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House Office Building  
6 Bladen St., Annapolis, MD

January 25, 2024

HB0390: Commission on African American History and Culture- Museum Name Change

Dear Chair Pena-Melnyk:

On behalf of Maryland Humanities, I submit this statement in favor of a name change to the Banneker Douglass Museum to the Banneker Douglass Tubman Museum.

Located in our state's capital, the Banneker-Douglass Museum gives the public free access to research and explore Black history, art, and culture in Maryland. Harriet Tubman represents the best of Maryland and American history. She was self-liberated from slavery, served as an abolitionist, a union spy and nurse, and a woman suffrage activist. Therefore, including Tubman in the naming would honor Tubman and symbolize the many contributions Black women have made to our state and country.

At Maryland Humanities, we are focused on lifting the entire humanities sector statewide. We are excited to see such an important part of Maryland's history elevated to the status she deserves. I sincerely hope you will support this effort and vote yes on HB0390.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Lindsey Baker'.

Lindsey Baker  
Chief Executive Officer  
Maryland Humanities