



CAAPA

COALITION FOR AFRICAN AMERICANS IN THE PERFORMING ARTS  
"Bringing Color to the Classics!"

# CRESCENDO NEWSLETTER

Coalition for African Americans in the Performing Arts Quarterly Newsletter

FALL 2021

## CAAPA hosts Melody of Art to kick off the Fall 2021 Season



Patrick McCoy and Terri Allen hosted "Melody of Art" to kickoff the new Fall 2021 Season with a Virtual Celebration featuring the smooth sounds of the CAAPA Jazz Ensemble with Ronald Walton on piano and aspiring opera soprano Ayanna Freelon,



along with youth flutist Laila Sermon, during one of the most important virtual conventions in the nation, the Congressional Black Caucus.

This year's special awardees (please see CAAPA Honorees) are being recognized for making a significant difference in the virtual community during the height of the pandemic.



Gifts to the Coalition for African Americans in the Performing Arts (CAAPA) benefits Black musicians, opera singers, youth and others in the performing arts and are tax-deductible to the full extent of the law. CAAPA is a nonprofit,



501(c)(3) organization (FEIN 26-0093440).

"The CAAPA programs and concerts are fabulous."

~~~ Courtney Pringle  
CAAPA Patron

...CAAPA

provides funding to artists during this difficult time.

**The CAAPA Cause.**  
Community Outreach  
Arts Education  
Audience Development  
Performance Opportunities  
Arts Partnerships

CAAPA is supported in part by



**Arias at Sea**  
Blacks in Classical Music Cruise  
2023

Spectacular ALL WEEK!

March 12th to March 19th, 2023  
8 Days - 7 Nights

\$1199, pp. inside \$1299, pp. outside  
\$1499, pp. inside \$1599, pp. outside

Hosted by Reggie Van Lee

ARIIAS AT SEA: BLACKS IN CLASSICAL MUSIC CRUISE...BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!

Join the Coalition for African Americans in the Performing Arts (CAAPA) for the second "Arias at Sea: Blacks in Classical Music 2023", a fundraiser aboard the Blarney cruise ship the Legend, featuring Black Opera Singers performing recitals and concerts while on the "High C's". Help CAAPA in "Bringing Color to the Classics" while enjoying a cruise. Welcome Aboard Musical Soiree... Classical recitals and white tie recitals. Banquets, services the Bill Carter Singers, and in Freeport, enjoy a performance by the Allegro School of Music. Other cruise highlights include: Blacks in Classical Music Panel, Hands to Help Project, Formal night with group photo, a Fun-filled Broadway Karaoke Night, an Elegant All-White Evening with Group Photo, and more! Portion of the proceeds benefits CAAPA youth programs.

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES & DETAILS CONTACT: info@caapa.org 301-639-3444

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## Cruise March 2023

The deposit to hold your cabin on the 2nd **Arias at Sea: Blacks in Classical Music Cruise 2023**. Booking now with travel partner **TADA Travel**, you can phone in deposit or book online. Scheduled onboard singers include Angela M. Brown, J'nai Bridges, Issachah Savage, and Kenneth Overton. Costs include 4 recitals, a concert, a Welcome Soiree Cocktail Party, All White Finale Concert, as well as concerts with shuttle service at cruise ports.

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## CAAPA Opera Composer's Project August 2021

The CAAPA Opera Composer's event took place at National Harbor's Arts'ination venue after the World Premiere viewing of "Till the Wind Gets Right" with scenes from "Lyrics of Sunshine and Shadows" located on the Big Screen at the National Harbor's Plaza. The film by composer and librettist Stephen M. Allen was a first of its kind, an operatic documentary of sorts we like to call a docu-opera based on the lives and love of Paul Laurence Dunbar and Alice Ruth Moore.



The event was followed by a reception at Arts'ination, managed by PGAHC on Waterfront Street at the Harbor. Allen's work was featured in a showcase competition highlighting a series of three 20-minute opera segments, conceived and written by Black



opera composers including Scott Patterson (Afro Punk Ballet), team Jasmine Barnes and Joshua Banbury (The Illustrator), and Allen's (Lyrics of Sunshine and Shadows: An Opera Based on the Lives and Love of Paul Laurence Dunbar and Alice Ruth Moore). The results of the adjudicated showcase the fall prior to the pandemic was part of a two-year endeavor to help promote Black composers from the Maryland, Northern Virginia, and District of Columbia region, resulting in winning composer Allen being awarded \$20,000.00 to mount segments of his original opera.



The American composer uniquely explored and captured the life of Dunbar in an ongoing array of operatic works based his love of the poet called "The Dunbar Operas. His "walk with Dunbar" has been an extraordi-

narily rich one, and his works have been featured on stage, television and in concert. He represents CAAPA debuting brand new scenes, representing a significant move forward for the county in the journey with new, expanded iteration of opera by Black composers.



A growing trend and part of the nouveau renaissance of diversity, inclusion, and access, the project was conceived by District #8 based organization, CAAPA whose mission is "Bringing Color to the Classics!@ and considered by many to be among the go-to organizations of color for diversity in the classical music and opera world, hopes to bring the first Opera House to the county. The non-

profit also presents concerts, recitals, and events throughout the region in support youth and scholarship programs. It is also the hope, with additional funding, to eventually present Banbury, Barnes, and Patterson's operatic works in the county. CAAPA's longstanding relationship and support with PGAHC speaks to the commitment funding agencies now have in order to ensure exposure on a wider platform with a goal of featuring Black classical musicians, opera singers, as well as composers of color.

## CAAPA HONOREES

**Kenneth Overton**  
Honoree



**Karen Slack**  
Honoree



**Lawrence Brownlee**  
Honoree



**Sen. Melony Griffith**  
Honoree



**Nicole Heaston**  
Honoree



**Samyra Jenkins**  
Youth of the Year



**Denee Barr**  
Volunteer of the Year



## Virtual



**Needed: \*Virtual Interns \*Volunteers\*  
Office Workers\*  
Community Service Hours for Students!  
Call 301-839-1444.**

**CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS AND SEASONED PROFESSIONALS FOR THE 2020-2021 SEASON!!!**

Contact email [info@4caapa.org](mailto:info@4caapa.org)

### Positions Needed:

MARKETING MANAGER  
PROJECT MANAGERS  
PUBLICITY DIRECTOR  
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT  
PROJECT COORDINATOR

# Upcoming Event



## Opera...from a Sista's Point of View

Concert Featuring *Angela M. Brown*  
Soprano and other Special Guests!



**Saturday**  
**Jan. 22, 2022 4pm**

Center for the Performing Arts  
Prince George's Community College Grand Theatre  
301 Largo Road Largo, Maryland  
CDC regs on website • Limited seating • Masks & vaxs required

**TICKETS & SPONSORSHIPS**  
•VIP, GROUP, & SENIOR RATES AVAILABLE  
•Youth - Under 18 w/paying adult FREE  
•Email or call for details: [berlinia@4caapa.org](mailto:berlinia@4caapa.org)  
•General Info - Visit website OR call 301-233-0116  
Visit [www.4caapa.org](http://www.4caapa.org)



## CAAPA presents Opera...from a Sista's Point of View

Share the evening with Soprano, Angela M. Brown as she imparts "Opera...from a Sista's Point of View. You won't want to miss this event. The performance will commence Saturday, January 22, 2022 at 4pm at the:

Center for the Performing Arts at PGCC  
301 Largo Road  
Largo, MD 20774

For ticket information, VIP, and sponsorship opportunities visit [www.4caapa.org](http://www.4caapa.org) or call 301-233-0116

## MUSIC SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

Please email CAAPA at [info@4caapa.org](mailto:info@4caapa.org) for more information



## CAAPA CAMP Summer 2021

In the short time we had together at CAAPA C.A.M.P. this summer, we definitely cultivated artists, musicians and performers and made the best memories along the way. Each camper grew as artists as they prepared for their Grande Spectaculo! It was indeed going to be a spectacular show! Thankfully we kept everyone safe by ending a half day early to prevent possible COVID exposure. We may have missed seeing our final show, but we did not miss the C.A.M.P. experience and the opportunity to enjoy the process! Bravo Tutti!

## IN MEMORY



Soprano Carmen Balthrop has died at the age of 73. Born in Maryland, the soprano went on to win the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions and made her Met debut in 1977 as Pamina in Mozart's "Die Zauberflöte." Having recognized her at the annual CAAPA Gala, we are humbled beyond all recognition to have had the opportunity to honor her life and her legacy with the CAAPA Arts Legacy Award on June 22, 2016. Carmen was an amazing woman, whose strength and determination was an inspiration. She was a testament to the legacy of opera, classical music, and most especially to students, emerging, and aspiring musicians. Her fortitude and commitment to help artists in their careers was a blessing to everyone. Diva soprano Carmen Balthrop will always be remembered.

DONATE TODAY TO ANY OR ALL OF CAAPA'S PROGRAMS

Call today to make a donation 301-839-1444, visit [www.4caapa.org](http://www.4caapa.org), or send check to CAAPA, PO Box 44954 Fort Washington, MD 20744.



COALITION FOR AFRICAN AMERICANS IN THE PERFORMING ARTS (CAAPA)  
 "Bringing Color to the Classics!"  
**2021-2022 SEASON HIGHLIGHTS**

**CAAPA WELCOMES**  
**New 2021 Team Members**



NOTE: Subject to change. Follow Facebook and Twitter for updates.

- Sat. Sep 11 7pm Melody of Art 2021-2022 Virtual Season Kick Off
- Wed. Sep 15 - Wed Dec. 8 MasterClass Series every Wednesday w/MusicMasters
- Oct-Jun 2021-2022 Got That Swing: Harlem Renaissance Project w/PGPCS
- Sat. Oct 16 4pm Brava, Bravo, Bravissimo Concert, CCC, Ft. Washington, MD
- Sun. Oct. 24 3pm Simone Paulwell Concert, The Church of the Redeemer, DC
- Sat. Nov 6 11am OPEN CALL AUDITIONS FOR 2022-2023, CCC, Ft Washington, MD
- Sat. Nov 6 2pm NOVA NANBPWC Concert Competition, Virtual
- Sat. Nov 13 4pm Sacred Songs & Reggie Tuggle Book Signing, CCC, Ft. Wash, MD
- Sun. Nov 14 4pm The Souls of Black Folks Concert, All Souls Church, Washington, DC
- Sun. Nov. 21 5pm Jordan Johnson & Friends Recital, CCC, Ft. Washington, MD
- Tue. Dec 7 7pm UNPLUGGED! Youth Panels (Also on 3/2/22 and 6/1/2022)
- Sat. Dec 11 4pm Emerging Artist Recital, CCC, Ft. Washington, MD
- Sun. Dec 12 4pm Mozart's Sleigh Ride Holiday Concert, Montpelier Arts Center
- Sat. Jan 22 7pm Opera From a Sistah's Point of View, PG Community College, Largo
- Sat. Feb. 5 1pm Get Up! Music & Black Wellness Panel, Montpelier Arts Center, Laurel, MD
- Sun. Feb 6 4pm Go Go Meets Gershwin Concert, CCC, Ft. Washington, MD
- Sun. Feb 13 4pm Black Music in Time Concert, UMD IDEA. Clarice Center, College Pk
- Sat. Feb 19 4pm Get On Up: Music & Black Wellness Concert, CCC, Ft. Washington
- Sun. Feb 20 4pm Voices of the Past: Grant, Still & Price Concert, Montpelier Arts Center
- Thu. Feb 24 7pm Black History Month Concert, Annapolis-Eastport Library, MD
- Sat. Feb 26 4pm Karen Waylyn Piano Concert, Howard University, Washington, DC
- Sun. Mar 6 4pm Nine Negroes Concert, Morgan State University, Baltimore, MD
- Sun. Mar 13 4pm Color in the Classics Music Extravaganza, CCC, Ft. Washington, MD-TBD
- Sun. Mar 20 4pm Music, Women & Black Wellness Concert, CCC, Ft. Washington, MD
- Sat. Mar 26 7pm Londontowne Symphony Orchestra, Maryland Center, Annapolis, MD
- Fri. Apr 1 6pm Joplin for Justice Concert, TBD, Washington, DC
- Sat. Apr 9 1pm Get On Up: Music, Wellness & Poetry Concert, CCC, Ft. Washington, MD
- Sat. May 7 11am CAAPA Scholarship Program, CCC, Ft. Washington & Virtual
- Sun. May 8 4pm BEAT! African American & Korean American Concert, CCC, MD
- Thu. May 12 6pm The Tie That Binds Us: Jewish American & Black American Concert
- Sat. May 14 7pm CAAPathon Fundraiser, virtual hosted by Patrick D. McCoy
- Sat. May 25 7pm CAAPA Club with Billie Holiday, CCC, Ft. Washington\*
- Thu. Jun 16 6pm Juneteenth Concert, Classical Movements Secret Garden, VA
- Fri. Jun 17 6pm End-of-Season Arts Club of Washington Concert, Washington, DC
- Sun. Jun 19 4pm Ceylon Mitchell & Friends Flute Concert, CCC
- July-August 2021 CAAPA C.A.M.P. North & South - Landover & Ft Washington, MD

**CAAPA BOARD**



**Reggie Van Lee**  
Board Chair



**Beverley East**  
Board Member



**Jacquie Francis**  
Board Member



**Carolyn Stennett**  
Board Member

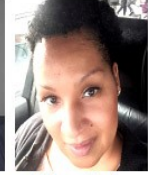
**CAAPA STAFF MEMBERS**



**Ayanna Freelon**  
Executive Assistant



**Jarrod Lee**  
Program Director



**Tiffany Earle**  
Dir. of Development



**Ronald Walton**  
Dir. Jazz Ensemble



**Everett Williams**  
Chorus Director



**Florence Champagne**  
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**Jim Williams**  
Project Manager



**Brittani McNeill**  
Project Manager



**Ky'Lend Adams**  
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**www.4caapa.org**

**301-839-1444**

CAAPA is a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) arts organization (FEIN 26-0093440).

"Bringing Color to the Classics!"

PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

CAAPA - Coalition for African Americans in the Performing Arts  
 Post Office Box 44954  
 Fort Washington, MD 20744

