MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

The African American Museum in Philadelphia (AAMP) is committed to illuminating the true and often painful realities of the Black American experience. The senseless death of George Floyd and similar tragedies that have taken the lives of Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery and countless others are too reminiscent of the centuries-long degradation of Black lives in America. The unjust circumstances that resulted in the loss of innocent lives expose the current threatening reality of Black men and women living anywhere in our country, and may reflect the fearful existence that could define the future of our Black children.

At AAMP it is our obligation to remind the public of the long historical context of police violence against Black people and to provide a forum for people of all backgrounds and races to engage in meaningful discourse as we search for systemic solutions. In the coming days AAMP and its partners in the cultural and social justice sectors will announce programming that will provide a forum for our communities to continue the necessary discussion about racism and police brutality.

Exploration of these troubling issues is not new to AAMP. In fact, AAMP’s uncompromising commitment to bold truth-telling is central to our mission as a museum dedicated to revealing the historic legacies and contemporary experiences of Black people. Through our compelling exhibits and thought-provoking programs, we strive to raise consciousness and inspire informed activism.

We extend our deepest condolences to the families of George Floyd and other martyrs. Their legacies must be honored through action. We stand in solidarity with all of those who have peacefully demonstrated against systemic injustices, and pledge to continue to serve as an agent of truth, peace and change. We urge you to join us.

Yours in service,

Patricia Wilson Aden
President & CEO