

African American Heritage & Culture C E N T E R

PRESS RELEASE

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African American Heritage & Culture Center Elects 2021 Officers and New Directors

(New Bern, NC January 31, 2021) During its January 21st meeting of the Board of Directors, the AAHC leadership re-elected Directors to a second term, elected two new Directors to the Board, and elected its 2021 Officers.

Serving as 2021 Officers are individuals known in the region and our community: President – Carol Bonner Becton, Vice-President – Rick Fisher, Secretary – Dre’ Nix and Treasurer – Jim Copland.

AAHC Board of Directors welcomes two individuals who offer their leadership and share their commitment to AAHC: Director Talina Lynn Massey and Director Joy Harsen

Re-elected to the Board of Directors for a second three-year term are Carol Bonner Becton, James Copland IV, and Tahira Coble Copland who join Rick Fisher and Mike Williams who are in their first term on the Board.

2020 was a challenging year for our young organization. Just as AAHC established its monthly **COMMUNITY FORUMS**, engaged artists, writers, musicians and offered presentations to the community, our world changed. And, AAHC changed with it. We shifted our attention inward, from program and event planning, to our own structure and strategic discussions of how we will deliver our mission.

In the fall, the Board of Directors formally welcomed individuals as members of the AAHC Board of Advisors. They are Jacqueline Atkinson, Sabrina Bengel, Mark Best, Valerie Taylor-Best, Maria Cho, D’Aja Fulmore, Lynne Harakel, Jameesha Harris, Edward Hood, Gerry King, Nelson McDaniel, Mickey Miller, George Oliver, Larry Rosenstrauch, Jaki Shelton Green, Reverence Garry Slade, Timothy

Thompson and Ben Watford.

Following strategic review and planning, AAHC leadership confirms their commitment to the AAHC mission “to actively present the historic impact and progression of African American heritage and culture in our region”.

AAHC has launched its new website: www.AfricanAmericanHeritageandCulture.org. The community is welcome to visit the site, join us as partners in presentations and programs. Contact AAHC at info@AfricanAmericanHeritageandCulture.org. In 2021 AAHC is actively engaged with community partners in anticipation of the wide-spread celebration of **JUNETEENTH**, June 19, 2021. JUNETEENTH is the annual national celebration of Emancipation.

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The African American Heritage & Culture Center is a 501C3 North Carolina nonprofit organization based in New Bern and serving communities throughout the region. All correspondence and donations may be mailed to Post Office Box 1354, New Bern, NC 28563-1354.

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