



Why Black History Month Every February

By Daryl Michael Scott

Editor's note: The Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH) announced the theme of Black History Month 2024 as "African Americans and the Arts" to recognize the extensive range and influence of African American cultural expression. ASALH founded the annual commemoration of Black history in 1926. This article by the organization's former national president explains. Please visit their website for more details: https://asalh.org/

The story of Black History Month begins in Chicago during the summer of 1915. An alumnus of the University of Chicago with many friends in the city, Carter G. Woodson traveled from Washington, DC, to participate in a national celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of emancipation sponsored by the state of Illinois. Thousands of African Americans traveled from across the country to see exhibits highlighting the progress their people had made since the destruction of slavery. Awarded a doctorate from Harvard three years

earlier, Woodson joined the other exhibitors with a Black history display. Despite being held at the Coliseum, site of the 1912 Republican convention, an overflow crowd of six to twelve thousand waited outside for their turn to view the exhibits. Inspired by the three-week celebration, Woodson decided to form an organization to promote the scientific study of Black life and history before leaving town. On September 9, Woodson met at the Wabash YMCA with A. L. Jackson and three others and formed the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History (ASNLH).

He hoped that others would popularize the findings that he and other Black intellectuals would publish in *The Journal of Negro History*, which he established in 1916. As early as 1920, Woodson urged Black civic organizations to promote the achievements that researchers were uncovering. A graduate member of Omega Psi Phi, he urged his fraternity brothers to take up the work. In 1924, they responded with the creation of Negro History and Literature Week, which they renamed Negro Achievement Week. Their outreach was significant, but Woodson desired greater impact.



He told an audience of Hampton Institute students, "We are going back to that beautiful history and it is going to inspire us to greater achievements." In 1925, he decided that the association had to shoulder the responsibility. Going forward, it would

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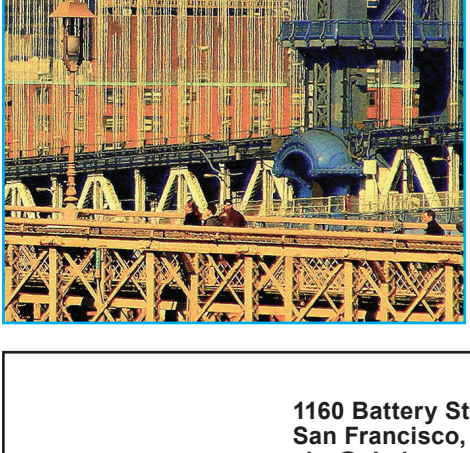


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GSA Silvio J. Mollo Project

ATTENTION:
 All Small Businesses, VOSB, SDVOB, HUBZone, SDB and WOSB (including Vendors & Suppliers)

Turner

IS HOSTING INFORMATION SESSIONS FOR THE GSA SILVIO J. MOLLO FEDERAL BUILDING PROJECT. JOIN US FOR A VIRTUAL SESSION AND IN-PERSON SESSION TO LEARN ABOUT THE PROJECT, UPCOMING BID PACKAGES AND SCHEDULE.

SAVE THE DATE

Virtual Session: Tuesday, 2/13/2024 11AM - 12PM EST Click to register	Scan to register: 	In-Person Session: March 2024 Location and Time TBD Click to register	Scan to register:
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Description of Project:
 The GSA Silvio Mollo modernization project will renovate and provide new offices for the Criminal Division of the United States Attorney's office (USAO) for the Southern District of New York. The scope of the project includes a major rehabilitation of the existing 10 story building. This will also include demolition of all existing components down to the base structure, new MEP systems, a full interior fit-out, a new curtain wall and metal panel facade, enhanced security measures, and expansion of the existing building floor plates. The project is also pursuing LEED Platinum certification.

If you are interested in Turner Construction's Prequalification process and bidding information on this project, please email gsaasilviomollo@tcco.com.

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IS CURRENTLY SOLICITING COST PROPOSALS FROM QUALIFIED AND CERTIFIED MBE, WBE, AND SDVOB SUBCONTRACTORS, VENDORS, SERVICE PROVIDERS

George Washington Bridge—Rehabilitation of Structural Steel
 PANYNJ Contract No. GWB-244.287
 Bid Date: February 14, 2024

Brief description of work:
 The work under this contract consists generally of rehabilitation of structural steel and concrete, removal of lead and asbestos-containing paint, repainting the underside of the lower level, replacement of maintenance travelers, center median upgrades, and related work at the George Washington Bridge lower level, and above the Hudson River, the New York City Park area, the New Jersey Palisades Interstate Park, and the vicinities thereof in New York and New Jersey. The work under Contract GWB-244.287 consists generally of bridge maintenance, travelers' maintenance, repairs, testing, and system upgrades. GWB-244.287M—Agreement to Perform Maintenance of the George Washington Bridge Maintenance Travelers and Associated Systems.

Participation goals: 20% MBE, 10% WBE, and 3% SDVOB

ALL QUOTATIONS ARE DUE BY CLOSE OF BUSINESS Wednesday, February 7, 2024. For further information concerning subcontracting and/or purchasing opportunities, and to register as a subcontractor or vendor, please respond to solicitations@tutorperini.com or contact Arlene McBayne at (914) 739-1908. Come and join our team!

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BIDDING OPPORTUNITY

City of Valhalla, New York, with the following certifying authority: SBA, DOT, New York State, New Jersey, Connecticut

Inviting qualified contractors, specifically firms within New York State, to contact J. F. Shea Construction, Inc. (prime contractor listed below) regarding subcontracting services and material supply opportunities in connection with

Tunnel and Shafts Project in the City of Valhalla, New York
 NYC DEP Contract No. KENS-EAST-1
 Bid Date: March 28, 2024

Opportunities to participate exist in the following specific areas of soil/rock excavation, hauling, excavation support systems, deep foundation system (slurry walls or secant piles, soldier beams), dewatering systems, structural steel, engineering, survey, geotechnical instrumentation and monitoring services, materials testing, demolition and site preparation, tree removal, aggregates and fill, traffic control, sewer tap and sewer bypass pumping, A/C paving, environmental investigation, utility relocation, paving, fencing and gates, planting and seeding, retaining wall, cured in-place concrete structures, cast-in-place pipe lining, reinforcing steel, ground stabilization, shotcrete, concrete finishing, miscellaneous metals, mechanical steel pipe, ventilation HVAC, precast concrete shaft covers, temporary office buildings/services, temporary electricians, waterproofing, service utilities, grouting, electrical/I&C, river bank stabilization, drilled shaft, pest control, IT services, waste disposal, cleaning services, and security.

Any business seeking to participate as a DBE in the contract that is not currently certified as set forth above review is encouraged to contact the certifying authority for SBA, New York State, State DOT, New Jersey, or Connecticut to obtain current certification.

NYC DEP has an FTP site where you can view all plans, specifications, and addendums for your convenience. Please contact Aimee Remo at (909) 594-0990, aimee.remo@jfshea.com, to receive instructions on accessing the FTP Site.

J. F. Shea Construction, Inc.
 667 Brea Canyon Road, Suite 22
 Walnut, CA 91789
 Phone: 909-594-0990 Fax: 909-869-0827

Send Inquiries/Certifications to Aimee Remo: aimee.remo@jfshea.com

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IS SOLICITING COST PROPOSALS FROM NEW YORK STATE DBE SUBCONTRACTORS AND VENDORS

Design-Build Services for LIRR West Side Yard Flood Mitigation Measures
 MTA Construction and Development Contract No. 6401
 Bid Date: April 15, 2024

Description of project:
 Design, furnish, construct, and install concrete perimeter flood walls, seepage cut-off barriers below the concrete flood walls, flood gates, deployable flood barriers, sump pumps, a tide gate chamber, drainage system improvements, workable aisles and a diesel generator, an automatic transfer switch, ancillary electrical equipment, and required communications.

This project will develop flood protection solutions for the West Side Yard in order to prevent and mitigate flooding of the LIRR Tunnels. The flood protection along the WSY perimeter will be accomplished via a combination of permanent flood walls and deployable flood barriers.

Many bidding opportunities are available: deep foundations, minipiles, jetgrout, sheeting, rebar installation, concrete supply, site work, electrical work, painting, paving, curb and sidewalk, site utilities.

If you are interested in bidding on this project, please contact Skanska's Diversity and Outreach Coordinator: Aislinn.Speranza@skanska.com • EOE/M/F/Vet/Disabled

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COMPANY PROFILE

Edwards Unlimited is an award-winning media production and leadership development business enterprise. Our company is dedicated to helping corporations, entrepreneurs and non-profit organizations celebrate their successes and share their vision with the world through high quality video production, media/ presentation training and strategic communications. President & CEO Janice Edwards is an award-winning talk show host, Emmy-nominated producer, co-author of the national best-seller *Step Into Your Brilliance*, an in-demand MC, and an acclaimed contributor to community empowerment through her media work.

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- Leadership Development
- Strategic Communications
- Signature Talk & Keynote Speaking Training
- Media Production
- Writing
- Legacy Interviews
- Marketing
- Social Media Management

LEGACY INTERVIEWS

- Edwards Unlimited Legacy Interviews are 1080p 0r4K video and/or audio recording with transcripts capturing family treasures as living historical documents.
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- These legacy interviews have created joy and happiness among family members and friends. They become a living record for loved ones in the future.

NORTHEAST EVENTS FOR YOUR BUSINESS

2024

Starting a new business? Looking for capital and finance options? Looking for general advice on starting or maintaining your business? Hear from representatives from the local SBA office and the New Hampshire Secretary of State Corporation Division. This workshop (currently held online during the pandemic) is offered on the first Thursday of every month. To join this free webinar, copy and paste the link below into your browser, then register for tickets for the date of your choice to receive the access code. https://www.eventbrite.com/e/secretary-of-state-quickstart-and-small-business-administration-programs-tickets-262004180557

8(a) Orientation and SAM Registration Webinar
 Wednesday, February 21, 2024, 10:30 am–11:30 am Online
 Main Sponsor(s): US Small Business Administration
 Contact: SBA Illinois District Office, 312-353-4528, illinois.do@sba.gov
 Fee: Free; registration required

Join the Small Business Administration (SBA) Illinois District Office for a virtual workshop providing an overview of the 8(a) Business Development program, eligibility requirements, and program benefits. Also learn how to increase your potential for federal contract opportunities through System for Award Management (SAM) registration, including information that you need for the registration process. SBA presenters will offer additional tips, address FAQs, give directions on where to get further assistance, and answer your other questions. To register for this free webinar, visit https://www.eventbrite.com/e/8a-orientation-sam-registration-tickets-518989961947

SBA and SOS Monthly Webinar
 Thursday, March 7, 2024, 9:00 am–11:00 am Online
 Main Sponsor(s): US Small Business Administration, New Hampshire Secretary of State Corporation Division
 Contact: Miguel Moralez, 603-225-1601, miguel.moralez@sba.gov
 Fee: Free; registration required

Selling to the Federal Government Webinar
 Thursday, March 28, 2024, 1:00 pm–4:00 pm Online
 Main Sponsor(s): US Small Business Administration
 Contact: George Tapia, 610-382-3086, george.tapia@sba.gov
 Fee: Free; registration required

Did you know that the federal government is the largest purchaser of goods and services in the world? Interested in learning how your business can market your services or goods to the federal government? Register on-line at https://www.eventbrite.com/e/how-to-sell-to-the-federal-government-tickets-21790713611 SBA helps to ensure small businesses get fair opportunities to share federal government prime contracts. Topics include: How to Register, Small Business Certifications, Finding Opportunities, Marketing Your Firm, Federal Supply Schedules, Getting Paid, Tips to Prepare Your Offer, How to Seek Additional Assistance. All training sessions are held via Microsoft Teams Meeting. Participants must ensure Microsoft Teams is functioning.