



# Sankofa Collaborative

looking back • moving forward

**WITH GRATITUDE TO OUR FUNDERS**

**New Jersey Council for the Humanities**

**New Jersey Historical Commission**

**THANKS TO PRESENTERS AND SPEAKERS**

## **Elizabeth Allan**

Curator of Collections & Exhibitions at Morven Museum & Garden, **Elizabeth (Beth) Allan** majored in History and minored in Art History at the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, MA and received her Masters in History of Art, Theory & Display from the University of Edinburgh, Scotland. She has served as Morven's curator since 2010 during which time she has mounted 18 exhibitions and published 2 catalogues. The first of which, Portrait of Place: Views of New Jersey, 1761-1898, was awarded the Graphics Excellence Award in the art catalog category by the Great Lakes Graphic Association in 2013 and the New Jersey Studies Academic Alliance award in the reproduction of primary sources category. The second, Hail Specimen of Female Art: New Jersey Schoolgirl Needlework, 1726-1860, was awarded the Silver Medal in Mid-Atlantic, Best Regional Non-fiction by the Independent Publisher Book Awards in 2014. Her 2015 exhibition Charles and Anne Morrow Lindbergh: Couple of an Age has been awarded the Leadership in History Award from American Association for State and Local History (AASLH). Beth recently oversaw a complete reinstallation of Morven's first floor permanent history exhibition.

## **Sharon (Elaine) Buck**

**Sharon Elaine Buck**, who prefers to be called Elaine, is a founder the Stoutsburg Sourland African American Museum and a member on the Advisory Board. Elaine is also a thirty year Trustee of the Stoutsburg Cemetery Association which is a historic cemetery for people of African descent located in the Sourland Mountains in Hopewell, New Jersey. Along with her research partner, Beverly Mills, Elaine has co-authored a book entitled "If These Stones Could Talk" which is based on over a decade's worth of research on the contribution of African Americans who lived in the Sourland Mountain region and surrounding area. She is a co-founder of Friday Truehart Consultants which is a consulting company that works closely with K-12 educators from various school systems who are interested in including African American history in their lesson plans and curriculum.

For many years Elaine, along with fellow trustees of the Stoutsburg Cemetery Association, has presented at various schools, historic sites and community groups. In her capacity as a researcher and speaker, Elaine has partnered with the William Trent House, 1804 Consultants, the Grounds For Sculpture and the National Assessment of Educational Progress for the State of New Jersey to host a series of symposiums designed to explore African American history in New Jersey, how to interpret African American history at historic sites and museums as well as how to present and discuss difficult topics in African American history. From this partnership with the William Trent House, Grounds For Sculpture, New Jersey Historical Society and 1804 Consultants, a collaboration, named the Sankofa Collaborative, was created to ensure that material and resources relating to African American history will be readily accessible statewide to a broader and more diverse audience.

## **Linda Caldwell Epps**

**Dr. Linda J. Caldwell Epps** is President and CEO of 1804 Consultants, an organization dedicated to the advancement of educational and cultural organizations. She has more than 30 years of experience working with educational and cultural institutions, including the New Jersey Historical Society, a statewide museum, library, and educational facility, where she served as President and CEO, and New Jersey Network Television and Radio where she served as Vice President for Institutional Relations. Over a 28 year period, she held various positions at Bloomfield College including Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students capped by her role as Vice President for College Relations. She has also served as a Ford Foundation-funded consultants to several institutions of higher learning – including Keene College in New Hampshire, Union College in Ohio and the College of St. Elizabeth in New Jersey – on issues of diversity and equity in higher education. Dr. Caldwell Epps holds a Bachelor's Degree from Rutgers University's Douglass College, a Master's Degree from Seton Hall University, and a Ph.D. from Drew University. She completed the Institute for Higher Education Management program at Harvard University, the American Associate of Colleges and Universities Diversity Institute, at Georgetown University, and is a Leadership New Jersey Fellow, Class of 1992.

## **Rev. Dr. M. William Howard, Jr., D.D., L.H.D., LL.D.**

From his early life in Americus, Georgia to the present, **M. William (Bill) Howard, Jr.** has sought to apply his faith toward transforming the human condition. As an elected youth leader of the Sumter County (GA) Voters League in 1961, he was engaged in the first massive voter education and registration drive in Southwest Georgia. As a national staff member of the (Dutch) Reformed Church in America; as Moderator of the Programme to Combat Racism of the World Council of Churches; as President of the National Council of Churches; and as President of the American Committee on Africa, he was deeply involved in a wide-range of Human Rights and anti-colonial campaigns in the US, Southern Africa, the Middle East, Latin America and Asia. He was denied visas to South Africa until after Nelson Mandela was released in 1990; in 1979, with the late Dr. William Sloane Coffin, Bishop Thomas Gumbleton and the late Leon-Etienne Cardinal Duval, he ministered to US personnel being held hostage in Iran; and with the Reverend Jesse L. Jackson, he helped to secure the release of US Navy pilot, Robert O. Goodman from Syria in 1983.

Having spent much of the 70's and 80's focusing upon international affairs, in 1992 he turned to more domestic concerns when he assumed the presidency of New York Theological Seminary, a graduate school of theological education devoted to leadership development for church

workers in the New York metropolitan region. During his tenure at the Seminary, NYTS implemented joint programs with two area universities in Social Work and Urban Education, and was granted the Award for Excellence by the Arthur Vining Davis Foundations.

Dr. Howard is an ordained minister in the American Baptist Churches, USA, and a graduate of Morehouse and Princeton Theological Seminary. He was called to pastor Bethany Baptist Church in Newark, NJ in 2000, where he served through 2015. Bethany, the mother church of African American Baptists in Newark, was founded in 1871. Among developments at Bethany during Dr. Howard's tenure are Bethany Cares, Inc., which was founded as a community-development corporation to enhance the church's outreach capacity, and through it, the church served families and young people from all walks of life, including those who were incarcerated. University Heights Charter School was founded in 2005 and now serves over 600 children, Pre-K thru 8th grade. A life-long Jazz fan, Dr. Howard was the inspiration for Bethany's Jazz Vespers, a monthly worship service that features "America's Classical Music" nine months of the year.

Dr. Howard has served on the national boards of the Urban League, The Independent Sector, and The Children's Defense Fund, among others. He chaired Newark Mayor Cory Booker's transition team; and he chaired the NJ Death Penalty Study Commission, which led to the State of NJ becoming the first state in the USA to abolish the death penalty since it was re-authorized by the US Supreme Court in 1976. He served on the Rutgers University Board of Governors for a decade, and was elected as its chair for three terms. In 2011, he was named by NJBiz as one of the "100 Most Powerful People" in New Jersey business.

He is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations, and has received numerous citations, awards, honorary degrees and keys to cities. In February 2008, he received the Bennie Award for Achievement, named for famed Morehouse College president, Dr. Benjamin E. Mays, whose autobiography, *Born to Rebel*, Dr. Howard helped to research.

## **Mary Ellyn Kunz**

**Mary Ellyn Kunz** has worked as a museum educator for over 25 years and is currently is Museum Educator at Pennsbury Manor, the reconstructed home of William and Hannah Penn in Morrisville, PA. A life-long formal and informal student of history, Mary Ellyn holds a B.A. and Ed.M. Her background teaching children and adults with disabilities has led to a particular interest in how museums can serve people of all abilities, ages, and interests. Her work at Pennsbury Manor includes implementing an interpretation that includes the stories of enslaved people and Native Americans in the late 17<sup>th</sup> Century.

## **Beverly Mills**

**Beverly Mills** is a retiree as the Director for the Workforce Development Board in Mercer County, New Jersey. Beverly is a founder of the Stoutsburg Sourland African American Museum and a member on the Advisory Board and a thirty-five year Trustee of the Stoutsburg Cemetery Association. Along with her research partner, Elaine Buck, Beverly has co-authored a book entitled "If These Stones Could Talk" based on over a decade of research on the contribution of the African American population who lived in the Sourland Mountain and surrounding region. It was through this research that Beverly has been able to trace her ancestry to African Americans who were enslaved in the Hopewell Township, New Jersey area prior to the

Revolutionary War. Beverly is a co-founder of Friday Truehart Consultants which is a consulting company that works closely with K-12 educators from various school systems interested in including African American history in their lesson plans and curriculum.

For many years Beverly, along with fellow trustees of the Stoutsburg Cemetery Association, has presented at various schools, community groups and historic sites. She has also partnered with the William Trent House, 1804 Consultants, the Grounds For Sculpture and the National Assessment of Educational Progress for the States of New Jersey to host a series of symposiums created to explore African American history in New Jersey, how to interpret African American history at historic sites and museums and how to present and discuss difficult topics in African American history. Along with her colleague, Elaine Buck, Beverly was instrumental in forming a partnership, named the Sankofa Collaborative; an initiative created to ensure that material and resources that relate to African American history is accessible statewide to a broader and more diverse audience. Partners in the Sankofa Collaborative include the William Trent House, Grounds For Sculpture, New Jersey Historical Society and 1804 Consultants.

Beverly is the first African American woman to hold the elected position as a Councilwoman in Pennington Borough, NJ. Her past affiliations include Trustee on the board of Ellarslie, (The Trenton City Museum), a Trustee of the Hopewell Valley Historical Society, a member of the Friends of the Trenton Public Library and Chairperson of the Trustee Board of the First Baptist Church of Pennington.

### **Claudia B. Ocello**

Currently President and CEO of Museum Partners Consulting, LLC, **Claudia Ocello** has over 25 years' experience in exhibition development, education, evaluation, and accessibility, the four specialty areas in which Museum Partners consults. Previously she worked full-time at Save Ellis Island, Inc; The New Jersey Historical Society; and The Barnum Museum, CT. A former classroom teacher, Claudia earned an MS in Museum Education from Bank Street College of Education and has won awards from American Association for State and Local History, American Alliance of Museums, and the NJ Association of Museums for excellence in exhibitions, programs, and practice. Ever grateful, she "paid it forward" by teaching for 19 years in Seton Hall University's MA in Museum Professions Program and volunteering for a three-year term on the board of the Education Committee of AAM. Learn more at [www.museumpartnersconsulting.com](http://www.museumpartnersconsulting.com) and on Twitter @museumptnrs.

### **Jamie Kyte Sapoch**

**Jamie Kyte Sapoch** has over thirty years of non-profit leadership experience at the national, state, and local levels including as Executive Director of a NJ-based nonprofit, Board Chair of a private foundation, advancement work in Washington, D.C., and for the last 20 years as an independent consultant focused on building effective and sustainable nonprofit organizations.

As E.D. of the Watershed Association, she established a five-county volunteer water quality monitoring system now a respected statewide model, initiated best practices in board governance, and led the organization through its first capital campaign. During her board leadership of the Bunbury Company, the foundation distributed over \$10 million in grants to non-profits across New Jersey and Vermont. She is a skilled coach for leadership board and staff and an effective strategist for capital and operating fund development. Her consulting

work has helped raise over \$80 million in capital, operating and endowment support for a variety of environmental, cultural, and community-based organizations. Additional non-profit work is focused on creating strategies that have helped fulfill short- and long-term operating needs including executive searches, staff mentoring, governance, and strategic development planning. Recent clients include Bayshore Center at Bivalve, Centurion Ministries, Isles, Inc., Monmouth County Historical Association, Morven Museum & Garden, Princeton Public Library, Princeton Senior Resource Center, SAVE-A Friend to Homeless Animals, Sourland Conservancy, The Scheide Fund, and Trinity Counseling Service.

She has served as a trustee of the Bunbury Company, Delaware & Raritan Greenway, Stony Brook-Millstone Watershed Association, Windham Foundation, and Hopewell Public Library and is an advisor to N.J. Conservation Foundation, Stony Brook-Millstone Watershed Association, the David Mathey Fund, and the Bunbury Fund at PACF. She currently serves as a trustee of the Princeton Area Community Foundation. Her service recognitions include the Delaware & Raritan Girl Scout Woman of Distinction and the Metzger-Conway Fellowship at Dickinson College. She has a B. A. from Dickinson College, with majors in Fine Arts and American Studies, and lives with her husband in Hopewell, NJ.

## **Shirley Satterfield**

**Shirley Ann Satterfield** is the fourth of six generations of the VanZandt Moore May family in Princeton. She was educated in the Princeton Schools during the segregated years. In 1948 when the schools in Princeton Borough were integrated she was part of the “Princeton Plan” that integrated the Witherspoon School for Colored Children and Nassau Elementary School. She graduated from Princeton High School, completed one year at Rider College (now Rider University) and graduated with a degree in Elementary Education from Bennett College for Women. While a student at Bennett, Shirley participated in the 1961 Sit-Ins in Greensboro, North Carolina. She sat at the counters with the Greensboro Four, students from A&T University, who organized the Sit-Ins at Woolworth’s 5 & 10.

Keeping the history of her church and the Princeton African American Community has been Shirley’s passion since she returned to her hometown of Princeton in 1981. Her community service includes being a Board member of the Princeton Adult School, Board Secretary of the Paul Robeson House in Princeton, Princeton Cemetery Committee, NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, member of the Westminster Foundation, member of the Princeton Historic Preservation Commission, Historical Society of Princeton Advisory Board, NiOT (Not in Our Town), member of the “Old Guard” and she is the Secretary/Treasurer of the Presbyterian Historical Society Board. Close to her heart is the welfare of children and youth and her quest to preserve and share the rich history of the Princeton community. After becoming a Board member and Vice President of the Historical Society of Princeton since 1990 she starting a walking tour of African American Life in Princeton.

Shirley worked with eight other Princeton residents, the Princeton Council and the Historic Preservation Commission, worked together to have the Witherspoon-Jackson Neighborhood become the 20th Historic District in 2016. She then started an organization, the Witherspoon-Jackson Historical and Cultural Society, to continue the preservation of the work and contributions of five centuries of Colored, Negro, Black and African Americans in Princeton. The first project for preserving African American history in Princeton is the establishment of a Heritage Tour designating 29 noted historical African American establishments. The first four plaques to be placed are the designations of the four African American churches.

## **Noaa Stoler**

**Noaa Stoler** is the Assistant Director of K-12 Learning and Gallery Interpretation at the Montclair Art Museum, where she oversees the school and teacher programs, gallery interpretation and the docent program, and teen programs and classes. Noaa has worked in museum education and art education since 2001. Most recently, she pioneered the youth and family programs at the 9/11 Memorial & Museum, serving as a founding member of their Education Department. She holds an undergraduate degree in Fine Arts from Brandeis University and a Master in Education from Harvard University.

Montclair Art Museum engages its diverse community through distinctive exhibitions, educational programs, and collections of American and Native American art. After 100 years of service, MAM is recognized as the leading American art museum and community art school in Northern New Jersey. As an organization, MAM values artistic inspiration, diversity of voices, individual and group creativity, and the importance of all arts to a civil, inclusive, and forward-thinking society. MAM's most recent exhibition, *Kara Walker: Virginia's Lynch Mob and Other Works*, explored the themes of race, gender, sexuality, and violence in American history and contemporary culture.

## **Rev. Dr. Sidney S. Williams**

**Pastor Sidney Williams** has a profound prophetic mantle that distinguishes him as a remarkable visionary who has made a powerful impact in the Faith and Business communities. He is a native of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, with strong Southern roots in North Carolina and Louisiana. He was raised in the Pentecostal tradition and preached his first sermon at the age 15, but was not ready to yield to the Call. On November 11, 2010 he received his first pastoral appointment in the United States as the 51st pastor of the Bethel Church in Morristown, New Jersey.

Since 2005, Pastor Sidney has been training leaders of faith communities using a proprietary model he developed for churches – F.I.S.H. In addition to the leadership development training he does at local churches, Pastor Sidney is a Senior Lecturer at [Payne Theological Seminary](#) in Wilberforce, OH. He has also lectured in graduate business programs and taught corporate executives from Asia, Europe and the United States. His preaching and teaching focuses on empowering both believers and nonbelievers. Pastor Sidney has been a requested guest on major news media on issues of faith and economics. In 2009, Fox Business News requested Rev. Williams to respond to the Encyclical Letter from Pope Benedict XVI on Love in Truth – [Caritas in Veritate](#).

## OTHER MEMBERS OF THE SANKOFA COLLABORATIVE TEAM

### Heather Brady

**Heather Brady** joined [Grounds For Sculpture](#) in 2015 as its first ever Director of Education and Engagement. In this role, she oversees a diverse mix of education, performing arts, and community programs. Heather came to Grounds For Sculpture from The Noguchi Museum, where she served as Head of Education. Heather also worked as the Director of Education at the Museum of Chinese in America, and as an educator at the Bronx Museum of Arts, the Museum of Modern Art, and in schools and community-based organizations throughout New York City.

### Bruce Daniels

**Bruce Daniels** has been the Facilities Director and Project Manager at Grounds For Sculpture (GFS) for over 30 years. He was involved in the initial planning of the park, and was responsible for all of its building and landscape construction, as well as the day to day supervision of its operations. Daniels is also the Vice President of the Stoutsburg Sourland African American Museum (SSAAM) and has been acting as the liaison between SSAAM and GFS, helping to expand GFS's audience and programming. He has a Master's Degree in Sociology from Rutgers College. Daniels has lived on or near Sourland Mountain for most of his life.

### Samuel Stephens

**Samuel Stephens** is a Trustee of the Trent House Association Board, which works with City of Trenton to maintain the [1719 William Trent House Museum](#) and to provide programming related to the history of the House. With a background in sociology, Sam has led the Trent House Association's work on expanding its research into and deepening its interpretation of slavery at the Museum.