



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Baltimore's Union Baptist Church Choir to Celebrate Dr. King
with Live Concert at B&O Railroad Museum**



Union Baptist Church Choir with choir director, Bill Sydnor (front, center)

Baltimore, MD (January 14, 2020) The B&O Railroad Museum is honored to host the Union Baptist Church choir for an unforgettable live concert in celebration of the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on Sunday, January 19 at 1:30 PM.

“The B&O Railroad Museum is so pleased to be collaborating with Union Baptist Church for this important remembrance. The sound of the Choir voices in the historic Baldwin Roundhouse will be a special experience,” said Kris Hoellen, executive director of the B&O Railroad Museum.

The Union Baptist Church has a proud history of involvement in the civil rights movement, dating back to 1892 when pastor Dr. Harvey Johnson, a friend of W.E.B. DuBois, withdrew the church from the Maryland Baptist Union Association due to discrimination and went on to organize the Colored Baptist Convention. The withdrawal effectively made Union Baptist the first independent African American Baptist church in Maryland. Reverend Alvin Hathaway Sr., senior pastor of Union Baptist Church, added “Union Baptist Church feels this concert in association with the B&O Museum will highlight the important role of the African American experience in the railroad industry.”

Please join us as we welcome the Choir to rejoice in concert in the B&O's historic Roundhouse. The performance is complimentary with admission and a part of the museum's "Civil Rights and the B&O" events throughout the holiday weekend.

B&O History: From Slavery to Civil Rights Tour

Saturday, January 18 – 10:30 AM & 2 PM; Sunday, January 19 – 2:30 PM; Monday, January 20 – 1 PM

A special tour which highlights the history of African Americans on the B&O Railroad and includes the rare opportunity to enter a Pullman sleeper car. Tour included with admission.

Bridge to Freedom Kids Workshop

Saturday & Sunday, January 18 & 19 – 12 PM; Monday, January 20 – 11 AM & 2 PM

Young students of history will construct their own bridges as they learn about the role African American bridge-builders and railroad workers played in securing the Union's victory in the Civil War. Free for B&O members and \$6 for non-members plus admission. Advance registration is required, and registration closes January 16. Visit www.borail.events/kidsworkshop to register.

About the B&O Railroad Museum

The B&O Railroad Museum™, a full affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution, is dedicated to the preservation and interpretation of American railroading and its impact on American society, culture and economy. The Museum is home to the oldest, most comprehensive collection of railroad artifacts in the Western Hemisphere including an unparalleled roster of 19th and 20th century railroad equipment. The 40-acre historic site is regarded as the birthplace of American Railroading and includes the 1851 Mt. Clare Station, the 1884 Baldwin Roundhouse and first mile of commercial railroad track in America. For further information on the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Museum, please call 410-752-2490 or visit www.borail.org.

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