

State Of Maryland 2026 Bond Initiative Fact Sheet

1. Name Of Project		
National Great Blacks In Wax Museum		
2. Senate Sponsor	3. House Sponsor	
McCray		
4. Jurisdiction (County or Baltimore City)	5. Requested Amount	
Baltimore City	\$500,000	
6. Purpose of Bond Initiative		
the acquisition, planning, design, construction, expansion, repair, renovation, reconstruction, site improvement, and capital equipping of the new National Great Blacks In Wax Museum expansion initiative		
7. Matching Fund		
Requirements:	Type:	
Grant		
8. Special Provisions		
[<input type="checkbox"/>] Historical Easement	[<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>] Non-Sectarian	
9. Contact Name and Title	Contact Ph#	Email Address
Joanne Martin		410-563-3404 x.116
10. Description and Purpose of Organization (Limit length to visible area)		
<p>The Museum is a serious cultural institution that tells the full, unfiltered story of African and African American history from ancient African civilizations to enslavement, resistance, innovation, and global impact. It documents truth, centers Black voices, and preserves legacy. Founded in Baltimore in 1983 by Drs. Elmer and Joanne Martin, the Museum has spent more than four decades serving as a living archive, an educational force, and a space of cultural affirmation for generations of students, families, scholars, and visitors from around the world. Since its opening in 1983, it has become a prominent, nationally recognized institution. It has also evolved into a powerful compendium of wax figures. The Museum houses about 150 figures of people from the past- like Dr Martin Luther King Jr. and Rosa Parks, and from the present-like President Barack Obama.</p>		

11. Description and Purpose of Project (Limit length to visible area)

The National Great Blacks In Wax Museum Expansion Project aims to significantly enhance its facilities by adding more than 20,000 square feet of new construction, more than tripling the museum's previous square footage. This will include 15,000 square feet of new galleries and diverse community spaces that celebrate Black excellence from African origins to the global diaspora. This transformative initiative features a Memorial Garden and outdoor event arena, providing a new hub for reflection and outdoor programs. Scope of Work: Site Demolition, Excavation & Sediment Control The Scope of Work (SOW) covers all site demolition, earthwork, and environmental controls required to prepare the 2.43 acre site for new construction.

Round all amounts to the nearest \$1,000. The totals in Items 12 (Estimated Capital Costs) and 13 (Proposed Funding Sources) must match. The proposed funding sources must not include the value of real property unless an equivalent value is shown under Estimated Capital Costs.

12. Estimated Capital Costs

Acquisition	\$35,000
Design	\$855,000
Construction	\$24,479,000
Equipment	\$1,407,000
Total	\$26,776,000

13. Proposed Funding Sources - (List all funding sources and amounts.)

Grants Secured: Federal, State, City	\$8,310,000
Future Public Funding	\$2,000,000
Donations: Individuals, Foundations & Corporations	\$1,790,000
Capital Campaign	\$8,800,000
Exhibit/Gallery & Wax Figures Sponsorships	\$5,000,000
Fundraising Events: Galas, Community events, etc	\$876,000
Total	\$26,776,000

14. Project Schedule (Enter a date or one of the following in each box. N/A, TBD or Complete)			
Begin Design	Complete Design	Begin Construction	Complete Construction
Spring 2022	Winter 2026	TBD	TBD
15. Total Private Funds and Pledges Raised	16. Current Number of People Served Annually at Project Site	17. Number of People to be Served Annually After the Project is Complete	
102025	25,000	100,000	
18. Other State Capital Grants to Recipients in the Past 15 Years			
Legislative Session	Amount	Purpose	
FY22	\$2,000,000	Acquisition, planning, design, construction, expansion	
FY23	\$1,000,000	Acquisition, planning, design, construction, expansion	
FY24	\$750,000	Acquisition, planning, design, construction, expansion	
FY25	\$500,000	Acquisition, planning, design, construction, expansion	
19. Legal Name and Address of Grantee		Project Address (If Different)	
National Great Blacks In Wax Museum 1601-03 East North Avenue Baltimore, MD 21213		1607-1645 East North Avenue Baltimore, MD 21213	
20. Legislative District in Which Project is Located	45 - Baltimore City		
21. Legal Status of Grantee (Please Check One)			
Local Govt.	For Profit	Non Profit	Federal
[]	[]	[X]	[]
22. Grantee Legal Representative		23. If Match Includes Real Property:	
Name:	Joanne Martin	Has An Appraisal Been Done?	Yes/No
Phone:	410.563.3404 ext. 116		No
Address:		If Yes, List Appraisal Dates and Value	
1601-03 East North Avenue Baltimore, MD 21213			

24. Impact of Project on Staffing and Operating Cost at Project Site			
Current # of Employees	Projected # of Employees	Current Operating Budget	Projected Operating Budget
8	25	754612.00	1309700.00
25. Ownership of Property (Info Requested by Treasurer's Office for bond purposes)			
A. Will the grantee own or lease (pick one) the property to be improved?			Own
B. If owned, does the grantee plan to sell within 15 years?			No
C. Does the grantee intend to lease any portion of the property to others?			No
D. If property is owned by grantee any space is to be leased, provide the following:			
Lessee	Terms of Lease	Cost Covered by Lease	Square Footage Leased
N/A			
E. If property is leased by grantee - Provide the following:			
Name of Leaser	Length of Lease	Options to Renew	
N/A			
26. Building Square Footage:			
Current Space GSF	5,450		
Space to be Renovated GSF	5,450		
New GSF	20,000		

27. Year of Construction of Any Structures Proposed for Renovation, Restoration or Conversion

2027

28. Comments