

(2) there exists no national museum within the Smithsonian Institution that—

(A) is devoted to the documentation of African American life, art, history, and culture; and

(B) encompasses, on a national level—

- (i) the period of slavery;
- (ii) the era of Reconstruction;
- (iii) the Harlem renaissance;
- (iv) the civil rights movement; and
- (v) other periods associated with African American life, art, history, and culture; and

(3) a National Museum of African American History and Culture would be dedicated to the collection, preservation, research, and exhibition of African American historical and cultural material reflecting the breadth and depth of the experiences of individuals of African descent living in the United States.

(Pub. L. 108-184, § 2, Dec. 16, 2003, 117 Stat. 2676.)

SHORT TITLE

Pub. L. 108-184, § 1, Dec. 16, 2003, 117 Stat. 2676, provided that: “This Act [enacting this subchapter] may be cited as the ‘National Museum of African American History and Culture Act.’”

§ 80r-1. Definitions

In this subchapter:

(1) Board of Regents

The term “Board of Regents” means the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

(2) Council

The term “Council” means the National Museum of African American History and Culture Council established by section 80r-3 of this title.

(3) Museum

The term “Museum” means the National Museum of African American History and Culture established by section 80r-2 of this title.

(4) Secretary

The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution.

(Pub. L. 108-184, § 3, Dec. 16, 2003, 117 Stat. 2676.)

§ 80r-2. Establishment of Museum

(a) Establishment

There is established within the Smithsonian Institution a museum to be known as the “National Museum of African American History and Culture”.

(b) Purpose

The purpose of the Museum shall be to provide for—

(1) the collection, study, and establishment of programs relating to African American life, art, history, and culture that encompass—

- (A) the period of slavery;
- (B) the era of Reconstruction;
- (C) the Harlem renaissance;
- (D) the civil rights movement; and
- (E) other periods of the African American diaspora;

(2) the creation and maintenance of permanent and temporary exhibits documenting the history of slavery in America and African American life, art, history, and culture during the periods referred to in paragraph (1);

(3) the collection and study of artifacts and documents relating to African American life, art, history, and culture; and

(4) collaboration between the Museum and other museums, historically black colleges and universities, historical societies, educational institutions, and other organizations that promote the study or appreciation of African American life, art, history, or culture, including collaboration concerning—

(A) development of cooperative programs and exhibitions;

(B) identification, management, and care of collections; and

(C) training of museum professionals.

(Pub. L. 108-184, § 4, Dec. 16, 2003, 117 Stat. 2677.)

§ 80r-3. Council

(a) Establishment

There is established within the Smithsonian Institution a council to be known as the “National Museum of African American History and Culture Council”.

(b) Duties

(1) In general

The Council shall—

(A) make recommendations to the Board of Regents concerning the planning, design, and construction of the Museum;

(B) advise and assist the Board of Regents on all matters relating to the administration, operation, maintenance, and preservation of the Museum;

(C) recommend annual operating budgets for the Museum to the Board of Regents;

(D) report annually to the Board of Regents on the acquisition, disposition, and display of objects relating to African American life, art, history, and culture; and

(E) adopt bylaws for the operation of the Council.

(2) Principal responsibilities

The Council, subject to the general policies of the Board of Regents, shall have sole authority to—

(A) purchase, accept, borrow, and otherwise acquire artifacts for addition to the collections of the Museum;

(B) loan, exchange, sell, and otherwise dispose of any part of the collections of the Museum, but only if the funds generated by that disposition are used for additions to the collections of the Museum; or

(C) specify criteria with respect to the use of the collections and resources of the Museum, including policies on programming, education, exhibitions, and research with respect to—

(i) the life, art, history, and culture of African Americans;

(ii) the role of African Americans in the history of the United States from the period of slavery to the present; and