



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number:18-5384

Agenda Item Number: 3.

Agenda Date: 9/18/2018

In Control: Arts, Culture and Heritage Committee

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: City Wide

SUBJECT:

Briefing by the San Antonio African American Community Archive and Museum, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

SUMMARY:

To collect, maintain, disseminate, and interpret a digital database of authentic community-based African American history; encourage and promote interdisciplinary education of shared history at all levels; practice stewardship of the broadest range of resources; and produce creative and innovative programs to heighten public awareness and self-esteem.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The untold history of San Antonio's African American descendants is rich and intricately tied to the stories of Spaniards, Mexicans, Germans and Canary Island populations who helped build this great city. The San Antonio African American Community Archive and Museum (SAAACAM) is working in a grassroots effort to uncover the legacy that reaches back to the early days of the Spanish colonists and Texas Republic. SAAACAM is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization formed to collect, maintain, disseminate, and interpret authentic African American artifacts related to San Antonio history in a community-based digital archive. The organization's goal is to reclaim San Antonio's Black history by empowering individuals to curate their own archives and cultivate a community-driven museum of digitized, audiovisual exhibits. Collective legacies of pioneering families will serve as the basis of an evolving collection. Information will be compiled and interpreted in the context of the entire City of San Antonio and throughout Bexar County. The development of the archive will be ongoing and SAAACAM will serve as a proactive steward of cultural and physical preservation of historic African American resources.

ISSUE:

ALTERNATIVES:

This item is for briefing purposes only.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This item is for briefing purposes only.

RECOMMENDATION:

This item is for briefing purposes only.