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**“Freedom Ain’t Free” Western Heritage Exhibition
November 3 – December 30, 2017**

Bryan, TX, November 1 - The Brazos Valley African American Museum is proud to present an original Burl Washington exhibition, “**Freedom Ain’t Free.**” The public is invited to the free opening reception, **Friday, November 3, 5:30pm to 7:00pm**, featuring music, light refreshments, and gallery viewing. The collection features original award winning watercolors and limited edition prints that reflect the diversity of African American people and Western heritage. Visitors will come away with a rich understanding of the cultural roots and impact of sacrifices made for freedom.

Burl Washington is a watercolorist who enjoys painting history and nostalgic America. Born in Somerville, Texas, he now lives in Fort Worth, Texas. Washington received his AA from Texas State Technical College in Waco, Texas and his BA at University of Texas at Arlington where he majored in Art and Advertising. His early art influences were from his parents, aunts and teachers and his love of Norman Rockwell. The detail and



authenticity in his work captures emotion and excitement. Washington has been featured on many television programs and the History Channel. He has received numerous national and international awards. His work can be found in the National Buffalo Soldier Museum and West Point Military Academy. Washington is a 2012-2013 Inductee to the National Multicultural Western Heritage Museum.

ABOUT THE BRAZOS VALLEY AFRICAN AMERICAN MUSEUM

The Brazos Valley African American Museum was built on the site of one of the original Black Schools in the Brazos Valley. It was the brainchild of retired educator, Mrs. Mell Pruitt, and became officially recognized in 1999. The Brazos Valley African American Museum is the first establishment of its kind to promote the history of African American citizens in the Brazos Valley. The mission of the museum is to explore, develop, preserve, and present the cultural history and heritage of African Americans.

Admission Hours: Tuesday through Friday from 1PM to 5PM. Saturday from 10AM to 4PM.

Admission Fees: Adults \$5; Senior Citizens \$4; Students \$2; Children 5 and under are Free; Groups of 8 or more \$3

For more information about the Brazos Valley African American Museum please visit www.bvaam.org

This news release is also available online at www.bvaam.org.

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