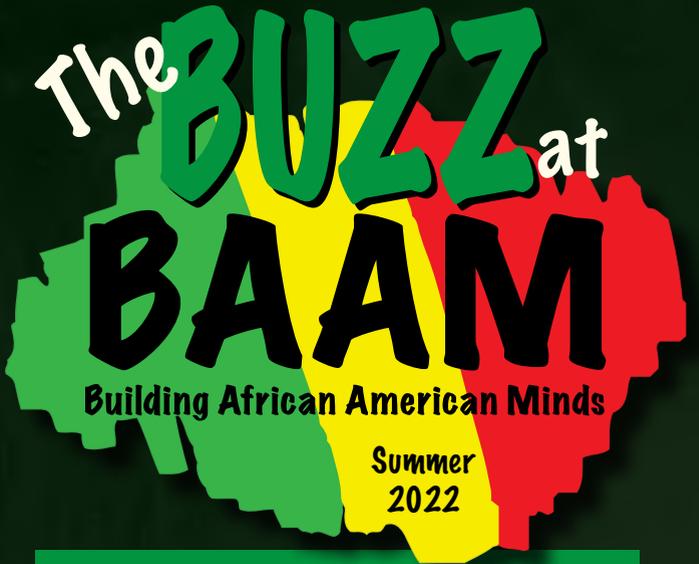




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New Academic Building



Architect's rendering of the proposed BAAM Academic Building (Courtesy of Rauch, Inc.)

In early July, BAAM signed a pre-construction contract with Willow Construction Co. of Easton to build our new Academic Building. Willow was the general contractor for the Athletic Building that was completed in December of 2019. Willow will be working closely with our architects, Rauch, Inc. We expect to break ground later this summer with completion in the Fall of 2023.

New Academic Building...

Continued from front

Although the cost of construction has risen over the past few months, BAAM has been able to raise sufficient funding to make this dream come true. While BAAM has always relied on private financial support to run the program and to build the Athletic Center, for the larger Academic Building project we have solicited funding from public sources as well. After a visit to BAAM by Mr. Kenneth Holt, Maryland Secretary of the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD), BAAM applied for and received a large grant from the Community Legacy Program within the DHCD. The Community Legacy Program provides local governments and community development organizations with funding for essential projects aimed at strengthening. In addition, with the help of State Senator Addie Eckhardt and Delegate Johnny Mautz we received significant funding from Governor Hogan's State of Maryland Bond Bill.

BAAM Awards

Derick Daly, the co-founder of BAAM with his wife Dina, received the 2021 William Donald Schaefer Helping People Award for Talbot County. This award was presented to Derick at the BAAM Athletic Building by the Comptroller of the State of Maryland, Peter Franchot. Both Derick and Dina were also named the 2022 Winner of the Boy Scouts of America Distinguished Citizens Award. This award will be presented at a gala event at the BAAM Athletic Center on September 20. For more information, contact the BSA Delmarva Council (www.delmarvacouncil.org/midshore).

BAAM After-School Programs

With our children back in school in person, the BAAM After-School Programs were back to "normal" this year. In addition, to the Boys Elementary and Middle School Programs, we welcomed our inaugural BAAM for Girls first grade class. Just as we did with the Boys program, we intend to add one class of girls every year up to fifth grade.

BAAM After-School Programs...

The BAAM After-School programs, directed by Deborah Short (Boys) and Bobbie Monteiro (Girls), continue to focus on both academic achievement as well as the development of



Staff and students of BAAM Boys After-School



The inaugural BAAM for Girls first grade class



Historian Anthony Cohen discussing his film "Rooted Nature" with the BAAM students

successful social and emotional skills. In addition to our regular programming, BAAM also provides a variety of enrichment activities throughout the school year. This year these activities included programs sponsored by the Talbot Free Library, the Academy Art Museum and Horn Point Laboratory. One highlight this spring was a screening of the film "Rooted Wisdom: Nature's Role in the Underground Railroad" at the BAAM Athletic Center. This short film reveals the remarkable skills that self-liberators possessed and

used to navigate and sustain themselves during their flights to freedom along the Underground Railroad. Historian Anthony Cohen, who produced the film, in association with Adkins Arboretum and Schoolhouse Farmhouse Studio, and serves as it's narrator, came to the BAAM Center for the screening and lead a fascinating discussion and question and answer session with the BAAM Students.



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BAAM Scholarship Recipients

The yearly BAAM Scholarships for graduating high school seniors were presented in May at Easton and Colonel Richardson (Caroline County) High Schools to four deserving graduates. Among this year's recipients were Di'ontae and De'vontae Berry. The Berry Brothers were leaders at BAAM throughout their elementary and middle school careers. Di'ontae is headed to Universal Technology Institute (UTI) in Exton, Pennsylvania for an intensive course in automotive technology. De'vontae will be attending Bowie State University to focus on computer science. The other recipients were David Moore (Easton) and Trae Hopkins (Caroline County). Trae will be attending Morgan State University.



BAAM Scholarship Winners: Di'ontae Berry, De'vontae Berry, and David Moore receive BAAM Scholarships at Easton High School

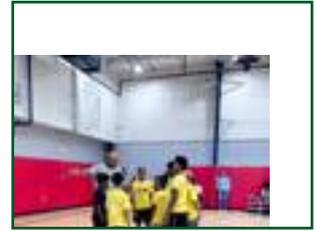
BAAM Scholarship Winner: Trae Hopkins at Colonel Richardson High School



BAAM Basketball



Live action from the BAAM Girls ages 6-8 Basketball Clinic



Pregame at the Boys 10-12 League



The Athletic Center leadership team: Director Kendrick Daly, and Assistant Director Tyesha Greene

BAAM Summer Camp

Thanks to the indefatigable efforts of co-founder and Executive Director Dina Daly in gathering grants and contributions, BAAM was able to increase the number of campers this year with roughly 40 boys and girls in attendance. The BAAM Summer Camp includes a mix of fun and learning every day. Bowling camp is a staple every summer and every Friday the campers go to the Murphy Pool at Moton Park for swimming. We partnered with the Sink or Swim (SOS) program (<https://sossinkorswim.org>) this summer to provide swimming lessons to our students. One of the goals of our summer camp is to expose our campers to the wider world through day trips. The number of trips this year is too many to include in full but include the Smithsonian African-American Museum, the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum, and adventure games at the Tardigrade obstacle course and Sandy Springs Park. Later in August, we will be spending a weekend camping at Camp Pecometh.

BAAM Basketball

After a long and frustrating delay due to the COVID pandemic, we were finally able to start our basketball programs at BAAM this spring. We began in April with a four-week referee training program presented by the Dean of Eastern Shore referees, Mr. Walt Stevenson. This program, which we hope to run yearly, trains high school and college age youth with the skills to become accredited referees - as well as refereeing our own league games. In June, we inaugurated our Girls Clinic with two Saturday sessions. This program teaches basic basketball skills to girls ages 6-8. Along with Assistant Athletic Director Tyesha Greene and Board President Bill Ryan, Mr. Charles Piety, assistant coach at Rockville High School, taught the girls a variety of ball handling and shooting skills and we ended each session with a lively scrimmage. In July we opened the Boys and Girls ages 10-12 basketball leagues. Games will be ongoing, mostly on Saturday mornings, into August with a Championship round scheduled for August 27th. Come by and see the fun!

Josiah Brummell and Zakyren Lake after passing the swimming test!



Campers and counselors at BAAM Summer Camp

New BAAM Website

Thanks to Shiv Patel and Sharp Digital Solutions, BAAM has new websites for our programs and for the Athletic Center (www.baaminc.org). The Athletic Center is available for special events, and you can schedule your group event online. In addition, donations to BAAM can be made with just one click.

BAAM Fest

The annual BAAM Fest also returned from its COVID hiatus in 2022. Unfortunately, the weather did not cooperate as well as we wished. Although rain put an early end to the outdoor activities, we were able to quickly move all the activities, except the band unfortunately, indoors to the Athletic Center.



There's always a line for face painting by Jolie Face at the BAAM Fest.

Welcome to BAAM - Part 2!

Dana Bowser joined the BAAM Board early in 2022. Dana was the first African-American reporter for both the Queen Anne's County Record Observer and Star Democrat newspapers. She currently serves as the Chesapeake College's Director of Student Retention and Success in which she oversees departments that are instrumental in helping students progress and complete their college studies. She has also served as Interim Assistant Dean of Students, Director of First-Year Experience, and Director of Multicultural Affairs. Dana will be instrumental in assisting BAAM with our proposed work force readiness programming.

He's Not Going Anywhere

Ms. Bowser joined the BAAM Board as the replacement for co-founder Derick Daly who stepped off the Board in 2022. There are no words to adequately describe the gratitude of the BAAM family for all the work Derick put in as President of the Board and later Executive Director. The Athletic Center, to which he gave so much effort, is one testament to his work. But though Derick is no longer a Board member he will remain close to BAAM. Polaris Village Academy (PVA), of which Derick is a Trustee, will be housed in the new BAAM Athletic Center and PVA's parent organization Polaris Village Ministries, currently renovating the historic Mount Pisgah Church to become a daycare and community kitchen, will work closely with BAAM. In addition, Derick through JACK Construction, Inc. will be providing BAAM with consulting services related to the construction of the BAAM Academic Center.

Welcome to BAAM - Part 1!

Longtime educator Dr. James Bell Jr., Ed.D., joined BAAM in July as Director of Instruction, Academic Support and Community Well-Being. Dr. Bell began his career teaching mathematics in Baton Rouge, LA and was recruited to teach at Easton High School where he was later promoted to Assistant Principal. Dr. Bell also served as the Principal of Maces Lane Middle School and as supervisor of Student Service for Dorchester County Public Schools, and later as Director of Student Service and Secondary Leadership for the Seaford School District. Dr. Bell will focus on curricula development for both academic and social-emotional learning and support.



Dr. Bell is a man of many skills

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