



## PAST INDUCTEES & HONOREES

CATHY HUGHES (TV ONE)  
SMOKEY ROBINSON  
ARETHA FRANKLIN  
PRINCE  
ELVIS PRESLEY  
DAVID RUFFIN  
LITTLE RICHARD  
DIONNE WARWICK  
MARVIN GAYE  
GENE CHANDLER  
OTIS REDDING  
MORGAN FREEMAN  
JIMMY SETTLES (UAW FORD)  
MARY WILSON  
VIVIAN PICKARD  
JOE JACKSON  
TOM JOYNER  
JAMES BROWN  
JACKIE WILSON  
MICHAEL JACKSON  
WHITNEY HOUSTON  
CHUBBY CHECKER  
JERRY BUTLER  
FATS DOMINO  
HERB KENT  
L.C. COOKE  
SAM COOKE  
MARTHA REEVES  
DONNIE SIMPSON  
MELBA MOORE  
DUKE FAKIR  
U.S REP JOHN CONYERS  
KIM WESTSON  
MILLIE JACKSON  
B.B. KING  
AL BELL  
THE TEMPTATIONS  
THE O'JAYS  
THE FOUR TOPS  
THE SUPREMES

May 10, 2021

Mr. Manuel Killebrew

President

Quitman County Board of Supervisors

220 Chestnut Street, Suite #3

Marks, MS 39646

**RE: Letter of Intent: The National Rhythm & Blues Hall of Fame Foundation**

Dear Mr. Killebrew:

Let this letter serve as a commitment that the National Rhythm & Blues Hall of Fame Foundation will enter into a partnership with the City of Marks Board of Aldermen and the Quitman County Board of Supervisors; to build a state-of-the art complex. The building complex will be constructed to house and honor the County's Civil rights; music history; and the national history of rhythm and blues music and its icons.

The National Rhythm & Blues Hall of Fame Foundation will agree that all funds raised are directed to the Quitman County Economic Tourism & Development, Inc. This non-profit organization's primary focus is economic development and growth for Quitman County. Furthermore, the City of Marks Board of Aldermen, and the County Board of Supervisors will provide oversight to the accounting of all funds raised for this project.

The National Rhythm & Blues Hall of Fame Foundation is committed to working with the City of Marks and Quitman County Boards to help raise funding for construction of the complex.

**The Foundation ask the Boards would provide the followings:**

- County provide small office space for the foundation staff
- City of Marks donate 5 acres of land
- These government entities host the 2021 Rhythm & Blues Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony
- Letter of commitment from the City of Marks Board of Aldermen and the Quitman County Board of Supervisors

**National Rhythm & Blues Hall of Fame Foundation:**

- Construction Cost: \$15.M to \$25.M
- Size: 30,000 – 50,000 Sq. ft.
- Building Site: Location TBD
- Average museum attendance in the Delta: 30,000 to 50,000 visitors
- Projected annual visitors: 50,000 to 100,000
- Ticket Cost: \$12.00 to \$15.00
- Projected annual income: \$405,000 to \$1.3.M (hotel, restaurant, gift shop not included)
- Target opening date: Mid 2023-2024

[WWW.RBHOF.COM](http://WWW.RBHOF.COM)

PO Box 401211 Redford, MI 48240



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### City of Marks-Quitman County Benefits:

- Jobs 75-125
- Tax benefits to City of Marks
- City of Marks receives \$2.00 admission from ticket sales
- Improved infrastructure
- National/International tourist attraction
- Reduced entrance admission to Quitman County residents

### Funding Sources:

- County, State, Federal Grants
- Corporate Sponsorship
- Donations
- Private Partnerships
- Naming Rights
- Brick Drive
- Fundraising Events

### Potential Opportunities: Completed in phases

- National Rhythm & Blues Hall of Fame history exhibit
- The Delta Rhythm & Blues Café with live entertainment
- Marks Mule Train Poor People's Campaign civil rights interpretive exhibit
- Charley Pride exhibit
- Quitman County blues icons display
- Quitman County after-school youth music academy
- Exhibit of gospel music
- Exhibit of Hip-Hop of America
- Rhythm & Blues wax figures display
- Music theme hotel (50-100 rooms)
- Amphitheater (seating capacity 1,000)
- Music theme gift shop
- National Rhythm & Blues Walk of Fame

*LaMont Robinson*

LaMont "Showboat" Robinson

National Rhythm & Blues Hall of Fame Founder