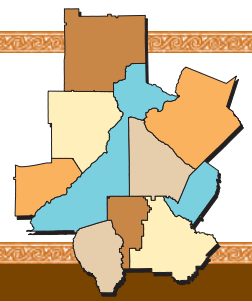


GLOBAL ATLANTA SNAPSHOT

A LOOK AT ETHNIC COMMUNITIES IN THE ATLANTA REGION



AFRICAN AMERICANS IN THE ATLANTA REGION

The Global Atlanta Snapshots were created to foster understanding among all people of the Atlanta region. The Snapshots show the rich ethnic and cultural diversity that our region now enjoys. The African American Snapshot is 21st in the series and chronicles their roles in contributing to the region's success.

African Americans Living in the Atlanta Region

Whether native to the state or newcomers hoping to secure the American Dream, African Americans have always played a significant role politically, socially and economically in Georgia. In fact, Atlanta has been called the "Black Mecca" because of the opportunities it affords Blacks, especially in business and politics.

With a concentration of churches, organizations and academic institutions that built leaders and stabilized the community, African Americans have historically been major actors in transforming the region. From Alonzo Herndon, who was born into slavery yet became the state's first Black millionaire; to Jeanes Supervisors, who significantly improved education and communities for blacks during the segregation era; to Leah Ward Sears, the first woman on Georgia's Supreme Court and the nation's first black female chief justice of a state's highest court, African Americans have always and continue to leave an indelible mark on every contour of Georgia life.



The Walker Family resides in south Fulton. Charles Walker moved to Atlanta to attend Morehouse College and has remained since that time. He is Vice-President, Area Development for United Way of Metropolitan Atlanta and his wife, a Clark Atlanta University graduate, is a teacher in the Atlanta Public School system.

Early African American Communities

- » Shermantown is a historic black neighborhood within the Stone Mountain Historical District in DeKalb County.
- » From the 1890s to the 1930s, Auburn Avenue was the center of Black economic, social, and cultural activities in Atlanta. The area has been designated as The Sweet Auburn Historic District (1996).
- » The Pea Ridge community in Cherokee County was founded by Philip Keith, a former slave, who is believed to have obtained land through the Freedman's Bureau Southern Homestead Act (1866).
- » J.P. Carr (1874-1954) was a major Black benefactor and community leader in Rockdale County. J.P. Carr Center is in Conyers.

According to the 2008 U.S. Census American Community Survey, 55 percent of African Americans living in the Atlanta region were born in Georgia. Eight percent were born in the Northeast, eight percent in the Midwest, three percent in the West and 23 percent in the South. Overall, seven percent of Blacks moved to the region from another state and only two percent moved from abroad.

African Americans born in Georgia and in the South are staying home. Only Douglas County can claim a large influx of African Americans from out of state (13 percent), followed by Gwinnett (11 percent). Obviously, the South offers a quality of life which convinces Southerners to stay home.

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By the Numbers

- » **Fulton County** is home to the largest population of single-race African Americans, with **442,028**, followed closely by **DeKalb County** with **403,937**.
- » **Blacks** are the **majority population** in **Clayton**, 64 percent, **DeKalb** 55 percent and the **City of Atlanta**, 55 percent.
- » Between 2000 and 2008, the Census Bureau estimates that the 10-county **Atlanta region** added more than **382,780** African Americans, representing an **increase of 35 percent** during that period.
- » The 10-county **Atlanta region** is home to approximately 44 percent of Georgia's total population, but represents **52 percent of the state's African American population**.

Source: 2000 U.S. Census Population, 2008 US Census American Community Survey and ARC

Did You Know?

Education

28% of Blacks in the region have college degrees or higher **VS. 37%** of Whites

Household Income

15% of Blacks have household incomes of \$100,000 **VS. 29%** of Whites

Salaries

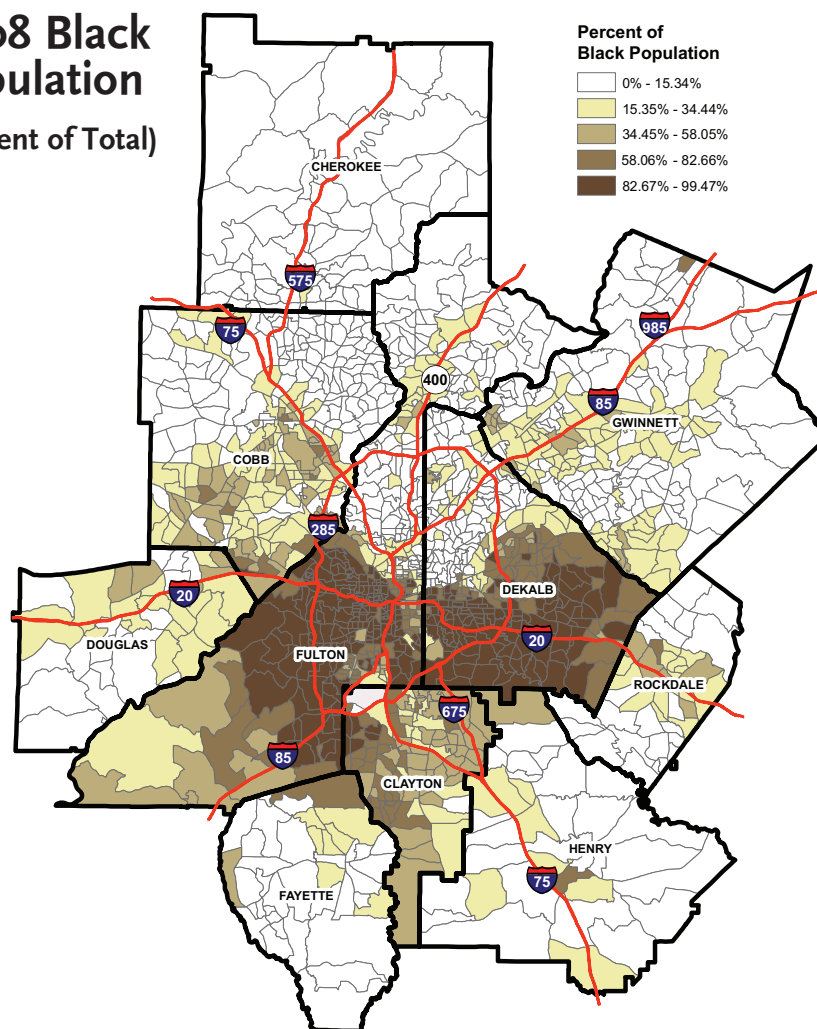
11% of Blacks in the region have a position that pays \$50,000 or more **VS. 24%** of Whites

Home Ownership

53% of Blacks in the region own their home in the region **VS. 80%** of Whites

Source: 2007 U.S. Census Community Survey

2008 Black Population (Percent of Total)



The highest concentrations are found south of I-20 in Clayton, DeKalb and Fulton counties. Town centers in the outer counties account for higher concentrations than the surrounding, mostly incorporated areas.

Source: ESRI

African Americans in the Atlanta Region

County	2000		2008	
	Total Population 2000	Black or African American	Total Population 2008	Black or African American
Cherokee County	141,903	3,525	210,529	13,741
Clayton County	236,517	121,927	273,718	174,718
Cobb County	607,751	114,233	698,158	168,748
DeKalb County	665,865	361,111	739,956	403,937
Douglas County	92,174	17,065	127,932	46,330
Fayette County	91,263	10,465	106,465	21,449
Fulton County	816,006	363,656	1,014,932	442,078
Gwinnett County	588,448	78,224	789,499	177,346
Henry County	119,341	17,523	191,502	63,725
Rockdale County	70,111	12,771	83,222	34,009
Total 10-County	3,429,379	1,100,500	4,235,913	1,546,081

Note: Previously published population totals may differ due to Census adjusted population counts

African Americans Living in the Atlanta Region... continued.

Within some counties, most notably Cherokee (66 percent), Douglas (58 percent), Henry (67 percent) and Rockdale (38 percent), the African American population has grown significantly. One reason could be an improved quality of life and greater return on investments. Cherokee has the third highest median home value (\$135,600) in the region. Henry has the highest median family income (\$60,426) and Douglas has the fourth highest percentage of college graduates (29%). These factors are compelling when a person is deciding to buy a home or move into a specific neighborhood.

African Americans and the Atlanta Economy

African American success in the metro Atlanta region should not be seen as a "new thing." There is a history of self reliance, institution building and achievement. John Wesley Dobbs referred to Auburn Avenue as "Sweet Auburn," because he considered it the "richest Negro street in the world." Second and third generation black-owned companies such as Gourmet Services, Inc., H.J. Russell Company, Bronner Brothers and The Atlanta Daily World continue to thrive, ushering in a new era of leadership despite the economic downturn.

The continuing growth of the African American population has led to an increase in African American business creation and consumption. In 2007, Black buying power in metro Atlanta was a staggering \$37.6 billion, according to the Atlanta Business Chronicle. A 2008 report by University of Georgia's Selig Center for Economic Growth reported Georgia's share of total buying power that is black as 21.9 percent at \$63 billion and among the ten states with the largest share.

Metropolitan Atlanta's reputation for encouraging entrepreneurship remains strong. Black-owned firms consistently top the list of the largest in the United States, based on annual reporting by Black Enterprise magazine.

Atlanta has also become an entertainment epicenter. The opening of LaFace records by Antonio Reid and Kenny Edmonds in 1989 signaled the beginning of a new era in Black music for metro Atlanta. Platinum selling artists such as Raymond Usher, Andre Benjamin and Antwan Patton (Outkast) and Christopher Bridges (Ludacris), and producers such as Dallas Austin and Jermaine Dupree helped solidify Atlanta's reputation. The Atlanta Business Chronicle estimated in 2002 that the Atlanta music industry generates more than \$1 billion in business each year.

In 2008, Tyler Perry's multi-million dollar film and television studio was unveiled with much fanfare. The new 200,000 square foot operation is the first major film and television production facility owned by an African American. Perry estimates the studio will continue earning some \$100 million annually for the city.



Atlanta Life was founded more than 100 years ago by former slave Alonzo Herndon as a door-to-door-seller of insurance policies and is today a comprehensive financial services holding company.

Despite success, evidence does suggest that all is not well for minority business owners. In a study commissioned by the Congressional Black Caucus, Dr. Thomas Boston found that "minority firms still encounter disadvantages in gaining access to business networks, capital and finance and private sector markets. "Citizens Bancshares Corp., parent company of Citizens Trust Company, received \$7.462 million investment in 2009 under the national Capital Purpose Program designed to stimulate the flow of financing to businesses and consumers. James Young, President and CEO noted "this new equity will enhance our competitive position and increase our capacity to lend." This bank as well as Capitol City Bank & Trust Company in Atlanta organized in 1994 largely serves the African-American communities. It remains to be fully seen how Black owned businesses will fare during the current economic recession.



In 1921, Citizens Trust Company opened on "Sweet Auburn" Avenue. Today, the holding company of Citizens Trust Bank is ranked in the top 100 Georgia based companies and 6th among black banks in the United States.





Personal Stories – A New Era of Entrepreneurship



Michael Russell

Chief Executive Officer
H.J. Russell & Company

Overseeing a national company that employs more than 2,000 and generates revenues exceeding \$300 million is no simple matter. For Michael Russell, it is just another day at the office. As Chief Executive Officer of H.J. Russell

& Company, a business started by his father Herman Russell in 1952, Russell is charged with charting a new course for a company that has played an instrumental role in the economic success Atlanta has enjoyed. Russell began his professional career as a Construction Manager with Portman Properties and returned to the family business four years later. For Russell, "it's an honor and a challenge to now lead H.J. Russell & Company into the future. We are fortunate to have a tremendous platform to build upon and we need all the advantages we can get to continue to grow and diversify in this volatile economic climate."

Those who know Russell all agree the business is in his blood. Prior to graduating from the University of Virginia and Georgia State University, he was learning every facet of the company. Russell was especially interested in revitalizing communities historically ignored by developers, recognizing the potential that existed in so many neighborhoods. "Our corporate offices have been located in the Castleberry Hills area for over 40 years. This area, only in the last 10 years has seen the revitalization that we enjoy today. We have always believed in urban Atlanta and are proud today to be one of the leaders in revitalizing neighborhoods such as the West End and Historic Westside," said Russell.

Yet, his father imparted upon his son more than the secrets of being a successful business leader. Russell is committed and involved in a number of organizations and foundations. He was among the corporate heavyweights leading the effort to restore Grady Hospital to financial viability and is co-chair of the new Grady Memorial Hospital Corporation Board of Directors. He continues to work toward enhancing the quality of life in Atlanta's communities through involvement on the Metro Chamber Executive Committee, Commerce Club Board of Directors, University of Virginia Engineering School Board of Trustees, Georgia State University Athletic Association Board, Children's Healthcare Foundation Board and 100 Black Men of Atlanta. "I believe in the motto that to whom much is given, much is required," he said. The Atlanta area has been good to my family and me. I'm committed through my various community engagements to give back and continue to make Atlanta one of the best places to live in the world," noted Russell.

Brooke Jackson Edmond

Senior Vice President and Principal
Jackmont Hospitality, Inc.



As long as she can remember, Brooke Jackson Edmond has wanted to run her own business. She let her family know at the age of twelve that she would like to own a hotel, leading to a series of summer internships at the Hyatt Regency, Ritz Carlton and Wyndham Hotel to test the waters. After attending the school of hospitality at Cornell University, her interest shifted to foodservice. Blessed with a mother and father who supported her dream, Brooke has laid claim to her place in the business world.

One of three founders of Jackmont Hospitality, Inc., an Atlanta-based foodservice management company, Brooke, along with partner Daniel Halpern, has turned a fledgling start-up into a \$100 million dollar business empire in just fifteen years. The creation of Jackmont Hospitality fulfilled her childhood dream. Brooke is responsible for business development for Jackmont, helping to set the strategic business development direction for the firm.

Edmonds has a clear view and vision for the future: "I will be devoting a lot of time and attention to the Maynard Jackson Youth Foundation. A major part of my vision is to build a legacy in community service for Jackmont Hospitality through the Maynard Jackson Youth Foundation." The Foundation was founded by Mayor Maynard Jackson in 1992 to teach leadership skills to young people. "The Youth Foundation seeks to enhance self esteem and pride in accomplishment, to support a positive value system and to instill a commitment to ethical public service for the youth we work with," said Edmond, CEO of the Youth Foundation and Mayor Jackson's daughter. "These are the principles my father taught those around him to live by and these are the values that we remain committed to pass on to the now generation."

Edmonds is a wife and mother of five children. She also finds time to volunteer in local charities, and has lectured nationally on hospitality industry related topics. She is a graduate of Spelman College, who has also studied at Cornell University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

In examining the African American experience in metro Atlanta, relativity is the operative word. In a regional comparison among African Americans and Whites, the latter still hold a significant advantage in key socio-economic indicators based on data from the 2007 U.S. Census Community Survey. Compared to Whites, African Americans in the region are less likely to have a high school diploma, less likely to be college educated, more likely to be unemployed, and more likely to live below the poverty level. It is a potentially precarious situation that requires vision, leadership and pragmatic solutions that are equitable. This reality has been difficult for many local governments to address, especially within suburban metro Atlanta counties where race and class tensions have at times compromised attempts at cooperation and consensus building.

2008 Top African American Businesses in the Nation and Metro Atlanta

Industrial/Service Companies in Metro Atlanta

These companies collectively grossed more than \$681 million

H.J. Russell and Co. – Atlanta (*Michael B. Russell, CEO*)

Gourmet Services, Inc. – Atlanta (*Nathaniel Goldston III, CEO*)

Carter Brothers – Atlanta (*John F. Carter, CEO*)

C.D. Moody Construction – Atlanta (*C. David Moddy, Jr. CEO*)

Bronner Brothers – Marietta (*Bernard Bronner, CEO*)

Sanderson Industries – Atlanta (*Rory Sanderson, CEO*)

Jackmont Hospitality – Atlanta (*Daniel Halprin, CEO*)

B.S. Electrical Supply – Atlanta (*Clarence Robie, CEO*)

Auto Dealerships

These companies collectively grossed more than \$923 million

Harrell Cos. – Atlanta (*Steve Harrell, CEO*)

Wade Ford – Smyrna (*Steven Ewing, CEO*)

Legacy Automotive – McDonough (*Emanuel Jones, CEO*)

Mercedes-Benz of Atlanta – Atlanta (*Gregory Baranco, CEO*)

Malcolm Cunningham– Decatur (*Malcolm Cunningham, CEO*)

Jackson Acura – Roswell (*Harvey Jackson, CEO*)

Stone Mountain Chrysler – Stone Mountain (*Darryl Ford, CEO*)

As of December 31, 2008. Black Enterprise Magazine

There is also another challenge confronting many poor Black communities—gentrification. Prior to the 1996 Centennial Olympic Games, neighborhoods such as Inman Park, Decatur and East Lake were changing demographically. After the Olympic Games, there was a strong push by suburbanites to move back into the city of Atlanta. Traffic, in-town amenities, and affordable older housing all led to a dramatic shift in racial composition. As a result, homes have escalated in value, leading to higher property taxes.

African Americans in the 21st century must determine how best to assist those yet to realize “The Dream,” as envisioned by Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. at the steps of the Lincoln Memorial in 1963, and those who are the beneficiaries of the King legacy. Fortunately, many African Americans within the metro Atlanta area are in a position to make substantive decisions capable of impacting thousands throughout the city, or just a handful within a local neighborhood. Both are required if public policy is going to be established to mitigate the impact of poverty, improve access to resources and social networks and expand opportunities so all can enjoy the American Dream.



Rev. Joseph Lowery recently joined Ambassador Andrew Young and Henry Aaron as recipients of the nation's highest civilian award, the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

African American Institutions and Leadership

One cannot paint the African American community with broad strokes of generalities. It is this diversity which makes the African American community so vibrant. Within this dynamism lies two fulcrums: institutions and leadership, which have guided African Americans through rough times and served as beacons of hope.

African American institutions and leadership have historically provided the moral center, social networks, vision and unifying bond necessary for community sustainability. The quintessential institution and leader is the church and the minister. Metro Atlanta has been the home of numerous religious leaders, such as the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., who have





Big Bethel AME Church has partnered with the Integral Group in a multi-million dollar revitalization on "Sweet" Auburn Avenue. Founded in 1847, Big Bethel, is the oldest predominantly African American congregation in the Atlanta region.

transformed the lives of individuals and this nation. In the 21st century, some of the most recognizable and successful pastors in the country have congregations in the Atlanta region. Among the largest is New Birth Missionary Baptist Church with more than 25,000 members. The corner church has given way to mega churches consisting of 1,800 or more congregants. There are at least 21 mega churches led by African American ministers throughout the region. There is an ongoing debate within the Black religious community between the dogma of preaching prosperity as opposed to those traditionally advocating for the poor and social justice. Regardless of the message or motivation, the Black church is a major fixture in the lives of African Americans living in the Atlanta region.

Churches such as Big Bethel AME are pursuing economic development projects in partnership with the private sector, while others are advocating for social causes through organizations such as the Concerned Black Clergy and Atlantans Building Leadership for Empowerment (ABLE). The church has been, and will continue to be, a major determiner of spiritual, economic, political and social outcomes.

Another major institution in the African American community is the Atlanta University Center (AUC). It is a consortium of Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), including Morehouse College, Spelman

College, Clark Atlanta University, Interdenominational Theological Center, Morehouse School of Medicine and Morris Brown College. These schools, located in southwest Atlanta, have produced some of the greatest minds and leaders for more than 140 years. The AUC is the largest concentration of HBCUs in the world with more than 10,000 students attending undergraduate, postgraduate and medical school. Together, they produce more Black post graduates than any college system with the exception of Howard University. Leaders of these institutions are nationally recognized as being among the best.

Atlanta ranks 3rd in African American students among the nation's 50 largest metro areas and Atlanta's increase in the number of African Americans attending college was #1 in the nation.

Source: "Higher Education in America's Metropolitan Area", Atlanta Regional Council for Higher Education (ARCHE), 2008.

In the 21st century, the missions of these schools have not changed, nor has the talent level of the student population. But African American students are taking advantage of the opportunity to attend other institutions of higher learning. Between 1998 and 2007, for example, Black student enrollment at Georgia State University and Clayton State University increased on average by 22 percent and 78 percent, respectively. Increased educational opportunities will no doubt bode well for the metro Atlanta area economically, socially and politically. The AUC and HBCUs in general will have to maintain a competitive edge if they intend to develop young minds and leaders in the 21st century.

The Metro Atlanta region is fortunate to have a long history of African American leaders who have empowered, given voice and inspired people in Georgia and throughout the world. From the tension of race, class and



Spelman College, the nation's oldest historically black college for women was started in the basement of Friendship Baptist Church in 1881. It is ranked among the top colleges in the United States for women.

gender oppression have emerged dynamic men and women with a profound sense of purpose and an unyielding desire to serve humanity. As an example, in 1905, W.E.B. DuBois, Georgia Towns and Alonzo Herndon all lived in Atlanta and formed an organization to advocate on behalf of African Americans who were being systematically denied their civil and human rights. Their efforts led to the establishment of the Niagara Movement, pre-cursor to the eventual formation of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), the pre-eminent civil rights organization in the United States, and the emergence of Black political power in Atlanta.

During the 20th century, other notable leaders came forward, in their respective fields, to effect positive change. Individuals such as Walter White (Civil Rights), John Wesley Dobbs (Civil Rights), John Hope (Education, Civil Rights), Eugenia Burns Hope (Education, Civic), Martin Luther King, Sr. (Civil Rights), Martin Luther King, Jr. (Civil Rights), Andrew Young (Public Service, Civil Rights), Tyrone Brooks (Civil Rights, State Legislator), Joseph E. Lowery (Civil Rights), Henry Johnson (State Senator), Shirley Franklin (Public Service), Lonnie King (Civil Rights), William Holmes Borders (Civil Rights), Henry McNeal Turner (Civil Rights), Norris Herndon (Business), Xernona Clayton (Media), Ella Baker (Civil Rights), John Lewis (Public Service, Civil Rights) and countless others paved the way for African Americans in the 21st century to become leaders in various capacities.

Dramatic change occurred in the local political structure with the election of Maynard Jackson as the city's first African American mayor in 1974. Since then, Atlanta has only elected black mayors, including Andrew Young (1982), Maynard Jackson again (1990), Bill Campbell (1994), Shirley Franklin – the first woman in the city's history to hold that office – and Kasim Reed in 2010.

Today, African Americans in the region are fully immersed in the Atlanta region. Leaders are serving on corporate boards and at the helm of Fortune 500 companies. Leaders like Christopher C. Womack, Executive Vice-President, Georgia Power; Milton Jones, Bank of America Georgia



A Visionary Leader – Mayor Maynard Jackson

One of the most compelling leaders in Atlanta history was Mayor Maynard Jackson. He was the first African American to be elected mayor in Atlanta or any major southern city serving two terms from 1974–1982 and a third from 1990–1994. His bold leadership style allowed him to institute the most successful affirmative action program in municipal history and to implement the Neighborhood Planning Unit (NPU) program, which allows greater community input on zoning matters. He also expanded the airport to become an international hub. Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport was renamed following his death in 2003.

President; Michael Russell, president, H.J. Russell Companies; Beverly Tatum, president of Spelman College and Milton Little, President, United Way of Metropolitan Atlanta are providing leadership in their respective arenas. The Metro Atlanta region can be characterized in one word—dynamic.

The region's firsts in the political arena are now many and can be found throughout the region from school boards to city councils, county commissions and a range of local and statewide elected offices. From Thurbert Baker, the first Black Attorney General to Richard Oden, John Mitchell and Ruth Wilson, the first African Americans to win office county-wide in Rockdale County as county chairman, county commissioner and superior court clerk, respectively, in 2008. The region's political landscape is undergoing a transformation.

Most established and emerging African American leaders share a similar definition of leadership and are concerned about similar socio-economic issues. Almost all speak of leaders having a vision, the capacity to mobilize people, a willingness to stand alone if the world disagrees with them and a selfless spirit which drives them to serve others. African American leaders desire to participate within the democratic process, serve the masses within the context of sacred or secular law and possess a moral conviction to effect positive change by direct action.

With regard to contemporary issues, many leaders are concerned about the state of public education and the lack of educational achieve-



African Americans in the Georgia General Assembly and U.S. Congress

There are four senators and 21 state representatives serving metro Atlanta districts in the Georgia General Assembly (2009–2010). Hank Johnson (2007) and David Scott (2003) joined longtime congressman John Lewis (1986) in representing metro Atlanta districts in the U.S. Congress.





ment within the African American community. Although there are more African Americans attending college than ever before, the trend of high dropout rates and low test scores gives reason for concern about metro Atlanta's economic future.

Despite the problems African Americans still face, many have "renewed hope for the future boosted by the election of the first Black president of the United States," said Reverend Joseph Lowery, who gave the closing benediction at the recent presidential inauguration.

In the 21st century, African Americans will need to operate in a metropolitan area that is more diverse and unfamiliar with past social, economic and political patterns. Black leaders will be more inclined to build coalitions, even within the African American community, around issues impacting the majority of Atlantans. Yet, the challenges and barriers of the 20th century still persist as poverty continues to undermine the potential of many. Each person has to conclude for themselves if the glass is half empty or half full.

African American Cultural Expressions

If a person lives in, or intends to visit, the Atlanta region, there is so much to see, hear, taste and experience. This is especially true if he/she wants to learn more about the African American experience as told through the arts and other forms of cultural expression. Atlanta is home to the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Center for Non-Violence and the King National Historic Site, both located on Auburn Avenue. While there, one can visit the King Library, walk through his birth home, reflect by the tombs of Dr. King and his wife Coretta Scott King, watch footage documenting the civil rights movement, or sit in the pews of Ebenezer Baptist Church. A couple of blocks east, a person can visit Big Bethel AME Church, founded in 1847, the oldest predominantly African American congregation in the Atlanta region. One might also visit Auburn Avenue Research Library on African American Culture and History's document collection chronicling the Black experience.



The Auburn Avenue Historic District hosts the Sweet Auburn Springfest with music, food, art and other events from around the world in May of each year. The Sweet Auburn Heritage Festival which celebrates the richness and beauty of African American culture is held in October.



The National Black Arts Festival has been celebrating African American art and culture for more than 20 years by bringing together renowned visual, literary and performance artists from throughout the world. No other festival can compare in scale and quality.

In May, the Auburn Avenue Historic District hosts the Sweet Auburn Springfest. The event offers people a wonderful opportunity to enjoy great music, food, art and other events from around the world. In October, they also host the Sweet Auburn Heritage Festival which celebrates the richness and beauty of African American culture.

From Auburn Avenue it is a short trip to NW Atlanta, a treasure trove of history and culture. Within this community is The Herndon Home Museum, the former home of Alonzo Herndon, Atlanta's first black millionaire and



Herndon Home Museum was the home of Alonzo Herndon, who overcame slavery to become Atlanta's first black millionaire. The home is owned and operated by the Alonzo F. and Norris B. Herndon Foundation.

slave-born founder of the Atlanta Life Insurance Company. There is also the Clark Atlanta University Art Gallery, the Spelman College Museum of Fine Art and the Robert W. Woodruff Library and Archives, which oversees the cataloging of the King Papers purchased in 2007 by civic, business and political leaders for the planned Center for Civil and Human Rights. Continuing south into the Historic West End community, one can visit the Hammonds House Museum to find some of the best past and contemporary African American art in the Southeast. In May, the Historic West



Holidays and Special Observances

In addition to other Western and ethnic holidays and observances, African Americans may celebrate the following:

Martin Luther King Day

(3rd Monday in January)

Juneteenth

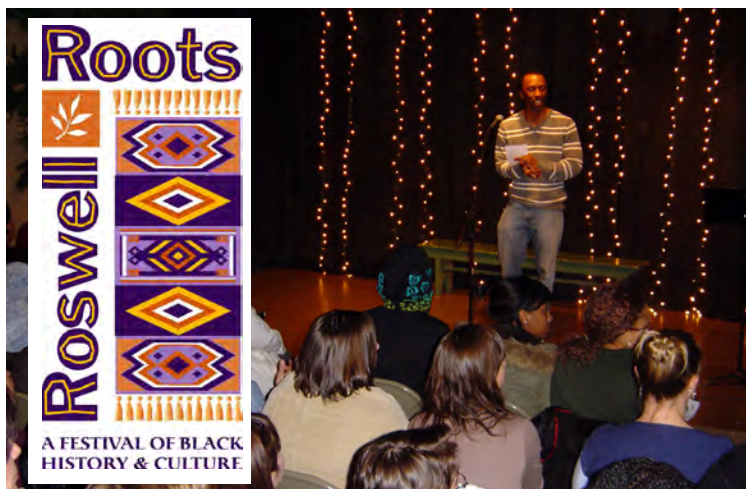
(June 19)

National Black History Month

(February)

Kwanzaa

(December 26 – January 1)



Roswell Roots, a month-long festival with a comprehensive array of activities, exhibits, performances and education, is the largest county-based Black History month celebration in metro Atlanta.

End Community hosts the West End Historic District Tour of Homes and Concert allowing visitors to enter into Antebellum and Victorian era homes to witness firsthand the beautiful architecture and craftsmanship of those periods. Afterward, a person can visit the majestic West Hunter Street Baptist Church whose pastor was famed civil rights leader Rev. Dr. Ralph David Abernathy, co-founder of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference.

If someone has a taste for classic African American cuisine, then Paschal's Restaurant at Castleberry Hill offers a wonderful selection of entrees, appetizers and desserts to satisfy anyone. The restaurant was first located on Hunter Street, now Martin Luther King, Jr., Drive, and served as the second home for many civil rights leaders who dined and strategized at this Atlanta institution.

African Americans have been integral in establishing the history and culture of the Metro Atlanta region. Whether attending a gallery exhibit, walking through Victorian homes, or recounting the civil rights movement, the African American story of hope, struggle, and perseverance is well chronicled.

African American Organizations, Associations and Resources

Below is a listing of a broad cross section of selected organizations, associations and resources associated with the African American community. Additional resources are available at www.atlantaregional.com.

ARTS AND CULTURE

The Apex Museum
135 Auburn Avenue NE
Atlanta, Georgia
404-523-2739
www.apexmuseum.org

Hammonds House Gallery
503 Peoples Street
Atlanta, GA 30310
404-752-8730

Herndon House
587 University Pl NW
Atlanta, GA 30314
(404) 581-9813
www.herndonhome.org

National Black Arts Festival
659 Auburn Avenue NE, Suite 254
Atlanta, Georgia 30312
404-730-7315
www.nbaf.org

BUSINESS/ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Atlanta Black Business Association
1201 Peachtree Street, Suite 200
Atlanta, Georgia 30369
404-877-9192
www.atlantablackbusinessbureau.com

Atlanta Business League
931 Martin Luther King, Jr. Dr.
Atlanta, Georgia 30314
404-584-6206
www.theatlantabusinessleague.org
Atlanta Urban League

100 Edgewood Avenue NE, Suite 600
Atlanta, Georgia 30303
404-659-1150
www.atlul.org

Georgia Black Chamber of Commerce
1599-A Memorial Drive SE, Suite 120
Atlanta, Georgia 30317
404-329-4504
www.gablackchamberofcommerce.org

Georgia Minority Supplier Development Council
SunTrust Annex Building, Fifth Floor
58 Edgewood Avenue
Atlanta, Georgia 30303
404-589-4929
www.gmsdc.org

Greater Atlanta Economic Alliance
www.alliance4u.com

National Black MBA Association, INC.
Atlanta Chapter
Post Office Box 54656
Atlanta, Georgia 30308
404-572-8001
www.atlbmba.org

Citizens Trust Bank
75 Piedmont Ave.
Atlanta, Georgia 30303
404-575-8400
www.ctbatlanta.com

Capitol City Bank
562 Lee Street
Atlanta, Georgia 30310
404-752-6067
www.capitolcitybank-atl.com

CIVIL RIGHTS AND ADVOCACY
NAACP Georgia State Conference
970 Martin Luther King, Jr Dr. SW
Atlanta, Georgia 30714
www.ganaacp.org

NAACP Atlanta Branch
404-761-1266
www.atlantanaacp.org

Cobb County
770-425-5757
www.cobbnaacp.org

DeKalb County
404 241-8006
www.dekalb.org

Gwinnett County
770-972-9722





Fayette County
770-460-9934
www.fcnaacp.org

Henry County
404-992-8834
www.hc-naacp.org

DeKalb Pacesetters Life Members Guild
404-508-4779

Greater Atlanta Millenium Section
Metropolitan Atlanta Section
404-534-2250

Gwinnett Unity Partnership
P.O. Box 922374
Norcross, Georgia 30010
770-826-7263
www.qwinnettunity.com

Hosea Feed the Hungry & Homeless
1035 Donnelly Avenue SW
Atlanta, Georgia 30310
404-755-3353
www.hoseafeedthehungry.com

Southern Christian Leadership
Conference(SCLC)
320 Auburn Avenue NE
Atlanta, Georgia 30303
404-522-1420
www.sclcnational.org

SCLC Women, Inc.
328 Auburn Avenue NW
Atlanta, Georgia 30303
404-584-0303
www.sclcwomeninc.org

Concerned Black Clergy of Metropolitan
Atlanta, Inc.
838 Cascade Road
Atlanta, Georgia 30310
404-755-4900
<http://concernedblackclergy.org>

Coalition for the People's Agenda
100 Auburn Avenue, Suite 102
Atlanta, Georgia 30303
404-653-1199
www.gcpagenda.org

100 Black Men of America, Inc.
141 Auburn Avenue
Atlanta, Georgia 30303
404-468-5100
www.100blackmen.org

100 Black Men of Atlanta, Inc.
404-525-6220
www.100blackmen-atlanta.org

100 Black Men of DeKalb, Inc.
404-288-2772
www.dekalb100blackmen.org

100 Black Men of North Metro, Inc.
678-688-4130
www.northmetro100.org
100 Black Men of South Metro, Inc.
770-996-0314
www.100blackmensouthmetro.org

National Coalition of 100
Black Women, Inc.

Decatur/DeKalb Chapter
770-322-8049
www.ncbdekalb.org

Mecca Chapter
www.nc100bwmeccaga.org

Metropolitan Atlanta Chapter, Inc.
404-5221061
www.ncbw-metroatlantachapter.org

Northwest Georgia Chapter, Inc.
www.nc100bwnwga.org

Rainbow/Push Coalition
Atlanta Satellite
Herndon Plaza
100 Auburn Avenue, Suite 101
Atlanta, Georgia 30303
404-525-5663
www.rainbowpushatlanta.org

The United Ebony Society of
Gwinnett, Inc.
www.unitedebonysociety.org

RESOURCES/ CULTURAL
Shrine of the Black Madonna
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Atlanta, Georgia 30310
404-752-6125
www.shrinebookstore.com

King Center
449 Auburn Avenue NE
Atlanta, Georgia 30312
404-526-8900
www.thekingcenter.org

Auburn Avenue Research Library
101 Auburn Avenue
Atlanta, Georgia
404-730-4001
www.afplweb.com/aarl/

Atlanta University Center Robert W.
Woodruff Library
111 James P. Brawley Dr. SW
Atlanta, Georgia 30314
404-978-2000
www.auctr.edu

Community
West End Historic District
<http://atlantawestend.com/myjoomla/index.php>

Sweet Auburn Historic District
www.sweetauburn.com

Shermantown CDC

POLITICAL
Georgia Association of Black Elected
Officials
18 Capitol Square SW, Suite 511
Atlanta, Georgia 30334
404-656-6372
www.gabeo.org

Georgia Legislative Black Caucus
18 Capitol Square SW, Suite 602
Atlanta, Georgia 30334
404-651-5569
www.galbc.org

National Conference of Black Mayors
1151 Cleveland Ave. Bldg D
East Point, Georgia 30344
404-765-6444
www.ncbm.org

EDUCATIONAL
Morehouse College
Robert M. Franklin
President
830 Westview Drive SW
Atlanta, Georgia 30314
404-681-2800
www.morehouse.edu

Spelman College
350 Spelman Lane SW
Atlanta, Georgia 30314
404-681-3643
www.spelman.edu

Clark Atlanta University
223 James P. Brawley Dr. SW
Atlanta, Georgia 30314
404-880-8000
www.cau.edu

Morris Brown College
643 Martin Luther King, Jr. Dr.
Atlanta, Georgia 30314
404-739-1010
www.morrisbrown.edu

Morehouse School of Medicine
720 Westview Drive SW
Atlanta, Georgia 30310
404-752-1500
www.msm.edu

Interdenominational Theology Center
700 Martin Luther King, Jr. Dr.
Atlanta, Georgia 30314
404-527-7700
www.itc.edu

United Negro College Fund
229 Peachtree Street, NE, Suite 205
Atlanta, Georgia 30303
404-302-8623
www.uncf.org

MEDICAL
Association of Black Cardiologists
6849-B2 Peachtree Dunwoody Road NE
Atlanta, Georgia 30328
678-302-4222
www.abccardio.org
National Medical Association/
Atlanta Chapter

Sickle Cell Foundation

MEDIA
Atlanta Daily Word
The Atlanta Voice
The Champion Newspaper
Atlanta Tribune: The Magazine
Atlanta Metro Magazine
My Magazine for Girls Inc.
www.mymagazine4girls.com

The Black Business Journal
4405 Mall Blvd, Suite 521
Union City, Georgia 30291
atlmet@bellsouth.net

(Radio One)
changePraise 97.5 PM

Grown Folk's 102.5 FM

WAOK News & Talk 1380 PM

KISS 104.1 FM

V103 FM

Atlanta Association of Black Journalists
P.O. Box 54128
Atlanta, GA 30308
770-433-5975
www.aabj.org

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
Blacks United for Youth, Inc.
P.O. Box 3485
Marietta, GA 30061

Dallas Austin Foundation
576 Travert AVE NW
Atlanta, Georgia 30309
678-686-5676
www.dallasaustinfoundation.org

Frank Ski Kids Foundation
2179 16th St.
Atlanta, GA 30363
404-870-0230
www.frankskikidsfoundation.org

Inroads Atlanta, Inc.
260 Peachtree St. NW
Atlanta, GA 30303
404-588-0438
www.inroads.org

Maynard Jackson Youth Foundation
100 Peachtree St. Suite 2275
Atlanta, GA 30303
404-681-3211
www.mjyf.org

Usher's New Look Foundation Inc.
770-441-5050
Email: info@ushersnewlook.org
www.ushersnewlook.org

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E-mail: globalsnapshots@atlantaregional.com

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