

# B.B. KING MUSEUM AMBASSADORS NEWS LETTER

8th Edition  
August 2022

**“The beautiful thing  
about learning is that  
no one can take it  
away from you.”**

*- B.B. King*

B.B. King never stopped his quest for knowledge; he received honorary doctorate degrees from Tougaloo College, Yale University, Berklee College of Music, Rhodes College, Mississippi Valley State University, and Brown University.

## Goal of the Program

Launched in 2011, the goal of the Ambassadors program is to provide Delta area youth with the opportunity to become actively involved with the Museum and help carry out its outreach mission. The hope is that through this program the Museum will develop long-term partnerships with local schools, enabling students to participate in a series of training experiences and intern opportunities that will help them develop into lifelong learners, productive citizens and community leaders.



## In This Issue

- Goal of the Program
- Orientation
- Celebrating Culture
- Graduates 2021-2022
- Community Projects
- Meeting Dates

## Celebrating Culture: B.B.'s Bridge Building Ambassadors



### Back In Session

On Saturday, October 9th, the 11th class of the B.B.'s Bridge-Building Ambassador Youth Leadership Program held its first meeting for the 2021-2022 program year. The day began with a getting acquainted activity, in which each participant designed and presented pink guitars that described their personality, career goals and plans as an Ambassador.



### “Pumpkin” Out Breast Cancer

In observance of breast cancer awareness, the B.B. King Bridge-Building Ambassadors painted pink pumpkins. The pumpkins were dedicated to breast cancer survivors and deceased loved ones. They were on display at the B.B. King Museum and Delta Interpretive Center in Lucille's Gift Shop.



On Saturday, May 21st, a total of ten Ambassadors received a certificate of completion, and two received certificates of participation, wrapping up the 10th year of B.B.'s Bridge-Building Ambassador Youth Leadership Program. The speaker was former Ambassador Tyren Boyd, class of 2019-2020. Representative Otis Anthony also presented each Ambassador with a proclamation letter and certificate. Kenzavius Stanton and Adoris Turner, III received awards for the most community service hours; Kevin Smith received an award for outstanding leadership; and Adoris Turner, III was named Ambassador of the Year.

## Community Projects

### Operation Christmas Child Service Project

On November 17, 2021, the Ambassadors participated in another community service project for the Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child. Ambassadors and parents contributed (32) thirty-two boxes for needy children which were delivered to First Baptist Church in Indianola, a local drop-off site.



### AIM for CHangE

On Saturday, November 6, 2021, ten (10) B. B. King Bridge-Building Ambassadors participated in the Advancing, Inspiring, Motivating for Community Health through Extension (AIM for CHangE) Project held in Minnie Cox Park. The Ambassadors helped with the playground assembly with assistance from the Indianola Public Works Department. The playground equipment was a part of a grant to create a healthier Mississippi and reduce obesity.



## 2021-2022 Graduates

Alaysia Bland

Landon Brown

Da'Quarrius Cole

Verocenia Cole

Jalexis Galloway

Adarian Gooden

Kevin Smith

Kenzavius Stanton

Adoris Turner, III

Chassidy Watkins

### Ambassador Participants:

Tyrianna Johnson

Khristen Stephens

## Ambassadors of the Month

The Ambassadors were given the opportunity to be chosen for Ambassador of the month based on approved criteria.

The following Ambassadors met the criteria and were presented a certificate and had their pictures placed in the *Enterprise-Tocsin*.

**Landon Brown- November 2021**

**Alaysia Bland –December 2021**

**Adoris Turner, III -January 2022**

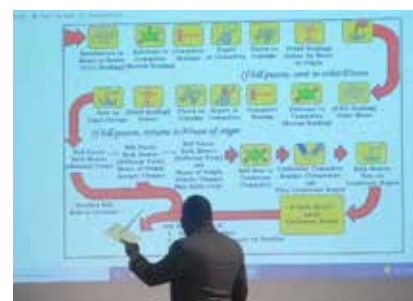
**Adarian Gooden–February 2022**

**Jalexus Galloway – April 2022**

**Ambassador of the Year – Adoris Turner, III**



STEMing Ahead -- The B.B. King Bridge-Building Youth Leadership Ambassador Program met on Saturday, November 20th, and received valuable information on how to become a Mechanical Engineer from Khadijah Ransom. Ms. Ransom is a Sr. Principal Mechanical Engineer at Northrop Grumman in Woodland Hills, CA.



MS State Representative Otis Anthony, II shared valued information on the importance of forming relationships to get bills passed and how laws are formed during a meeting on January 22, 2022. Representative Anthony also held a Mock Bill Session for the Ambassadors to participate for better comprehension in the process.



During the first half of the meeting on December 4, 2021, Ambassadors completed group presentations and team competitions. Afterwards, the Ambassadors participated in the annual Indianola town holiday parade themed "A Delta Christmas: Music, Movies, and Memories."



Honorable Ken Featherstone, newly-elected Indianola mayor, presented on February 5, 2022, on city government. Mayor Featherstone discussed how the City of Indianola is governed and budgetary information. The Mayor also reiterated the importance of continued community service, serving in leadership roles, and setting goals and endeavors for the future.

Saturday, February 19, 2022, the Ambassadors met with Latoya Robinson, Assistant Vice President, and another representative from Planters Bank to learn about the importance of being financially literate and responsible. Topics discussed: importance of maintaining a good credit score and history, paying yourself first, setting financial goals, budgeting, saving and investing, and managing debt.



During the January 15, 2022, meeting, the B.B.'s Bridge-Building Ambassadors received and reviewed the museum's new docent script. The Ambassadors were allowed time to do a walk-through to become familiar with the eight galleries and script. They also continued presenting group presentations on the "Arrival of B.B. King."



The B.B. King Bridge-Building Ambassadors held its annual Kite Workshop on Saturday, April 9th. April is National Kite Month, which is a celebration to introduce people to the joys of flying kites, its artistry, history and educational use. The Ambassadors presented topics such as the kite's history, parts of a kite, kite assembly and kite safety.



# Contact Us

B.B. King Museum & Delta Interpretive Center  
 Phone: (662) 887-9539  
[www.bbkingmuseum.org](http://www.bbkingmuseum.org)

**Khalilah Ransom**  
*Ambassador Coordinator*  
**Misty Clark**  
*Education Coordinator*  
**Verna Ransom**  
*Education Consultant*  
**Malika Polk-Lee**  
*Executive Director*

# TRAVEL: Jackson, The Delta & Beyond

## Meeting Dates

|                   |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| October 9, 2021   | February 5, 2022  |
| November 6, 2021  | February 19, 2022 |
| November 17, 2021 | March 26, 2022    |
| November 20, 2021 | April 2, 2022     |
| December 4, 2021  | April 9, 2022     |
| January 15, 2022  | May 7, 2022       |
| January 22, 2022  | May 14, 2022      |



On April 2 and May 7, 2022, the Ambassadors, along with Ambassador Coordinator Khalilah Ransom, did a two-part expedition of the Delta Area Mississippi Blues Trail marker tour. The markers tell stories through words and images of bluesmen and blueswomen, places they lived, and the times in which they existed, continue to exist, and how it all influenced their music. The tour included stops in Ruleville, Merigold, Mound Bayou, Winstonville, Shelby, Cleveland, Boyle, Club Ebony in Indianola, Holly Ridge, Leland, and Shaw.



Ambassadors traveled to Jackson, MS, on Saturday, March 26, 2022, to visit and tour the Mississippi Civil Rights Museum. The Ambassadors met and listened to Hezekiah Watkins, former and youngest Freedom Rider, who gave in depth accounts about his experiences during the Civil Rights Era.



Concluding the 2021 -2022 program, Ambassadors traveled to Alabama on June 10-12, 2022. The trip included stops and tours in Montgomery and Birmingham. The trip allowed Ambassadors to continue their educational museum experience by visiting the Rosa Parks Museum/ Arrest Site; The National Memorial for Peace and Justice and the Legacy Museum; Freedom Rides Museum; 16th Street Baptist Church; and the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute.

# ALABAMA



*B.B.'s Bridge Building Ambassadors Youth Leadership Program is sponsored by the Feild-Cooperative Association, Inc., Community Foundation of Northwest Mississippi, Walmart, and the B.B. King Museum and Delta Interpretive Center.*

