



Happy New Year!

A Note from Linda Johnson, Executive Director

I hope everyone is using the recent holidays to relax, stay safe and spend quality time with family. We would love for you to become a part of our museum family. We have added a new membership level: Eternal Flame Keepers. This is a \$10 monthly recurring donation. The members at this level help to keep the flame lit, that we may never forget the legacy of Miss Laney through a \$10 monthly recurring donation. Our goal is to have 400 people to commit to donating \$10 each month. In order to reach this goal, we need YOU! Eternal Flame Keeper members will receive a beautiful flame keepers lapel pin, two (2) free admission tickets for museum tours, invitations to exhibition previews, subscription to the Museum's Quarterly Newsletter and recognition in our Annual Friends of the Museum Directory. To become a member, please go to: Friends of the Museum Annual Membership at <https://www.classy.org/campaign/friends-of-the-museum-annual-membership/c308760> or scan the QR Code below. As we enter a new and exciting year, the Board of Directors and staff of the Lucy Craft Laney Museum of Black History would like to wish you a Happy New Year and we hope your holidays were filled with love and joy!

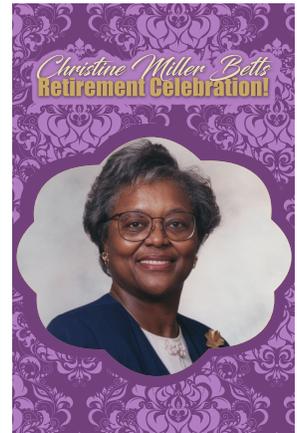


Best regards,
 Linda F. Johnson, Executive Director

Celebrating Christine Miller-Betts and her Retirement

On January 17th hundreds of people joined together virtually to celebrate the extraordinary achievements of Christine Miller Betts during her 26 years as Executive Director of one of the South's top Black History Museums.

The Lucy Craft Laney Museum of Black History and Conference Center presented Christine Miller Betts Virtual Retirement Celebration on the Laney Museum's YouTube Channel and Facebook pages. Actor and Producer Jerome Preseton Bates was the special guest Emcee and musical tributes included performances by world renown artists like Damien Sneed. Special guests included Zena Howard, award-winning architect, known for her work on the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of African American History and Culture; the amazing Pat Knox, a local benefactor; Dr. Lee Ann Caldwell with Augusta University; Elizabeth Jones, President Top Ladies of Distinction; and many more. The celebration can be viewed on the following links:



<https://www.facebook.com/LaneyMuseum>
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCyEuDunN-NdIY73p-BRBbBQ>

Self-Guided Museum Tours!

The Lucy Craft Laney Museum received a grant from Creel-Harison Foundation to establish an audio tour, that is currently in production. This new tool will allow visitors to tour the museum at their own pace while still learning the fascinating details about the collections.

Museum's COVID-19 safety guidelines include:

- Limited entry of visitors per tour is four (4).
- Temperature checks, Masks and Physical Distancing
- Tours by appointment only. Call to schedule your tour in advance at 706-724-3576.
- Hand sanitizing stations are available in the museum and administration office.
- Conference Room Rental and Monthly Senior Luncheon have been canceled until further notice.



Thank You to Our Volunteers!

Eagle Scouts Project

Christopher Williams, Boy Scout, selected the Lucy Craft Laney Museum for his Eagle Scout Project. The scope of the project was to pay tribute to Ms. Lucy Craft Laney by restoring the beautiful garden bridge that had decayed due to time and the elements, to clean, weed and replant shrubs and flowers in all garden areas. The scouts dedicated their weekends to complete this project, with the help of their leaders. Their aim was to give something back to the community that would stand the test of time for future generations of visitors to enjoy. Over the past 4 years, Scout Master Leaders, Mrs. Christa Fulkerson and Cub Scout Leader, Mr. Lenton Oatman, have committed countless hours with these young men to ensure they reach the ultimate goal of achieving their Eagle Scout Patch. Throughout their journey in scouting, they have gained knowledge, skills and abilities that will help them to be successful in whatever career path they choose.

Scouts:	Helpers/Parents:	Scout Master Leader: Christa Fulkerson
Marcus Bishop	Bryson Barnard	Cub Scout Leader: Lenton Oatman
Lazorian Kenrick	Sharon Williams	Sr. Patrol Leader: Christopher Williams
Jacquevian Bunch	Ralph Kenrick	Asst. Patrol Leader: Micah Jones



Evans Students Clean Up Laney-Walker Neighborhood

During the summer of 2020 Lauren Burroughs from Evans High School reached out to the Laney Museum to see if we wanted to partner with them to allow some of their seniors to complete their senior project with us. During the fall of 2020 and winter of 2021 Jhendayi Bryant, Olivia Huff, Aaron Quashie, Skylar Taylor and J'Quan Bush performed a series of volunteer tasks to include cleaning the interior of the Laney Museum as well as cleaning up the Laney-Walker neighborhood from Phillips Street all the way to 10th Street. In addition to clean-up duties, the students, and sometime even the parents took part in history sessions where they learned the history of the Laney Museum and the Laney-Walker neighborhood.

UPCOMING EXHIBITION

February 1-March 27, 2021

Tribute to Women of Excellence in the Greater River Region

This special exhibition during women's history month features artwork, photographs and historic documents that celebrate the lives and contributions of The Greater River Region's women.

April 1-May 22, 2021

Annual Black Golf Exhibit - A tribute to the 50th Anniversary of the Lucy Craft Laney Comprehensive High School's First Golf Team.

April 1-May 22, 2021

"Happy Birthday Ms. Laney!" - An exhibit celebrating the visionary educator and civil rights activist called "The Mother of the Children of the People." A special exhibit in the Museum as well as special guest speakers will discuss the life and legacy of one of the great American educators.

Catch the Quilt Exhibit Before it's Gone

"Quilting the HBCU Experience"

Now - January 24, 2021

The exhibit will feature quilts that represent many of the historically black colleges around the country as well as quilts inspired by the African-American Greek-letter organizations.

**Call to schedule a tour:
 706-724-3576.**