

Washington State. By the way, Washington is the only State to have six African American mayors, and all were Mayors of predominantly Caucasian cities. They are: William Cravens, Mayor of Roslyn, WA 1975-1980, who was Washington's first African American Mayor; James Chase, Mayor of Spokane, deceased; Joe Jackson, former mayor of Pasco; Henry Beauchamp, former mayor of Yakima; Mayor Harold Moss, Tacoma (now County Councilman); and Mayor Norm Rice, Seattle. All five living African American mayors and former mayors were in attendance at the opening on March 25, 1995. It was truly a historical occasion as this was the first time all of them were in the same room together.

In August 1995, "The Times of our Lives: The Lifestyles of African Americans in Washington State 1860 - 1960," opened in Silverdale at the Kitsap Mall. This exhibit contains many unique photographs and artifacts from this era, and includes the diaries and artifacts of Nathaniel Sargent, the first African American Justice of the Peace of Seabeck, WA (1897).

As you can see, the African American Museum Board has always had traveling exhibits, and they have been shown not only in the Tacoma area but also in Olympia, Bremerton, Seattle and other cities. They have been shown in schools, colleges, libraries, government buildings and Veterans Hospitals, etc.

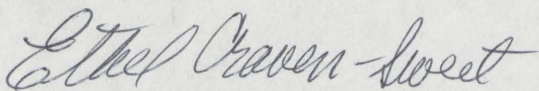
Actually, we have had what someone said was, "a museum without walls." But no more; the museum now has walls. That dream in 1994 is no longer a dream; it is a reality. The African American Museum was officially opened to the public on October 5, 1996. We are proud to say that it is the first, and only, African American Museum in the Pacific Northwest!

The Museum presently has the four exhibits stated above, plus an exhibit of African American Inventors, which includes George Washington Carver. We also have national traveling exhibits. One such exhibit, "Jackson Street After Hours," was just taken down, and a new traveling exhibit will take its place.

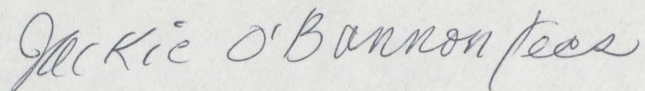
The African American Museum is located at 955 Market Street, Tacoma, Washington. It is open Tuesday thru Saturday, 9:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. Admission is \$3.25 per person. Tour, school and group rates are also available.

We invite all who can to drop by the Museum. Call (206) 274-1278 for further information. We look forward to seeing you soon.

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Ethel Craven-Sweet, PR



Jackie O'Bannon, Executive Director

African American Museum

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