



November 12, 2018

Cynthia Simien
132 Vivian Drive
Lafayette, LA 70508

Dear, Mrs. Cynthia Simien

I want to thank you for your support of the National Museum of African American Music (NMAAM) and your generosity in donating to our *Rivers of Rhythm Exhibition* for our permanent exhibition. It is only through such donations that we are able to interpret the history of African American music and its contribution to world culture. Over the last few weeks, members of the museum's curatorial staff have been placing objects, documents and images in the exhibition matrix, which is one reason why I wanted to bring you up to date on our progress.

In November of this year, Gallagher & Associates, our exhibition design firm, completed construction documents for the design of the 17,000 square-foot permanent exhibition. Early in 2019, we will hire an exhibition fabricator to build and install the exhibition. Included in the master plan will be a theater introductory film, six permanent galleries with 24 films and high-tech interactives. The addition of your donation to our collection of over 900 artifacts allows us to tell the history of African American music from its origins in 18th and 19th century Africa to the evolution of hip hop and its national and international impact. Groundbreaking for the city multiplex, located in the heart of the music district in downtown Nashville, occurred in April of this year. The 56,000 square-foot facility will occupy the first level of the complex with entrances on both Fifth Avenue and Broadway. The contractors will turn over our space in 2019 and NMAAM, standing as the first museum of its kind, will open its doors in early 2020.

I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your early and continuing support. Without friends of the museum, such as yourself, this project would not have been possible. For additional information on the museum, please visit our website at www.nmaam.org.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John E. Fleming".

John E. Fleming, Director

CC: Dr. Dina Bennett, Curatorial Director
Dr. Steven Lewis, Curator
Dr. Marquita Reed, Collections Manager
Dr. Portia Maulsby, Senior Consultant