

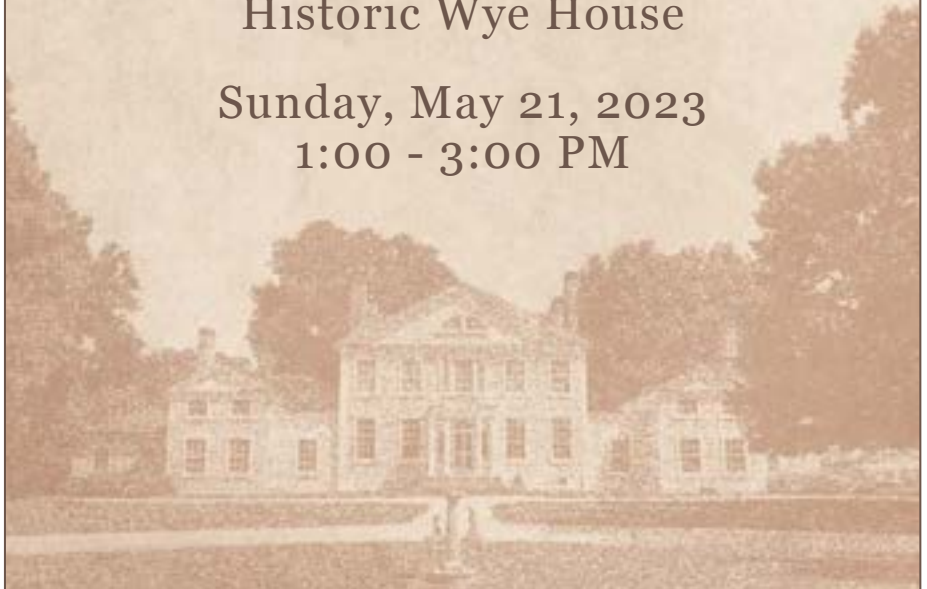


# "BEAR ME INTO FREEDOM"

Historic Wye House

Sunday, May 21, 2023

1:00 - 3:00 PM



**Bear Me into Freedom**

May 21, 2023

**Musical Prelude**

Merideth Buxton, Violinist

**Greetings from the Mistress of Ceremonies**

Dana Bowser

**Welcome and Opening Remarks**

Brenda Wooden, President, Frederick Douglass Honor Society  
Richard and Beverly Tilghman, Wye House

**\$711.66 Endowment**

Kitty Bayh

**Musical Selection**

Fit to Be a Slave, Baba Bomani

**Frederick Douglass Roundtable Introduction**

Kamari Collins, Moderator

**Roundtable Panelists**

Celeste-Marie Bernier

Kim F. Hall

Bill E. Lawson

Kenneth B. Morris, Jr.

**Musical Selection**

Rhetoric Just Like Frederick, Baba Bomani

**Frederick Douglass Honor Society  
Scholarship Recipients Testimonials**

Jaylen Howie

Tyler Redman

**Frederick Douglass Geocaching**

Autumn Redman

**Closing Remarks**

Richard Marks, Frederick Douglass Honor Society Scholarship Fundraising Chair

## Speakers & Performers



**Dana Bowser** is the Director of Student Retention and Success at Chesapeake College. She oversees departments that are instrumental in helping students progress and complete their college studies. She has served as Interim Assistant Dean of Students, Director of First-Year Experience, and Director of Multicultural Affairs for the college. She has also taught English as a Second Language (ESL) at numerous Eastern Shore locations. After graduating from North Carolina High School, she enrolled and graduated from Hampton University with a degree in Mass Media Arts.



**Kamari Collins** is the Vice-President for Student Success and Enrollment Management at Chesapeake College. Collins holds a bachelor's degree in Science Movement and Sports Studies and Teacher Preparation, a master's degree in Human Services from Springfield College and a Doctor of Education degree, Ed.D. from Northeastern University in Boston, MA.



**Celeste-Marie Bernier** is Professor of United States and Atlantic Studies at the University of Edinburgh, Scotland, UK. She is working on finalizing an eight-book collection called *Douglass Family Lives: The Anna Murray and Frederick Douglass Family Biography and Collected Works*. The collection will come out in Fall 2024. She is the Senior Advisor at Frederick Douglass Family Initiatives, Rochester, New York, and an Honorary Member of the Frederick Douglass Honor Society, Easton, Maryland.



**Kim F. Hall** is the Lucyle Hook Professor of English, Professor of Africana Studies at Barnard College, Columbia University. Professor Hall's research and teaching cover Renaissance/Early Modern Literature and Culture, Critical Race Theory, Black Feminist Studies, Slavery Studies, Visual Culture, Food Studies, and Digital Humanities. She was born in Baltimore and holds a doctorate in sixteenth and seventeenth century English Literature from the University of Pennsylvania.



**Bill E. Lawson** is an Emeritus Distinguished Professor in the Department of Philosophy at the University of Memphis, specializing in African American, Social, and Political Philosophy. He has taught at Spelman College, Montclair State University, West Virginia University, the University of Delaware, and Michigan State University. He has testified before a Congressional Subcommittee on the issue of Welfare Reform.

Lawson was a 2011-12 University of Liverpool-Fulbright Fellow at the University of Liverpool, Liverpool, U.K.



**Kenneth B. Morris, Jr.** descends from two of the most influential names in American history. He is the great-great-grandson of Frederick Douglass and the great-great-grandson of Booker T. Washington. Mr. Morris continues his family's legacy of anti-slavery and educational work as Co-founder and President at the Frederick Douglass Family Initiatives, a not-for-profit organization based in Rochester, New York. Prior to co-founding the Frederick Douglass Family Initiatives in 2007, he was a partner at C&A Marketing, a marketing and entertainment firm partnership. Like his forefathers, he firmly believes that education is the pathway to freedom.



**Kitty Bayh** lives on the Eastern Shore working as an editor, teacher of poetry, church volunteer, and student of the Bible. Following in the footsteps of Sophia Auld who taught Frederick Douglass his A, B, Cs, Kitty has been active in teaching adults to read, serving as a tutor and former board member of the Washington Literacy Council. And, wishing to join the legacy of abolitionists, she is the founding member of the \$711.66 Endowment to help college students with their education – what Frederick Douglass called the “gateway to prosperity.” Prior to retiring to raise her son, Kitty was the Director of Communications for ABC News.



**Baba Bomani** has used his experience as a producer and MC to teach arts-integrated workshops, residencies, assemblies, and professional development with his curriculum, BARS. Bomani is a Kennedy Center for the Arts teaching artist and a roster artist with Young Audiences of Maryland, Young Audiences of New Jersey and Eastern Pennsylvania, United Arts Council of Raleigh & Wake County, North Carolina, and Arlington County, Virginia. He is also the founder of a literacy and history club for students called the Frederick Douglass Writing Club.



**Merideth Buxton** has lived on the Eastern Shore of Maryland since 1982 and has given lessons to thousands of children, teens, and adults at Washington College, her studio in Royal Oak and at workshops in New York, Washington, D.C., Virginia, and North Carolina. Merideth's background includes a Bachelor's in Music Education from SUNY Potsdam's Crane School of Music and a Master's in Suzuki Pedagogy from Ithaca College.



**Jaylen Howie** was raised in Easton and attended Easton Middle School and Easton High School where she played volleyball, basketball and lacrosse. She was a part of the National Honor Society and the Student Equity Committee. Jaylen recently graduated Florida Atlantic University with a Bachelor's in Elementary Education. During her years at FAU, she was a recipient of the Frederick Douglass Honor Society Scholarship. Currently, she is the Youth Program Coordinator at the Easton Family YMCA helping our youth in our community develop and grow. This coming Fall, Jaylen will teach at Sandy Hill Elementary School in Cambridge, MD.



**Tyler Redman** is a two-time recipient of the Frederick Douglass Honor Society academic scholarship. When he was a student at Easton High School, Ty was a member of the National Honor Society and President of the BEST Club for African American males. As President, he helped lead peaceful marches in Talbot County for the Black Lives Matter movement and to remove the Confederate Statue on the Talbot County Courthouse lawn. He accrued over 600 service-learning hours and earned both his Eagle Scout award and his 4-H Diamond Clover Level 6 Service award. Ty spent his freshman year of college studying abroad through Verito Education for a semester each in England and Costa Rica. He is now a 19-year-old Sophomore at the University of Maryland. He hopes to become a writer and is majoring in English with a minor in Sociology.



**Autumn Redman**, a 17-year-old Junior at Easton High School, is a member of the National Honor Society, the National Technical Honor Society, and has various academic interests including completion of the following Pathways: Biomedical Sciences, Culinary Arts, and Foreign Language. She participates in three sports including soccer, basketball, and track. She has accrued over 900 service-learning hours and has completed her 4-H Diamond Clover Lever 6 Service award related to taking care of your mental and physical health. She has earned her Girl Scout Gold Community Take Action award, centered around increasing awareness of the legacy of Talbot County's native son, Frederick Douglass. Autumn loves to spend time with her family and friends and enjoys baking, volunteering with youth, and traveling. She plans to attend college to pursue a career as a Registered Dietitian.



**Vera P. Hall** is a former educator and political activist. She served as a reading specialist for Baltimore City and the State of Maryland, a legislative liaison at Morgan State University, a member of Baltimore City Council and Chair of the Maryland Democratic Party. She also has been a textile artist for over fifty years. During her retirement, she renewed her love of quilting and decided to combine her artistry with her desire to learn more about her ancestry by creating powerful quilts depicting Black history. She was recently featured in the PBS News Hour's "Brief But Spectacular" series.



**Jeffrey C. McGuinness** is a photographer and writer who has lived in St. Michaels for a quarter of a century. He practiced law in Washington, D.C. for more than four decades, concentrating on public policy and managing not-for-profit organizations. Today, he delights in tapping his varied experiences to discover what deserves to be seen but is often overlooked, His latest project, *Bear Me Into Freedom: The Talbot County of Frederick Douglass*, reflects five years of work exploring, researching, and photographing the land Frederick Douglass walked during his eleven years of bondage in the county.

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#### **Special Acknowledgements**

Assemble – Interactive Exhibitions and Educational Media

Bay Photographic Works

Fairfield Inn & Suites by Marriott-Easton, Maryland

St. Michaels Museum at St. Michaels Square

Watts Landing & Industrial Park

#### **Contributors**

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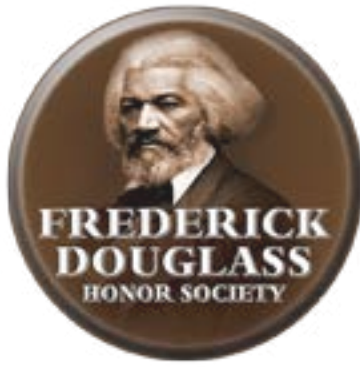
Wishing Well Liquors

## Hugh Auld Purchase - Deed Freeing Frederick Douglass

This is the document - a deed - which purchased freedom for Frederick Douglass (then known as Frederick Bailey). Slaves, under the American system of chattel slavery, were considered property. They were bought, and sold, as property. Just as a deed gives a person title to real estate, so did a deed give the “owner” title to a slave. Soon after Hugh Auld purchased Frederick Bailey, he issued this deed. The National Park Service provides more information about this document and the transaction it represents:



*A deed manumission written by Hugh Auld of Baltimore to Walter Lowrie of New York in the sale of a Frederick Baily, alias Frederick Douglass, for \$711.66 to set him free from slavery on December 5, 1846. Mary Richardson, a Quaker and the wife of Henry Richardson of Newcastle-Upon-Tyne, England, wrote to Hugh Auld asking him whether Douglass’s freedom had a price. Hugh Auld replied in October of 1846 that he would manumit Douglass for £150 sterling. Anna Richardson and her sister-in-law, Ellen Richardson raised the purchase money and made arrangements with American abolitionist, Ellis Gray Loring of Boston to handle the negotiations. On November 24, 1846, Walter Lowrie of New York City, an abolitionist, also involved in the negotiations, notified Hugh Auld that the £150 had arrived in New York. He directed Auld to produce proof of legal ownership of Douglass. Less than a week later Thomas Auld filed a bill of sale (FRDO 3861) in Talbot County signifying the transfer of Douglass to Hugh Auld. On December 5, 1846 Hugh Auld filed Douglass’s manumission [literally, “releasing the hand of authority”] papers in Baltimore County. One week later the transaction was consummated. Hugh Auld gave the papers to Lowrie; a copy of the bill of sale from Thomas Auld, a deed of manumission for Douglass, and a receipt showing he had received \$711.66 for Douglass’s freedom. These papers were given to Frederick Douglass shortly afterwards. Source: Frederick Douglass papers, series one, speeches, debates and interviews, Vol. I. edited by James W. Blasingame.*



**The Frederick Douglass Honor Society  
Mission Statement:**

*“The Frederick Douglass Honor Society is dedicated to developing programs that continue the Douglass legacy of human rights, education, personal growth, and involvement of citizens.”*

Our goal is to honor Frederick Douglass here in his birthplace, Talbot County, Maryland, where his experiences in his youth – both positive and negative – helped form his character, intellect and determination. It became Frederick Douglass’s life goal to bring black people, and America, away from the ancient institution of slavery.

It is our hope that Frederick Douglass will be seen as a true leader by all Americans. His brilliant oratory and his influence both here and abroad helped black people and our country through one of the most difficult and painful struggles in our history. He is known, honored and respected around the world; we believe he should be considered among the foremost of our many American heroes.

For more information: [FrederickDouglassHonorSociety.com](http://FrederickDouglassHonorSociety.com)

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