



500 E. Pruitt Street, Bryan, TX 77803
979.775.3961
banquet@bvaam.org
www.bvaam.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Press Release: Appreciation Banquet
Contact: Crystal Carter & Dr. LaVerne Hawkins, Banquet Co-chairs
Commissioner Irma Cauley, Interim AANHS Board Chair

November 7, 2019

19th Annual Appreciation Banquet Kick-off and Honoree Meet & Greet

The Annual Appreciation Banquet is the museum's major fundraising event whose budget is dependent on the event's success. The banquet also recognizes outstanding community citizens whose commitment, financial generosity, and service have benefited the museum, the community, and the nation. The banquet enables the museum to offer multifaceted programs for the community, bring in new exhibits and presenters, provide staff development, and conduct school outreach and activities. In 2018, the museum served over 4,000 visitors, provided 80 educational tours to over 2000 children and adults, awarded \$7,000 in scholarships, and held over 20 events and exhibits.

This year we are pleased to celebrate the contributions of fifteen individuals. The 2020 honorees include the following: Shirley Arline-Carter, Sheree Boegner, Reverend Ronnie Bullard, Barry Davis, Yuri Kim, Raquel Masco, Wanda Mason, Samuel Pittman II, Jim Ross, Captains Paul & Analese Ryerson, Al Saenz, Justin Smith, Dr. Ruby Stevens-Morgan, Donald Thompson, and Lynn Yeager.

The banquet will be held on Saturday, February 29, 2020, 5:00 PM at Hilton College Station Hotel & Conference Center where dinner, auction and entertainment will be provided. Tickets may be purchased for \$60 each. Tables for 10 may be reserved for \$600. Payments may be made online or at the museum.

We invite you to attend this event and hope that you will consider being a sponsor for our banquet as a way of demonstrating your support for cultural appreciation within our community and for celebrating the accomplishments of multiple leaders. In 2019, our event sold out with over 700 in attendance. The museum website received over 1 million hits and has over 1,300 social media followers. The Brazos Valley African American Museum is a nonprofit 501-C3 tax-exempt organization and your contribution is tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

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 10 AM 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

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