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## **Smithsonian Libraries Appoints Founding Librarian at the National Museum of African American History and Culture**

Shauna Collier has joined the Smithsonian Libraries as the founding librarian of the National Museum of African American History and Culture Library. Collier's new responsibilities include building the library's collection, developing an archival program and a genealogy center for public use, and providing research, outreach and instructional services and programming.

"The Smithsonian Libraries is delighted to welcome Shauna back to our staff to assume an essential role in creating a brand new African American library, the 21st in our network," said Nancy Gwinn, director of the [Smithsonian Libraries](#). "Although all of the Smithsonian's libraries are open to the public, this will be the first to be located in a prime public space."

Collier has demonstrated outstanding leadership in her 17 years of librarianship. Prior to coming to Smithsonian, Collier was the Sonja Hayes Stone Center Librarian for Black Culture and History at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, where she developed and maintained the collection with particular focus on African American studies and the African diaspora. Her previous positions include branch librarian for the Smithsonian Libraries' Anacostia Community Museum Library (Washington, D.C.), reference librarian with the Live Oak Public Library (Savannah, Ga.), records librarian for EPA Region IV (Atlanta, Ga.) and archivist for The Herndon Home Museum (Atlanta, Ga.).

A Mississippi native, Collier received her bachelor of arts in marketing from Jackson State University in Jackson, Miss. and a master of information and library studies from the University of Alabama. Her research interests include African American culture, family history, community history and the history of African American education.

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### About Smithsonian Libraries

The Smithsonian Libraries maintains a collection of more than 2 million volumes and serves as an educational resource for the Smithsonian Institution, the global research community and the public. The Libraries are located in Washington, Edgewater, Md., New York City and the Republic of Panama. Follow the Libraries on Facebook at [facebook.com/SmithsonianLibraries](https://facebook.com/SmithsonianLibraries) and on Twitter at [twitter.com/SILibraries](https://twitter.com/SILibraries). For more information about the Smithsonian Libraries, visit [library.si.edu](http://library.si.edu).

### About National Museum of African American History and Culture

The National Museum of African American History and Culture was established by an Act of Congress in 2003 making it the 19th museum of the Smithsonian Institution. Scheduled for completion in 2015, it is under construction on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., on a five-acre tract adjacent to the Washington Monument. Currently, the museum is hosting public programs, assembling collections and presenting exhibitions at other museums across the country and at its own gallery at the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History. More information can be found on the museum's website [nmaahc.si.edu](http://nmaahc.si.edu).