



**NATIONAL MUSEUM OF
AFRICAN AMERICAN MUSIC**

Media contact:

Brittany Irby
MP&F Strategic Communications
birby@mpf.com
615-259-4000

The National Museum of African American Music participates in Americana Fest
*Festival featured presentation of the inaugural Legacy of Americana Award, panel discussions,
musical performances*

NASHVILLE, Tenn. – The [National Museum of African American Music \(NMAAM\)](#)'s President and CEO, H. Beecher Hicks III and Senior Curator, Dr. Dina Bennett were part of the five-day Americanafest in Nashville, Tenn.

During the 2019 Americana Honors & Awards on Sept. 11, Hicks presented the inaugural Legacy of Americana Award in the historic Ryman Auditorium. The honorees were Rhiannon Giddens, roots music virtuoso and Frank Johnson, pioneering American composer from the antebellum era.

Replicas of the awards will be showcased at the museum, which is scheduled to open in early 2020 in downtown Nashville.

“I am truly and deeply honored to have an opportunity to present the inaugural Legacy of Americana award during this incredible week of events,” said Hicks. “This is a week where NMAAM can show off our incredibly talented staff, welcome guests from around the world to our home, and show that “Music City” includes all kinds of music and people.”

Bennett participated in a panel discussion titled, “Soulshake: The Legacy of Music City Soul” on Thursday.

This new partnership was derived from the National Museum of African American Music and the Americana Music Association’s mutual dedication to commemorating innovative musicians, composers and producers who have left an indelible impact on music and culture.

Tickets for the Americana Honors & Awards are exclusively available for purchase by AMERICANAFEST Conference Registrants.

For more information on the Americana Music Association or to purchase tickets for this year's Americana Honors & Awards and passes to AMERICANAFEST, please visit www.americanamusic.org.

For more information on the National Museum of African American Music, please visit www.nmaam.org.

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About NMAAM

The National Museum of African American Music, set to open in 2020, will be the only museum dedicated solely to educating, preserving and celebrating the influence African Americans have had on music. Based in Nashville, Tenn., as a part of the Fifth + Broadway development, the museum will share the story of the American soundtrack by integrating history and interactive technology to bring musical heroes of the past into the present. For more information, please visit www.nmaam.org.