



# ANNUAL REPORT, 2022 -2023



# 2023 THOUGHTS FROM OUR FOUNDER AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**Capacity Building** The year 2023 began with Maggie McColgan, our outreach coordinator, securing capacity-building money for a three-year goal of more stability. Capacity-building will bring on the first chief operations officer (COO) for the African American Registry.

**Classroom/Curriculum.** In January, Minnesota had a democratic trifecta government. Here, we proposed the Teacher's Forum and Readability Learning System (RLS) bill for state funding for statewide expansion. The Senate was supportive, but the House wasn't, and it did not pass.

I applied to national sources, McCullum, Klobuchar, and Smith, for congressional direct spending CDS; all fell through in May.

I secured a face-to-face meeting with MDE commissioner Willie Jett in September. One of our coaches and I proposed a greater Minnesota initiative like our bill, which they liked. At year's end, with two reminders, his office had yet to reply. We applied for a similar grant from the Minnesota Humanities Center in December, with hopes for support in January 2024

## **Youth/Elder Programs**

Meg Thomas is one of the curricula contributors to our work. She used her African connections to establish vital relationships with Ghana for the African American Registry's Street Team International.



**Content:** I continued to work in website administration through the AAREG office. My research has now created 6,500 articles edited through grammar software.

**Succession:** Our Executive Director and webmaster are investing in establishing a state subscription service for our content. We were turned down and invited to apply for their RFP in 2024. Our strategic plan timeline to include a two-year secession plan remains. This plan will require a hard look at social media and virtual reality with our COO and board development in the next phase of the African American Registry.

Benjamin Mchie

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Benjamin Mchie".

[African American Registry®](https://www.africanamericanregistry.org/)

## STREET TEAM INT., GLOBAL VIEWS WITH ALL GENERATIONS



In July, I traveled to Cape Coast, Winneba, and Accra, Ghana, Africa, for Street Team International (STI). There, I gathered quite a bit of content. The STI theme was *Pan-Africanism in the 21st century*. Meg Thomas and I researched three elementary schools, a university, and museums. I made many lifelong relationships, and the emphasis on Africana (the diaspora) philosophy was instilled in the mantra of the African American Registry while there.



*Pashington Obeng, Harriet Acquah,  
and Benjamin Mchie, Accra*



*Madame Befeni (teacher) and her class, Cape Coast*

We published [Street Team International Ghana](#) in December. The second of our yearly global study abroad connections instruct culture and history with interactive media. STI is a three-part PowerPoint video classroom exercise with an exam.

The program will combine historical facts that spotlight places where African heritage thrives in countries outside the continent. Our second partnership included the University of Cape Coast, the Nkwa Foundation, and the Pan African Heritage Museum. In the future, STI will visit Brazil, Ireland, and Israel.

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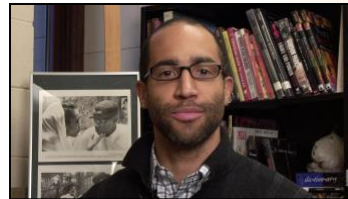


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# Scholarship, Teaching Support & Giving Youth a Voice



## Last Year

The Frances McHie Nursing Scholarship issued four more scholarships. Nehita Onwubuya is studying Public Health and Spanish and our most recent scholar. She is now on staff at North Memorial Hospital in Minneapolis. Our newest scholar is Suleika Mohamed, her plan after graduation is to become a Nurse Practitioner.

Our adjunct professors (support coaches) added diverse content and methods to a collection of lesson plans for the Teacher's Forums. From Pre-K and Elementary to Special Education, Middle and High Schools combine video and work page resources that adhere to or surpass state standards.

### White Paper:

Over the summer, Dr. Yvonne Banks, Julie Landsman, administered our fifth Whitepaper. *BIPOC Educator and their Journey of Impact* was its theme. The [Journal of The Registry](#) is a written space to encounter communities and propel those in power positions to make the fundamental, substantive changes necessary to bring accurate equity through Black America. This innovative idea will be a Bi-Annual scholarly research publication.



Nehita Onwubuya (Frances McHie Scholar) addresses the 2023 UMN graduation class in May

### The Teacher's Forum

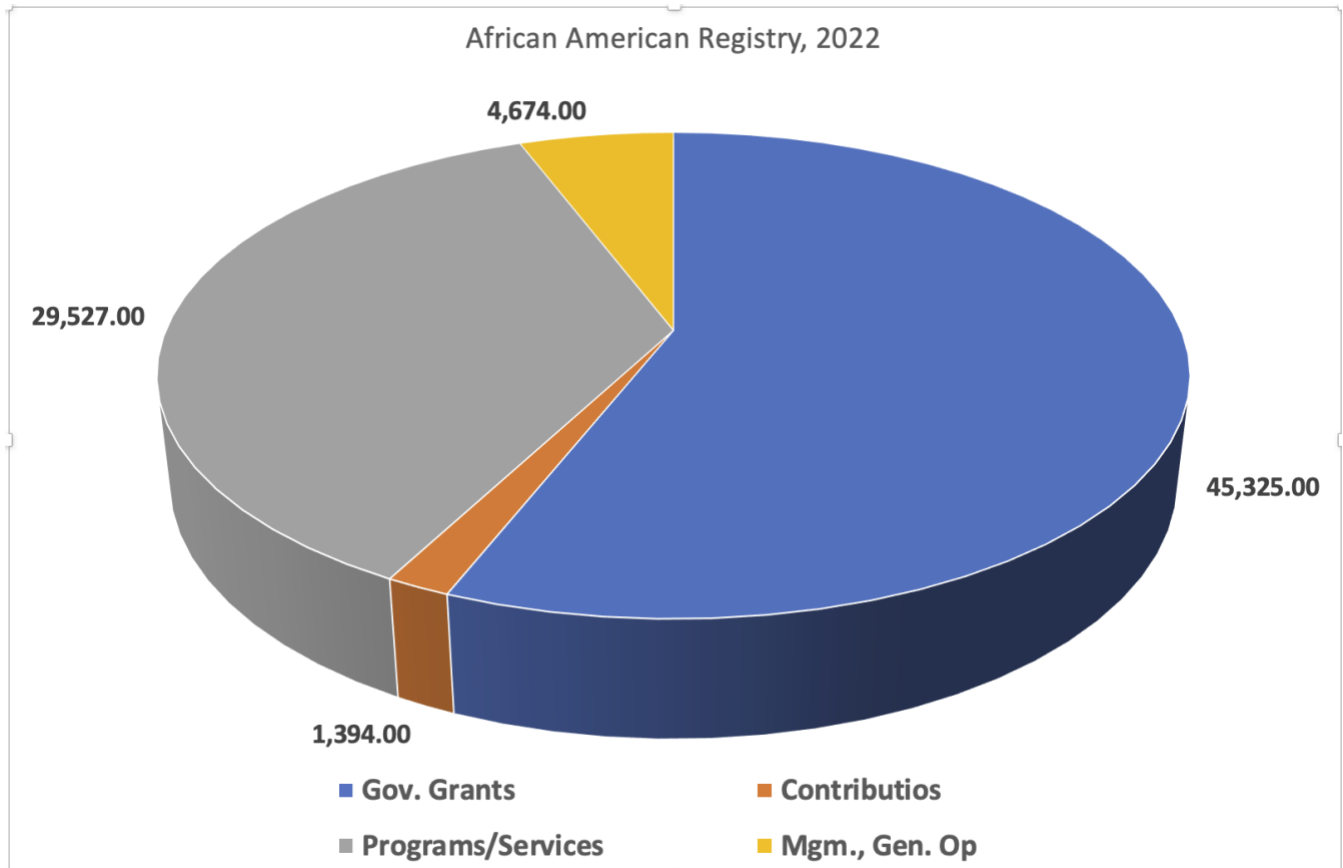
In January Concordia University of St. Paul, and the University of St. Thomas teacher education deans signed letters of participation. Yet our curriculum, staff, and literacy bill to serve outstate Minnesota for 2023 failed in the legislature. The state support bill was reframed as a proposal. We took it to a meeting with MDE Commissioner Jett and have written it into a grant to the Minnesota Humanities Center for support and should have positive responses in early 2024.

### MNHS

The Minnesota Historical Society (MNHS) and I negotiated inclusion the Registry in the society library. We agreed to establish a permanent ongoing African American Registry® collection in the state's archives. In 2022, I began submitting artifacts and manuscripts, both physical and electronic, to this ongoing collection. It should be available to the public in 2024. I'm pleased with this ongoing examination and lasting place for our work as a more than twenty-year-old



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