



BMCC PENDLETON  
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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 3, 2017

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## BMCC to host Smithsonian Exhibition April 10-21

PENDLETON, Ore. – Blue Mountain Community College and the Betty Feves Memorial Art Gallery will host a special traveling exhibition from the Smithsonian Institute April 10-21 that celebrates the opening of the Institute’s newest museum, the National Museum of African American History and Culture, in Washington, DC. The commemorative poster exhibition “A Place for All People: Introducing the National Museum of African American History and Culture” will be free and open to the public in Pioneer Hall on BMCC’s Pendleton campus.

The exhibition is on a tour of eastern Oregon throughout March and April, with show in Joseph, La Grande, Baker City and Ontario. The tour is organized by the Smithsonian Institute Traveling Exhibition Service, in collaboration with the National Museum of African American History and Culture. Its stops in eastern Oregon were made possible by Gwen Trice, founder and director of the Maxville Heritage Center in Joseph, with assistance from the Eastern Oregon Visitors Association.

“QUOTE FROM LORI,” said Lori Sams, Director of BMCC’s Betty Feves Memorial Art Gallery.

The exhibition highlights key artifacts that tell the rich and diverse story of the African American experience, as well as the many stories of African Americans and African diaspora people and their contributions to the local community. It includes the child-sized shackles of a slave, the clothing worn by Carlotta Walls on her first day at Little Rock Central High School to Chuck Berry’s Gibson guitar “Maybellene” and the track shoes worn by Olympian Carl Lewis.

BMCC will host a reception for this special event for the public on April 17 from 4:30-6:30 p.m. Trice will lead a discussion of the region’s African American history during BMCC’s Arts and Culture Series earlier that day from 1-1:50 p.m.

Visitors can view the exhibition outside the President’s Office in Pioneer Hall from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday. Contact Lori Sams with questions, [lsams@bluecc.edu](mailto:lsams@bluecc.edu) or 541-278-5952.

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