



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
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January 1, 2020

NEW THIS MONTH AT HERITAGE SQUARE

A free exhibit, lecture, and day of musical celebration that honors diversity in Arizona.

PHOENIX – Opening January 10th at Heritage Square, a new traveling exhibit on display through May 2020 – *The Great Migration: Indiscernibles in Arizona*, curated by Clottee Hammons of Emancipation Arts, LLC. The exhibit features an in-depth and personal look at Arizona’s part in the migration of African Americans from the rural South to the cities of the North, Midwest and West, from approximately 1915 to 1970. Despite the significant growth of the states African American population during this period from 2,000 to over 54,000, the impact of The Great Migration in Arizona has had little acknowledgement. Mainstream narratives of the state have marginalized Black people and left out their stories, rendering them *indiscernible*.

Woven through this exhibition are the varied circumstances and the shared threads of experience surrounding the migration of African Americans to Arizona. It explores the search for new beginnings and financial opportunity, as well as the experiences of racism and isolation faced by both early migratory cotton pickers and newer residents. It provides a glimpse into the lives of ordinary Black Arizonans. It celebrates the survival of the ancestors, and their establishment of enduring and thriving communities in the Valley of the Sun. *The Great Migration* is on display at Heritage Square through May 2020.

Accompanying the exhibit, Heritage Square will be hosting a day of musical celebration and an exhibit lecture by the curator, Clottee Hammons. The Soul of the Great Migration: A Celebration of Black Music takes place on February 14th, and includes African drumming, traditional Cuban music, Blues, and Gospel music, and features Big Pete Pearson, the King of Arizona Blues, along with other great local musicians. On February 27th, Clottee Hammons will be at Heritage Square to give a personal talk about the exhibit, her personal experiences, and what drew her to tell this story.



Art Image created by Clottee Hammons
“We Came From Somewhere...We
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More Information:

Exhibit Title: *The Great Migration: Indiscernibles in Arizona*

Location: Stevens-Haustgen Heritage Gallery at Heritage Square

Hours: This exhibit is open during the Heritage Square's regular hours (find those at heritagesquarephx.org)

Dates: The exhibition is currently on display through May 31, 2020; Soul of the Great Migration: A Celebration of Black Music will be all day on Friday, February 14th; The Great Migration Curator Talk will be on Thursday, February 27th, 6:00-7:30pm.

Admission to the Exhibit and both Events: FREE

Information: heritagesquarePHX.org

Telephone: (602) 262-5070 (Museum Visitors Center & Ticket Office)
(602) 261-8063 (Foundation Office)

About Rosson House Museum

The Rosson House Museum is a fully restored 1895 Queen Anne Victorian house museum, interpreting the history of Phoenix and Territorial Arizona. Tours of the house include all living areas and offer visitors a glimpse into the lifestyles of early Phoenix families. Admission to the Rosson House Museum is by guided tour only. All tours last approximately 60 minutes. The maximum number of people per tour is 12. Groups of 8 or more require reservations.

About Heritage Square

Heritage Square is a striking reminder of the city's vibrant Victorian past. Located on Block 14 of the original townsite of Phoenix, the Square dates back to the late 1800s, and the restored Rosson House Museum is its crowning jewel. Heritage Square is operated in conjunction by the Heritage Square Foundation (a 501c-3 non-profit organization) and the City of Phoenix Parks and Recreation Department, and is owned by the City of Phoenix.

Visit heritagesquarePHX.org for more information. #HeritageSquarePHX

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