

PRESS RELEASE

Springfield and Central Illinois African American History Museum (AAHM)

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www.spiaahm.org

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The Board of Directors of the Springfield and Central Illinois African American History Museum (AAHM) is pleased to announce that Carolyn Farrar has been elected as the President of our Board. Other elected officers are Joan Joyner, Vice President and James Lewis, Treasurer.

Carolyn is married to Curtis Farrar and has two sons, Christopher Farrar of Little Rock, AK, and Corey Farrar of Tracy, CA. Carolyn is originally from Atlanta, GA, and was a member of the famous Ebenezer Baptist Church. She was baptized by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and married by his father, Rev. M.L. King, Sr.

Carolyn graduated from Middlebury College, in Vermont, with a BA in Anthropology/ Sociology, and the University of Illinois Champaign/Urbana earning an M.Ed. in elementary education. She taught in public schools in Charlottesville, Virginia, and Springfield before going to the Illinois State Board of Education later retiring as a manager of several federal programs. Most recently, she was an educational consultant for the HOPE Foundation, Bloomington, IN working in underperforming schools across the country.

Carolyn and her husband, Curtis, have been strong supporters of the African American History Museum since its establishment in 2012. Carolyn volunteered at the Museum before becoming a board member in 2018. She has served as the chair of the Program and Exhibit Committee as well as the Negro Leagues Baseball Exhibit Committee.

Carolyn is a member of Union Baptist Church, a past president of Springfield-Decatur Area Alumnae Chapter, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., and Lifetime Charter Member of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum. She enjoys golfing, writing children's story books, reading 'best sellers' and visiting ancient sites around the world.

Some of Carolyn's goals for the African American History Museum include developing a long-term strategic plan, increasing the number Museum members, volunteers, Board Members, and growing community interest and involvement through more hands on and digital exhibits. She would also like to expand youth involvement by offering more activities and events that would appeal to young people.

While the Museum is currently closed due to COVID-19, please visit our website, www.spiaahm.org for information on our virtual programming posted regularly and the announcement of the re-opening date. We look forward to your continued support of the African American History Museum as you join us in welcoming the new Board President, Carolyn Farrar.

