

# Alderwoman Coggs: On the reemergence of America's Black Holocaust Museum

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Today my heart is full. Nearly 14 years of work has brought a fulfilling reward, culminating in the reemergence of America's Black Holocaust Museum. To be clear, there is no legislation, project or initiative that I have worked on in my legacy of service that I am more honored to see come to fruition than the reemergence of America's Black Holocaust Museum.

I am so proud to see this day and I am eternally grateful to Dr. James Cameron, the museum's founder for having this profound vision that laid the foundation for today.

There have been many strategic plans, meetings, partnerships, donors, and supporters through the years that have helped to strengthen the foundation laid by Dr. Cameron, and to all those who assisted along the way, I say 'thank you.' Special thanks goes to Mayor Tom Barrett, Commissioner Rocky Marcoux, city staff, Rhonda Manuel, Deshea Agee, Genyne Edwards, Reggie Jackson, Virgil Cameron, the ABHM board, Melissa Allen, and Brad Pruitt for helping navigate through the early years.

In honor of Dr. Cameron and all of our ancestors, it is our responsibility to do our part to ensure the future of the museum through support with our time, talents and membership. The stories of people of African descent in America must be told, the atrocities must be recognized and discussed, and the successes must be celebrated. The museum is a catalyst to help us do that as we lead toward healing and reconciliation as a nation.

I look forward to the continued growth and impact of the museum. Thank you to the Cameron Family for keeping the vision of Dr. James Cameron - born on this day

(February 25) in 1914 – alive and well for the entire world to see.