



WE ARE LIVING LIBRARIES

2020 Affiliates Report

- The February general meeting consisted of attending the grand opening of Baltimore's new *Sankofa Children's Museum*.
- We were able to find an alternative location (the *Impact Hub*, a community meeting and incubator space in mid-town Baltimore) for our March meeting when the regular venue, the *Enoch Pratt Library Walbrook Branch*, became unavailable.
- The NABS Festival Planning Committee submitted a proposal for the Griots' Circle to host the *2022 NABS Festival* in Baltimore. The proposal was accepted by NABS and planning is underway.
- Starting in June, due to the CoVid shutdown, we have been holding regular monthly general meetings, as well as board meetings online. The first via conference call and since August, using Zoom. An unexpected benefit has been to enable members who live at a distance to also attend!
- Our president, Anokwale Anansesemfo moved to Ghana in August and Vice President, Joan Stevenson has been doing an excellent job serving as President, *pro tem* since then.
- The *Growing Griots' Literacy and Learning Program* was redesigned so that it could be held online. They have enrolled a great group of students and are working on a Kwanzaa program to be presented online as well.
- In October we held our annual *Love Stories* fundraiser online for the first time. Attendance was great, all agreed it was an excellent program and highly successful. Another benefit of using Zoom is that the program can be viewed online and from anywhere at: https://youtu.be/AHV7bIu_RFI
- Elections for the Executive Board were held online in November and results will be announced at the December meeting. Newly elected officers will start their two-year term beginning in January, 2021.
- The Executive Board conducted a legal review with the *Community Law Center* and will recommend to the incoming officers that the Griots' Circle engage their services to review and update our By-Laws and Constitution.

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