and Commissions for each applicable discipline *at time of submittal* for this Project. *A copy of the prime and sub*

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consultant's current Prequalification Certificate should be included in the bid submittal package. Information regarding the prequalification process can be obtained by calling the Office of Boards and Commissions on 410.396.6883.

Submittal Process

Each consultant responding to this Request for Proposal (RFP) Project # 1356R is required to complete and submit an *original* Federal Form 255 unless otherwise specified in this RFP, along with **five (5)** copies, to the Office of Boards and Commissions on or prior to March 17, 2023 by NOON. Submittals *will not* be accepted after this deadline.

The Federal Form 255 *cannot* be supplemented with additional pages any additional information such as graphs, photographs, organization chart, etc. All such information should be incorporated into the appropriate pages. Applications should not be bound; should simply be stapled in the upper left-hand corner. Cover sheets should not be included. Inclusion and/or submittal of additional material may result in the applicant being disqualified from consideration for this project.

Firms interested in submitting a proposal for this Project, shall address a "Letter of Interest" to the Office of Boards and Commissions, 4 South Frederick Street, 4th Floor, Baltimore, Maryland, 21202 or you may email: OBC.consultants@baltimorecity.gov

Letters of Interest will be utilized to assist small minority and women business enterprises in identifying potential teaming partners and should be submitted within five (5) days of the date of the project's advertisement. The Letter of Interest must provide the name and number of your firms contact person. Failure to submit a "Letter of Interest" will not disqualify a firm submitting a proposal for the project.

Only individual firms (including, for example, individuals, sole proprietorships, corporations, limited liability companies, limited liability partnerships, and general partnerships) or formal Joint Venture (JV) may apply. Two firms may not apply jointly unless they have formed a joint venture.

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MBE/WBE Requirements

It is the policy of the City of Baltimore to promote equal business opportunity in the City's contracting process. Pursuant to Article 5, Subtitle 28 of Baltimore City Code (2000 Edition) – Minority and Women's Business Program, Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) and Women's Business Enterprise (WBE) participation goals apply to this contract.

The MBE goal is 30%

The WBE goal is 15%

Both the proposed Minority and Women's Business Enterprise firms must be named and identified as an MBE or WBE within Item 6 of the Standard Form (SF) 255 in the spaces provided for identifying outside key consultants/associates anticipated for utilization for this project.

Any submittals that do not include the proper MBE/WBE (in some instances DBE) participation will be disapproved for further consideration for this project.

Verifying Certification

The firm submitting a SF 255 for consideration for a project is responsible for verifying that all MBEs and WBEs to be utilized on the project are certified by the Minority and Women's Business Opportunity Office (MWBOO) prior to submitting the proposal. A directory of certified MBEs and WBEs is available from MWBOO. Since changes to the directory occur daily, firms submitting SF 255s should call MWBOO at (410) 396-4355 to verify certification, expiration dates and services that the MBE or WBE is certified to provide.

Non-Affiliation

A firm submitting a proposal may not use an MBE or WBE to meet a contract goal if:

1. The firm has a financial interest in the MBE or WBE
2. The firm has an interest in the ownership or control of the MBE or WBE
3. The firm is significantly involved in the operation of the MBE or

(Article 5, Subtitle 28-41).

Project 1356R cont'd on page 17

Legal Notice

Insurance Requirements

The consultant selected for the award of this project shall provide professional liability, auto liability, and general liability and workers' compensation insurances as required by the City of Baltimore.

Local Law Hiring

Article 5, Subtitle 27 of the Baltimore City Code, as amended (the "Local Hiring Law") and its rules and regulations apply to contracts and agreements executed by the City on or after the Local Hiring Law's effective date of December 23, 2013 which is applicable to all vendors. The Local Hiring Law applies to every contract for more than \$300,000 made by the City, or on its behalf, with any person. It also applies to every agreement authorizing assistance valued at more than \$5,000,000 to a City-subsidized project. Please visit www.oedworks.com for details on the requirements of the law.

Additional Information

A firm submitting as a prime consultant that fails to comply with the requirements of Article 5, Subtitle 28 of Baltimore City Code when executing a contract is subject to the following penalties: suspension of a contract; withholding of funds; rescission of contract based on material breach; disqualification as a consultant from eligibility to provide services to the City for a period not to exceed 2 years; and payment for damages incurred by the City.

A resume for each person listed as key personnel and/or specialist, including those from MBE and WBE firms, must be shown on the page provided within the application.

Please be advised that for the purpose of reviewing price proposals and invoices, the City of Baltimore defines a principal of a firm as follows:

A principal is any individual owning 5% or more of the outstanding stock of an entity, a partner of a partnership, a 5% or more shareholder of a sub-chapter 'S' Corporation, or an individual owner.

Firms will not be considered for a specific project if they apply as both a sub-consultant and prime consultant.

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Failure to follow directions of this advertisement or the application may cause disqualification of the submittal.

Deena Joyce, AEAC Executive Secretary Chief, Office of Boards and Commissions

CERTIFICATION OF PUBLICATION CITY OF BALTIMORE OFFICE OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS PUBLIC NOTICE

PROJECT #1369 – Project and Construction Management Assistance on SC 982 Eastern Avenue Pump Station Improvements

The Baltimore City Office of Boards and Commissions has been requested by the Department of Public Works, Office of Engineering and Construction, to certify the qualifications of engineering firms to provide Project and Construction Management Assistance for SC 982 Eastern Avenue Pump Station Improvements. One contract will be awarded for a period of 4.0 years.

The Quality Assurance services to be provided are generally in accordance with the US Army Core of Engineers CQM program and include, but are not limited to assisting the City Office of Engineering and Construction with construction monitoring and inspection, preparation of daily reports, maintenance of project records and documentation, review of contractor's application for payment, attendance at progress meetings, preparation of record drawings, review of contract claims and support documents, estimating, scheduling, quality control, project engineering, constructability reviews, submittal reviews and responses, RFI reviews and responses, and other contract documents.

*Experience in Facilities Rehabilitation and Construction at Waste-water Pump Stations.

*Experience in development and implementation of a Construction Project Management program.

*Familiarity with standard construction inspection procedures and requirement for civil, Structural, Mechanical, and Electrical disciplines, and SCADA system instal-

Legal Notice

lation and implementation.

*Familiarity with applicable building codes, Electrical NEC and standards.

*Experience in providing field inspection staff with experience with change orders and claims analysis.

Experience with Critical Path Method construction scheduling, Primavera version 6 scheduling software, and experience with Primavera Contract Management version 14 project tracking software.

*Overall team approach to utilize, manage and coordinate assigned tasks of the *Minority/Women Business Enterprises* partners and to conform to City goals.

Project fees have been estimated at \$1,500,000 for a period of 4.0 years. If further information is required regarding this request, please contact Ms. Misrak Shiferaw at 410-396-5385.

Projects must comply with the 2006 edition of "The Specifications for Materials, Highways, Bridges, Utilities and Incidental Structures". City personnel will utilize the City of Baltimore Guidelines for the Performance Evaluation of Design Consultants and Construction Contractors for this contract/project.

Firms interested in submitting a proposal for this Project, shall address a "Letter of Interest" to the Office of Boards and Commissions, 4 South Frederick Street, 4th Floor Baltimore, Maryland 21202 (EMAIL: OBC.Consultants@baltimorecity.gov). Since these letters are utilized to assist small minority and women business enterprises in identifying potential teaming partners, the letter should be submitted within five (5) days of the date of the project's advertisement. The letter should contain a contact person. Failure to submit a "letter of Interest" will not disqualify a firm submitting a proposal for the project.

Each prime consultant applying for this Project will be required to complete and submit an original Federal Form 255, along with **five (5)** copies, to the Office of Boards and Commissions. The Federal Form 255 and the five copies must be submitted on or before 12:00 P.M. (Noon) on **March 17, 2023**. Submittals may not be accepted after this deadline.

Prequalification Requirement

All firms listed in the specific proposal for the Project **must** be prequalified by the Of-

Legal Notice

fice of Boards and Commissions for each applicable discipline *at time of submittal* for this Project. *A copy of the prime and sub consultant's current Prequalification Certificate should be included in the bid submittal package.* Information regarding the prequalification process can be obtained by calling the Office of Boards and Commissions on 410.396.6883.

Submittal Process

Each consultant responding to this Request for Proposal (RFP) Project #1369 is required to complete and submit an *original* Federal Form 255 unless otherwise specified in this RFP, along with **five (5)** copies, to the Office of Boards and Commissions on or prior to March 17, 2023 by NOON. Submittals *will not* be accepted after this deadline.

The Federal Form 255 *cannot* be supplemented with additional pages any additional information such as graphs, photographs, organization chart, etc. All such information should be incorporated into the appropriate pages. Applications should not be bound; should simply be stapled in the upper left-hand corner. Cover sheets should not be included. Inclusion and/or submittal of additional material may result in the applicant being disqualified from consideration for this project.

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Only individual firms (including, for example, individuals, sole proprietorships, corporations, limited liability companies, limited liability partnerships, and general partnerships) or formal Joint Venture (JV) may apply. Two firms may not apply jointly unless they have formed a joint venture.

Project 1369 cont'd on page 18

Legal Notice

MBE/WBE Requirements

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The MBE goal is **30%**
The WBE goal is **15%**

Both the proposed Minority and Women's Business Enterprise firms must be named and identified as an MBE or WBE within Item 6 of the Standard Form (SF) 255 in the spaces provided for identifying outside key consultants/associates anticipated for utilization for this project.

Any submittals that do not include the proper MBE/WBE (in some instances DBE) participation will be disapproved for further consideration for this project.

Verifying Certification

The firm submitting a SF 255 for consideration for a project is responsible for verifying that all MBEs and WBEs to be utilized on the project are certified by the Minority and Women's Business Opportunity Office (MWBOO) prior to submitting the proposal. A directory of certified MBEs and WBEs is available from MWBOO. Since changes to the directory occur daily, firms submitting SF 255s should call MWBOO at (410) 396-4355 to verify certification, expiration dates and services that the MBE or WBE is certified to provide.

Non-Affiliation

A firm submitting a proposal may not use an MBE or WBE to meet a contract goal if:

1. The firm has a financial interest in the MBE or WB
2. The firm has an interest in the ownership or control of the MBE or WBE
3. The firm is significantly involved in the operation of the MBE or WBE (Article 5, Subtitle 28-41).

Insurance Requirements

The consultant selected for the award of this project shall provide professional liability, auto liability, and general liability and workers' compensation insurances as required by the City of Baltimore.

Legal Notice

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Please be advised that for the purpose of reviewing price proposals and invoices, the City of Baltimore defines a principal of a firm as follows:

A principal is any individual owning 5% or more of the outstanding stock of an entity, a partner of a partnership, a 5% or more shareholder of a sub-chapter 'S' Corporation, or an individual owner.

Out-of-State Corporations must identify their corporate resident agent within the application.

Firms will not be considered for a specific project if they apply as both a sub-consultant and prime consultant.

Failure to follow directions of this advertisement or the application may cause disqualification of the submittal.

Deena Joyce, AEAC Executive Secretary
Chief Office of Boards and Commissions

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CITY OF BALTIMORE OFFICE OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS PUBLIC NOTICE

PROJECT # 1381 – PROGRAM MAN- AGEMENT SERVICES FOR THE CITY'S MS4 (STORMWATER PER- MIT) PROGRAM AND DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

The City of Baltimore Office of Boards and Commissions has been requested by the Department of Public Works, Office of Engineering & Construction, to advertise for engineering firms to provide Program Management Services for the City's Drainage Improvement Program and the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Permit Program. The City needs these program management services to provide a broader, more integrated approach to the City stormwater infrastructure management and to meet or exceed the City's annual goals for the MS4 permit. The program will address various planning, design, construction, scheduling, and the associated maintenance activities required to meet these goals and improve surface water quality. The City intends to select the services of one (1) firm only.

The firms interested in providing these services must demonstrate and document:

1. Experience in providing Program Management services for the development and implementation of watershed implementation plans, Environmental Restoration projects, preferably relating to stream restoration, Best Management Practices (BMP), scope development, design review, utility coordination, agencies coordination, quality control, estimating, specifications development, permitting and preparation of construction documents.
2. Experience in providing Program Management services for the development and implementation of Drainage Improvement Projects.
3. Experience in responding to storm water system and open channel emergencies by rapidly assessing situations and recommending corrective measures.
4. Experience and expertise in economizing the cost of providing Program Management services without sacrificing the design quality and construction schedules.
5. Experience and expertise in overall

Legal Notice

Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) planning, prioritizing, and minimizing project costs.

6. Experience in a document control system for all documents including design submittal, review comments, schedules monitoring or design progress, Request for Information, as-built drawings, updating Geographical Information System, etc.

7. Demonstrate strong QA/QC skills in areas such as risk assessment on projects, cost control, value engineering on the deliverables, seamless design deliverables integration with electronic plat and as-built documentation system, etc.

8. Project construction supervision of MS4 BMP and storm drain improvement projects.

9. Experience in program management of Municipal Chesapeake Bay TMDL plan implementation through staff augmentation.

10. Experience in research technical writing and interagency communication on MS4 topics and storm drain projects.

11. Experience in invasive vegetation management regulation and specifications.

12. Experience in facilitating inter-agency MS4 program collaboration and streamlining and an agency capacity buildup of MS4 projects and storm drain improvements.

13. Experience in the coordination of a multi-disciplined team including Minority and Women Business Enterprises and demonstrated manpower availability to complete the project based on a quantitative schedule.

The scope of services will include but not be limited to:

1. Program Management Services including prioritizing, scheduling, monitoring, managing, and reviewing all projects designed and proposed.
2. Coordinate project implementation with the City departments, utilities, and other agencies to minimize city-wide disruptions and reduce construction costs.
3. Streamline design approach including design standardization and Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) creation to increase design efficiency and reduce overall costs.
4. Provide field assessments of a stream segment, an existing BMP, or a storm drain system on an as-needed basis. Provide alternate solutions and biddable documents on an as-needed basis.
5. Assist the City in providing information to the City Agencies, citizens, or any other interested entities relating to the City's MS4 permit program and individual projects/contracts.

Project 1381 cont'd on page 19

Legal Notice

6. Provide on-site support staff on an as-needed basis.
7. Support hydraulic modeling on an as-needed basis.
8. Develop and maintain key performance indicators to reflect the City's progress toward its MS4 permit and Total Maximum Daily Load goals.
9. Supervise and manage the design consultants and construction contractors.
10. Develop RFPs to solicit future design, construction management, and other project-related consultants.
11. Entering projects and contracts in Envista software (web-based utility coordination software), or any other software systems and updating them same periodically, resolving conflicts, etc.
12. Provide appropriate training and support for staff development.
13. Review and approve all submittals submitted by design consultants.
14. Manage available resources to the MS4 program
15. Develop a Recovery Action Plan for projects behind schedule.
16. Perform BMP and Stormdrain assessment as needed.
17. Obtain all permits and/or approval necessary for repair and construction of BMP including but not limited to joint MDE/USACE permit, Building permit, Erosion and Sediment control approval, Stormwater Management approval, Maryland Historical Trust approval, Critical Area approval.
18. Provide assistance to obtain access agreement rights of entry (ROEs) for construction and/or repair with property owners.
19. Manage various project delivery methods such as Design-build, Design-Bid-Build Emergency.
20. Develop a comprehensive project management plan incorporating all the required activities mentioned above.
21. Develop post award and inspection request for proposals, as built standards and drawings,
22. Review and justify bid tabulation for contracts, develop task orders for BMP repair and develop engineering drawing standards.

The services would be for a period of five years for a fee not to exceed \$ 2,000,000.00

Should you have any questions regarding the scope of the Project, please contact **Mr. Cherod Hicks** at (410) 396-3440 or by

Legal Notice

e-mail at
Cherod.Hicks@baltimorecity.gov.

Prequalification Requirement

All firms listed in the specific proposal for the Project **must** be prequalified by the Office of Boards and Commissions for each applicable discipline *at time of submittal* for this Project. *A copy of the prime and sub consultant's current Prequalification Certificate should be included in the bid submittal package.* Information regarding the prequalification process can be obtained by calling the Office of Boards and Commissions on 410.396.6883.

Submittal Process

Each consultant responding to this Request for Proposal (RFP) Project # 1381 is required to complete and submit an *original* Federal Form 255 unless otherwise specified in this RFP, along with **five (5)** copies, to the Office of Boards and Commissions on or prior to March 17, 2023 by NOON. Submittals *will not* be accepted after this deadline.

The Federal Form 255 *cannot* be supplemented with additional pages any additional information such as graphs, photographs, organization chart, etc. All such information should be incorporated into the appropriate pages. Applications should not be bound; should simply be stapled in the upper left-hand corner. Cover sheets should not be included. Inclusion and/or submittal of additional material may result in the applicant being disqualified from consideration for this project.

Firms interested in submitting a proposal for this Project, shall address a "Letter of Interest" to the Office of Boards and Commissions, 4 South Frederick Street, 4th Floor, Baltimore, Maryland, 21202 or you may email: OBC.consultants@baltimorecity.gov:

Letters of Interest will be utilized to assist small minority and women business enterprises in identifying potential teaming partners and should be submitted within five (5) days of the date of the project's advertisement. The Letter of Interest must provide the name and number of your firms contact person. Failure to submit a "Letter of Interest" will not disqualify a firm submitting a proposal for the project.

Only individual firms (including, for example, individuals, sole proprietorships, corporations, limited liability companies, limited liability partnerships, and general

Legal Notice

partnerships) or formal Joint Venture (JV) may apply. Two firms may not apply jointly unless they have formed a joint venture.

MBE/WBE Requirements

It is the policy of the City of Baltimore to promote equal business opportunity in the City's contracting process. Pursuant to Article 5, Subtitle 28 of Baltimore City Code (2000 Edition) – Minority and Women's Business Program, Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) and Women's Business Enterprise (WBE) participation goals apply to this contract.

The MBE goal is **30%**

The WBE goal is **15%**

Both the proposed Minority and Women's Business Enterprise firms must be named and identified as an MBE or WBE within Item 6 of the Standard Form (SF) 255 in the spaces provided for identifying outside key consultants/associates anticipated for utilization for this project.

Any submittals that do not include the proper MBE/WBE (in some instances DBE) participation will be disapproved for further consideration for this project.

Verifying Certification

The firm submitting a SF 255 for consideration for a project is responsible for verifying that all MBEs and WBEs to be utilized on the project are certified by the Minority and Women's Business Opportunity Office (MWBOO) prior to submitting the proposal. A directory of certified MBEs and WBEs is available from MWBOO. Since changes to the directory occur daily, firms submitting SF 255s should call MWBOO at (410) 396-4355 to verify certification, expiration dates and services that the MBE or WBE is certified to provide.

Non-Affiliation

A firm submitting a proposal may not use an MBE or WBE to meet a contract goal if:

1. The firm has a financial interest in the MBE or WBE
2. The firm has an interest in the ownership or control of the MBE or WBE
3. The firm is significantly involved in the operation of the MBE or WBE (Article 5, Subtitle 28-41).

Insurance Requirements

The consultant selected for the award of this project shall provide professional liability, auto liability, and general liability and workers' compensation insurances as required by the City of Baltimore.

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Local Law Hiring

Article 5, Subtitle 27 of the Baltimore City Code, as amended (the "Local Hiring Law") and its rules and regulations apply to contracts and agreements executed by the City on or after the Local Hiring Law's effective date of December 23, 2013 which is applicable to all vendors. The Local Hiring Law applies to every contract for more than \$300,000 made by the City, or on its behalf, with any person. It also applies to every agreement authorizing assistance valued at more than \$5,000,000 to a City-subsidized project. Please visit www.oedworks.com for details on the requirements of the law.

Additional Information

A firm submitting as a prime consultant that fails to comply with the requirements of Article 5, Subtitle 28 of Baltimore City Code when executing a contract is subject to the following penalties: suspension of a contract; withholding of funds; rescission of contract based on material breach; disqualification as a consultant from eligibility to provide services to the City for a period not to exceed 2 years; and payment for damages incurred by the City.

A resume for each person listed as key personnel and/or specialist, including those from MBE and WBE firms, must be shown on the page provided within the application. Please be advised that for the purpose of reviewing price proposals and invoices, the City of Baltimore defines a principal of a firm as follows:

A principal is any individual owning 5% or more of the outstanding stock of an entity, a partner of a partnership, a 5% or more shareholder of a sub-chapter 'S' Corporation, or an individual owner.

Out-of-State Corporations must identify their corporate resident agent within the application.

Firms will not be considered for a specific project if they apply as both a sub-consultant and prime consultant.

Failure to follow directions of this advertisement or the application may cause disqualification of the submittal.

Deena Joyce, AEAC Executive Secretary
Chief Office of Boards and Commissions

To place Legal Notices,

call:

410-366-3900

email: legals@btimes.com

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