



Delta House, Inc.
The Lucy Craft Laney
 MUSEUM OF BLACK HISTORY

WINTER 2024

MUSEUM NEWS

Happy Holidays!

It has been a great year at the Lucy Craft Laney Museum of Black History and Conference Center. Our 169 in 169 fundraiser officially ended on November 15th, but it has not stopped the community from continuing to support the museum. So if you missed the deadline and you still want to give, we welcome your support! Like many in the River Region, the Laney Museum was not immune to the devastation of Hurricane Helene. We did receive some damage to the museum, however it has not stopped us for continuing to serve the community as we remain open for tours and special events. On behalf of the Board of Directors, staff and volunteers, I would like to wish everyone a joyous Thanksgiving with family and friends and happy holidays. If you thought the Laney Museum had it going on in 2024, then be prepared to be blown away in 2025. The best is yet to come!



2024 - A Prolific Year!

As the year 2024 ends, The Lucy Craft Laney Museum of Black History is proud to share that the museum has served the Augusta Community throughout the year with over 70 programs, exhibits, and community outreach events, in addition to the museum's tours. As a cultural center, the museum strives to honor the legacy of Miss Lucy Craft Laney through innovative, informative and inspiring programming, which in turn contributes to the vibrancy of the community.

Revival of the Laney Museum's August Wilson Theatrical Reading Series

The Fall quarter was packed with a host of programs, including a relaunch of the August Wilson theatrical reading series which debuted at the museum during the tenure of former executive director Christine Miller Betts. From 2004 to 2006 Jerome Preston Bates, Augusta native, Broadway, Hollywood and TV actor, directed 9 of 10 plays from the August Wilson Century Cycle Series. For 2024, Bates collaborated with the museum to direct and act in two of those plays, "Seven Guitars" and "King Hedley II". Both plays were well received by the community and the museum was delighted to showcase some of Augusta's talent, including Russell Joel Brown, Chris Lowe, Tarika Holland and Shantelle Wheeler.





MUSEUM NEWS

Frank Yerby Week

The museum celebrated the literary contributions of prolific writer Frank Yerby with a three day, four-event celebration that included the unveiling of the Frank Yerby author's bench, located in the museum's garden; a screening of his book "The Foxes of Harrow", the first book by an African American to be adapted into a Hollywood screenplay; a discussion of his book, "A Woman Called Fancy"; and an honorary street naming, Hall Street to Frank Yerby Street.



Recent Art Exhibits:

In its annual "Emerging Artists" exhibit, the museum displayed the artworks of 11 artists from the River Region, including students from T.W Josey high school.

Currently on exhibit through November is "Breaking Barriers: Women Who Impacted the Arts". Painting in styles reflective of each of the 15 featured artists, Augusta's Rhian Swain pays tribute to these influential women by ingeniously incorporating each woman's images into the paintings. She will be giving an Artist Talk on Sunday November 24th from 3pm - 4pm. Posters and coffee mugs with images from her paintings will be available for purchase.



First Tuesdays Journaling Club

In September, the museum launched its First Tuesday's Journaling Club, led by award-winning writer Cheryl Corbin (Olivia Gaines). Journaling topics to date have been "gratefulness" and "mindfulness". December and January themes are "reflective journaling" and "goal journaling", respectively. Corbin says "Mindful journaling can be a powerful tool for self-discovery and personal growth. This practice can help increase self-awareness, reduce stress, and improve emotional well-being." Register for the December and January journaling sessions by visiting <https://tinyurl.com/LaneyJournalClub>. First Tuesday of each month. \$10 per session. 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.



Arts and Entertainment in the Era of the Golden Blocks Ribbon Cutting

Artist Theron Cartwright is near completion of the Arts and Entertainment in the Era of the Golden Blocks mural at 12th Street and Laney-Walker Boulevard. The anticipated date for the unveiling is in early 2025. Look for upcoming announcements regarding date and time.



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1116 Phillips Street Augusta, Georgia 30901
 706-724-3576 www.lucycraftlaneymuseum.com

MUSEUM NEWS



Augusta's Black History Calendar

Look for the December release of the Laney Museum's first Augusta's Black History Calendar.

The 2025 monthly calendar will profile some of Augusta's most accomplished African Americans. Contact the museum to find out more and reserve your calendar.

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Augusta's own, Dr. Ebony Brown, CEO and Founder of Brown Girls Code.



Dr. Brown was recognized as a "Stem Trailblazer" in Ebony Magazine's 2024 Power 100.

Visit the Ebony Magazine website at: <https://tinyurl.com/DrEbonyBrownAugusta>

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

November 2024

November 24 at 3pm: Artist Talk with Rhian Swain on art exhibit, "Breaking Barriers: Women Who Impacted the Arts"

December 2024

December Exhibit: Local Quilters

December 1: last time in 2024 to see "Men on the Bag"

December 7 at 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.: *Brunch with Santa

December 11 at 11:30 am: *Community Luncheon with the Augusta Chorale & Rev. Charles Goodman, Tabernacle Baptist Church

January 2025

January Exhibit: Dr. John Hayes Photography

January 20: Martin Luther King Day, Museum open for Tours

2025 TBA: Ribbon Cutting: Arts and Entertainment in the Era of the Golden Blocks

*Reservation required, contact the museum at 706-724-3576

Visit us on Facebook for the latest news and special announcements!

COMMUNITY LUNCHEON SERIES

December 11, 2024

11:30am to 1:00pm

Dr. Charles E. Goodman, Jr.

Special Guests:
The Augusta Chorale of Georgia

Cost is \$15
 Deadline to RSVP and pay is Mon. Dec. 9th.



EVENT IS FREE TO THE PUBLIC

Brunch with Santa

Arts & Crafts with Delta Academy and Top Teens of America, Augusta Chapter

Dec. 7, 2024

10:00am – 12:00pm

Brunch will be served
 Holiday treat bags for kids and raffles for everyone!



**Limited Seating and Filling Fast! To RSVP please call 706-724-3576
 Deadline: November 29th**



MUSEUM NEWS



Dr. Ruth B. Crawford

In Memoriam: Dr. Ruth B. Crawford

The Lucy Craft Laney Museum of Black History celebrates the life of Dr. Ruth B. Crawford who passed away in October. Dr. Crawford had many accomplishments to her name, including turning 109 years old this past May. Dr. Crawford, a Paine College alumnus, was well-loved and well-known for her contributions to the Augusta community, which include her leadership of the Shiloh Community Center for 30 years and as an educator where she touched the lives of countless youth for 38 years. Dr. Crawford is featured on the art mural "Women of Empowerment", located in the historic Laney-Walker neighborhood at 1119 James Brown Boulevard.

In Memoriam: Mrs. Caffee Wright

The Lucy Craft Laney Museum remembers Mrs. Caffee Wright who volunteered as a horticulturist for the museum for two years and was a horticulturist at the Augusta National Golf Course. Mrs. Wright enjoyed taking care of the variety of plants and flowers in the museum's garden and took great pride in preparing the garden for the installation of the recently installed Frank Yerby Authors Bench.



Mrs. Caffee Wright

In Memoriam: Mr. Jimmy Dukes, Jr.

The Lucy Craft Laney Museum of Black History is grateful for the service of Mr. Jimmy Dukes, who passed away in September. Mr. Dukes was the owner of Metro Termite and Pest Control and served as the museum's exterminator for several years. He was an educator and administrator in the Richmond County School system, and a graduate of Paine College, where as a student, he was actively involved in the 1960s civil rights movement.



Holiday Closing Schedule

Thanksgiving Eve (11/27/24) - Open half day
Thanksgiving Day and Day After (11/28-29/24) - Closed
Christmas Eve (12/24/24) - Open half day
Christmas Day and Day After (12/25-26/2024) - Closed
Year's Eve (12/31/2024) - Open half day
New Year Day and Day After - (01/01/2025 - 01/02/2025) - Closed

Quiz Bowl

Registration is now open for the 2025 Lucy Craft Laney Museum Quiz Bowl.

March 22, 2025, 10am to Noon

Augusta Public Library, 823 Telfair St.

Registration fee is \$15

For more information and to register please call 706-724-3576.