



# General Museum Information:

## Mission, History and Tour Information

### **HOURS OF OPERATION:**

Monday-Friday 11 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

***Morning tours are available beginning at 9:00 a.m.***

*The Museum is closed the following holidays: Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Years Day.*

### **ADMISSION:**

Members - Free

Children 12 and Under - \$4.00

General Admission - \$5.00

Senior Citizens - \$4.00

College Students - \$5.00

### **GROUP TOUR INFORMATION:**

To schedule a group tour, visitors should call the museum at least 2-3 weeks in advance 414-372-7677 fax us a tour request form to 414-372-4888.

*Parking is located is the rear of the building.*

### **MISSION:**

The Wisconsin Black Historical Society/Museum located on the corners of North 27 and West Center Streets opened its door and its heart to the community, city, and state in 1987. Based on the premise that a people who know their history will grow to love and appreciate themselves more, the Society is striving to create a bright future out of a heart breaking past.

The mission of the Wisconsin Black Historical Society/Museum is to document and preserve the historical heritage of African descent in Wisconsin. The Museum exhibits, collects and disseminates materials depicting this heritage. Serving as a resource center for all people interested in Wisconsin's rich African American heritage, the Museum's purpose is to encourage and promote family community and cultural activities.

The Wisconsin Black Historical Society/Museum (WBHS/M) is the only institution dedicated in the State dedicated to the business of preserving Wisconsin's African American History. The Society is also an affiliated member of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin.



# Tour Request Form

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ (please complete all fields)

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Group/School & Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## Requested date(s) of tour. Please pick two:

Date & Time \_\_\_\_\_

Date & Time \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Students: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Chaperones/Adults: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Senior Citizens: \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Amount Due \$** \_\_\_\_\_

Is an invoice needed?

Sending a check in advance

Payment the day of the tour

Note: Chaperones must be at least 18 years of age.

## Cancellations

Cancellations must be made within 48 hours of visit. Failure to cancel within that time will result in a 100% charge of total amount due.

## Payment

Please make all checks payable to the Wisconsin Black Historical Society. If an invoice is needed please let us know.



# Exhibits



## **WORK'N IN THE PROMISED LAND: The African American Labor Experience in Wisconsin**

The focus of this exhibit is on black labor. We have targeted key historical, social and economic events that affected and influenced African Americans as a workforce. It is our hope that you will learn a great deal about the presence and contributions of African Americans particularly in Wisconsin.

There are sections on how slavery, agriculture and migrations forced Black workers into certain types of jobs. Beginning in the early 1900's, industrial expansion and wars soon lead to the shift from fields to factories.

This exhibit tells of the hard work, the labors of our forefathers and mothers. So, we ask the greatest of our greatest grandmothers and the greatest of our greatest grandfathers, and all ancestors who have, gone before us, for help in telling this story about the "work", we have done. We must see ourselves through our own eyes and reflect the true nature that is our heritage. Our legacy to future generations is at stake.

It was the pursuit of a better life by means of greater working opportunities that brought thousands of African Americans out of the south and east to the north and west at critical periods in this country's history.

Despite the limitations often placed upon them, African Americans were pioneers, leaders and great contributors to the growth of this nation and to the settlement of Wisconsin. These were men and women who made enormous impacts, striving for freedom and toward making their marks as laborers, entrepreneurs, business owners and leaders of our community.

## **MURAL: Ancient Egypt to Modern Milwaukee**

See the world unfold before your eyes, from ancient Egyptian civilization to early African American settlers in rural Wisconsin. A larger than life panorama of African American history provides a glimpse of modern life of African Americans in Milwaukee. This mural was conceived by Mr. Clayborn Benson and artfully executed by artist George Gist.

## **40th Anniversary of the Civil Right Movement: March on Milwaukee**

This exhibit illustrates the riots of 1967, open house marches and school desegregation. 40th Anniversary of the Civil Right Movement: March on Milwaukee 2007 is a traveling exhibit that is housed at the museum but will also be available to go into the community to share the experiences of the times. Accompanied by a speaker's bureau, music and a variety of other activities, this exhibit is one that marks a very important time in Wisconsin's history.