

Smithsonian American Art Museum (SAAM) celebrates expansion of African American artists with Community Outreach Events during Congressional Black Caucus Week in Washington, DC

Smithsonian American Art Museum's (SAAM's) Community Outreach Team invites the country-at-large to visit SAAM (Smithsonian American Art Museum) to celebrate its re-opening of galleries and expansion of African American artists during Congressional Black Caucus Week, in Washington, DC.

Valerie Cooper, SAAM's Community Outreach Consultant is excited about all of the SAAM events planned for the week and states: "I'm especially looking forward to welcoming HBCU students and faculty to SAAM's Museum Careers Open House on Friday, Sep. 22 from 10am to noon, to learn about career and employment opportunities @ SAAM. I'm equally excited to host, that same evening, a CBC Networking Reception, featuring guided Tours of our newly opened Alma Thomas and Carrier Mae Weems exhibitions, from 6pm - 8pm. What a historical moment in time for the community to celebrate both openings during CBC Week!!" While most events are free, those interested in purchasing a SAAM Director's Circle membership, can enjoy having dinner with Artist Carrie Mae Weems on Wednesday evening, Sep. 20, and networking with SAAM Commissioner Deb Willis on Thursday evening, Sep. 21. To register for our five Community Outreach events, click the links associated to each event in the attached PDF. For additional information, contact Valerie A. Cooper via email: CooperVA@si.edu or via phone: (203) 253-0294.

About SAAM: The Smithsonian American Art Museum, the nation's first collection of American art, is an unparalleled record of the American experience. The collection captures the aspirations, character, and imagination of the American people throughout three centuries. The museum is the home to one of the largest and most inclusive collections of American art in the world, including being home to one of the most significant collections of works by African American artists in the world. The African American artists included in SAAM's collection powerfully evoke themes both universal and specific to the African American experience. Many reflect the tremendous social and political change that occurred from the early Republic to the Civil War, through the rise of Industry, the Jazz Age and the Harlem Renaissance, the post-war years, the Civil Rights movement to present day questions of personal identity and racism. SAAM shares the same building as the National Portrait Gallery, located on 8th and G Streets, NW; with daily hours 11:30am - 7pm.

About Picture That: Picture That Consultants, established in 2002 by Valerie A. Cooper, is a certified Woman / Minority Business Enterprise (W/MBE) with regional offices in Stamford, CT Washington D.C and Atlanta, GA. In addition to sourcing framed artwork for facilities, our suite of services include: art consulting, art appraisal, collection management, and art risk management and insurance services. Our firm has expertise curating culturally inclusive art exhibitions with a focus on Community Outreach and Engagement for diverse audiences. Institutional clients we serve include museums, corporations, healthcare organizations and academic institutions nationwide. www.picturethatconsultants.com

For media inquiries, contact Picture That Media Contact, Vee Harrison, at (331) 258-4962 or veeharrison@gmail.com.

#