At RCTV and WXIR, we are proud to have been able to infuse many of our activities with a focus on Frederick Douglass, the esteemed abolitionist, orator and statesman whose 200th birthday was celebrated in 2018.

The year’s activities kicked off on January 4 at a press conference held at Hochstein School of Music and Dance, the site of Douglass’ 1895 funeral. More than 100 organizations and individuals came together, forming the Frederick Douglass Bicentennial Commemoration Committee, to collaborate on a year-long celebration of the legendary man. Mayor Lovely A. Warren and County Executive Cheryl Dinolfo proclaimed 2018 as “The Year of Frederick Douglass,” encouraging our entire community to join in celebration of the life and legacy of Rochester’s favorite son.

In February, Rochester Contemporary Art Center mounted No Soil Better: Art & the Living Legacy of Frederick Douglass, showcasing work by contemporary artists, reflecting the importance of Douglass’ legacy today.

To commemorate the 200th anniversary of his birth, 400 people came together to “Shine a Light on Douglass” and create a once-in-200-year set of archival photos of the beloved 1899 Frederick Douglass monument in Highland Park, by members of RIT’s Big Shot Team. This statue is scheduled to be moved to a more prominent place on the corner of South Avenue and Robinson Drive by Monroe County in Spring 2019.

The entire year has been filled with lectures and concerts, exhibits and reenactments, parades, a play, and an extraordinary presentation at the University of Rochester by Kenneth B. Morris, Jr., the great, great, great grandson of Frederick Douglass and Co-Founder the Frederick Douglass Family Initiative.

At RCTV and WXIR, in addition to spearheading, being involved in, and helping to promote the many community activities, our own celebration took many forms. We produced a radio program called Our Earnest Struggle, focused on the life and legacy of Frederick Douglass in a contemporary context. Frederick Douglass was the principle theme woven into our Summer of Opportunity youth program, and we spent many hours behind cameras, capturing this year’s range of events for two documentaries that will be produced next year.

One of the most prominent activities, which we invite you to read about on the facing page, is a public art project initiated by RCTV in collaboration with several other organizations that will shine a light on Frederick Douglass and his rich and dynamic legacy, for years to come.

Carvin Elson
General Manager

Kate Washington
President of the Board

RCTV BOARD MEMBERS

Kathleen Washington
President

Zelda Artson-
Crichlow

Jesse Dudley
Vice President

Nathaniel Brown

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Treasurer

Amy Ventura

Daniel Delahante
CLASSES AND WORKSHOPS
RCTV taught a variety of classes and workshops over the past year that included TV Studio Production, Adobe Premiere Pro Editing, Adobe After Effects, The Basics of Podcasting, Podcasting Technology, Photoshop, and Adobe Audition Editing.

90-SECOND NEWBERRY SUMMER CAMP
In June and August, RCTV partnered with Writers & Books to host two summer camps for a younger and older age group. In addition to learning the skills to write, film and produce submissions for the 90-Second Newbery Film festival, they also learned TV production skills that they enjoyed demonstrating to parents on the final day of the program.

INCONTROL
Ten teens from InControl [Planned Parenthood and Baden Street] produced a variety of television and radio programming under the direction of Rick Osborne and Stephanie Bliss. Inc TV included several segments and focused on health, school and relationship issues. The teens’ live, magazine-style radio program incorporated music, debates, fashion, and technology. They also created PSAs about healthy relationships, safe sex, texting while driving, and opioid addiction.

INFINITE RADICAL YOUTH
Ten young people from around the city participated in an after-school multi-media program led by Rashida Burch-Washington that combined TV, radio, online, streaming and facebook delivery of a magazine-format program focused on teen topics, interests, music and current events.

SCHOOL OF THE ARTS
Under the mentorship of Rashida Burch-Washington, SOTA’s 11th Grade Actors Studio class created four radio dramas, as part of their drama class curriculum. They wrote, performed and recorded the programs that were aired on 100.9 WXIR.

SUMMER OF OPPORTUNITY
Rajesh Barnabas and Julio Cruz Jr. taught media to ten Summer of Opportunity students whose work this year focused on Frederick Douglass. In addition to taking a field trip to the Frederick Douglass exhibit at the University of Rochester, they filmed the press conference and installation of the Douglass monument at Hochstein. After reading his autobiography, they based a number of their works on the book, including animations and videotaped skits.
INCOME / EXPENDITURES FOR YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2018

**REVENUE**

- Grant Revenue: $169,208
- Fee for Service: $614,626
- Membership/Contributions: $4,735
- Rental Income: $17,948
- Other Revenue: $2,750
- Contributions: $12,734

**Total Support and Revenue:** $822,001

**EXPENDITURES**

- Program payroll: $283,559
- Payroll taxes and benefits: $78,847
- Depreciation: $25,688
- Occupancy: $23,171
- Repairs and maintenance: $14,934
- Professional services: $107,302
- Training and conference: $9,351
- Office Expenses: $1,403
- Youth Stipends: $3,348
- Equipment: $10,302
- Insurance: $12,544
- Other: $2,269
- Advertising: $3,650
- Supplies: $11,118
- Supporting Services: $175,237

**Total Expenditures:** $762,723

**Interest Income:** $621

**Net Income:** $59,899

RCTV is proud to report its consistent record of exceeding benchmark standards for the ratio of program services to total expenses. RCTV expends 77% of its expenses on program services and 23% of its expenses on administrative costs (general and management). RCTV’s low overhead exceeds benchmarks set for our industry.

**FUNDERS, PARTNERS AND ORGANIZATIONAL MEMBERS**

Animatus Studio  
Baden Street Settlement of Rochester  
Brown Publishing  
Cheshire Audio Visual  
Church of God by Faith  
City of Rochester  
Delta Air Lines, Inc.  
Emmanuel Church of Jesus  
Emmanuel Temple Church of Rochester, Inc.  
Farash Foundation  
Faith Outreach Ministry  
Friends & Foundation of the Rochester Public Library  
George Eastman Museum  
Genesee Valley Council on the Arts  
Get Involved In Your Community, Inc.  
House of David  
KidsOutAndAbout.com  
Metro Council for Teen Potential (MCTP)  
Metro Justice  
Michelle Garcia Daniels  
Monroe County  
New York State Council on the Arts  
New York State Office of Economic Development  
Planned Parenthood of Central and Western NY  
Rochester Area Community Foundation  
Rochester City Historian  
Rochester City School District  
Rochester West Indian Festival Organization  
Sisters Together Achieving Results (STAR)  
University of Rochester Department of Rare Books, Special Collections and Preservation  
Wilt for Assembly  
Worker World  
Writers & Books
This year, Rajesh Barnabas was awarded a bronze Telly Award for *Ujamaa Rising, Episode I: Gamer’s Nostalgia*. This episode launched a 10-episode series focused on economic justice and how minority-owned businesses support the community. Carol White Llewellyn received a bronze Telly Award for a PSA called *The Arts & You: How the Arts Impact Tourism*, focused on how the Arts in Rochester are instrumental in Monroe County’s economic development.

**BLACK MUSIC MONTH CELEBRATION**

RCTV converted its back loading dock into an outdoor stage for its annual Black Music Month Celebration in June. Performers and WXIR personalities entertained audiences with Rap, Gospel, Blues, Jazz, R&B, poetry, dance, comedy, and more. After performers completed their sets, they were interviewed on air by WXIR disc jockeys. This year Khadija Yawn received RCTV’s Black Achievement Music Award (BAMA) for her musical excellence and community contributions.

**90-SECOND NEWBERRY FILM FESTIVAL**

Partnering with the George Eastman Museum, Writers & Books and KidsOutAndAbout, RCTV brought the 7th Annual 90-Second Newbery Film Festival to Rochester. Hosted by author and Festival Founder James Kennedy, the event drew 350 attendees and youth producers to the Dryden Theatre for the free community screening of the works of Rochester youth, and others from around the country.

**100.9 WXIR AT TWO YEARS**

100.9 WXIR now has in excess of 50 local DJs and radio personalities producing a wide variety of live and pre-recorded programming. Talk shows include financial topics, LGBTQ issues, empowerment and motivational subjects, marriage and family matters and more. Listeners can tune in any day to hear a breadth of music that covers Gospel, Caribbean, Hip Hop, R&B, Jazz, World, and other urban vibes. WXIR also carries a variety of top national programming from our Pacifica Affiliate Stations.

**COMMUNITY PRODUCERS AND INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS**

Danny Ballard  
Stephanie Ballard  
Karen Barkley  
Lydia Bayoneta-Clancy  
Philip Berggren  
Jeff Berl  
Yves Beya  
Bilal Binci  
Melissa Blow  
George Abebrese-Boateng  
Diane Bowens  
Dasharra Bridges  
Gwendolyn Butts  
Will Butts  
Thomas Chaffer  
Martin Coker  
Pastor Rosetta Coker  
Patrick Cook  
Santos Cruz  
Montrelle Curry  
Kris Dressen  
Jesus Duprey  
Todd Elliott  
Carolyn Falligan  
Stephen Fisher  
Jerome Flood  
Denise Gaines  
Damon Garfield  
Kevin Graham  
Keischa J. Higdon  
Jennifer Horn  
Michael Israel  
Rev. Anthony Iwunor  
Levon Jones  
Albert Jones  
Minister Lellean Jones  
Jennifer J. Jones  
Laurie Kash  
Austin King  
Joe Krawecki  
Patrick La Vecchia  
Mike Lee  
Golden B. Lewis  
Lucy Luo  
Chris Masci  
Elizabeth McGriff  
Mary Moore  
André Morrison  
Madelynn Mueller  
Daniel Muhammad  
Shannon Nash  
Colin O’Malley  
John Ornelas  
Matthew Piccone  
CaTyra Polland  
William Pontius  
Barney Radford, Jr.  
Monika Reifenstein  
Hector Rosado  
Ella Ross  
Luther Saint-Joy  
Cathy Salibian  
Samuel Sanfratello  
David Schuler  
Cedric Smith  
Farah St. Cloud  
Paul Sutliff  
Dorothy Juanita Swann  
Sarah Teres  
Andre Thomas
CREATING HOPE: BEYOND THE FRONT ROW

In 2015, RCTV partnered with the Front Row Coalition to produce a film against gun violence. This year, Rick Osborne collaborated with the group again on a film designed to be a sequel to the original. The film featured high-profile Rochester residents who have experienced, and risen above, personal challenges to become exceptional community leaders.

OUR EARNEST STRUGGLE

RCTV commissioned award-winning podcaster Darien Lamen to produce a series of fourteen podcasts focused on the life and legacy of Frederick Douglass, and how his impact in Rochester is reflected today.

RECLAIMING THE NARRATIVE

Darien Lamen was also commissioned to create a weekly magazine-style newscast focused on local issues and events. In the first half of 2018, thirteen episodes were aired, covering a wide range of key Rochester topics and controversies.

RCTV STAFF

Carvin Eison
General Manager

Rajesh Barnabas
Producer/Director

Rashida Burch-Washington
Operations and WXIR Manager

Sheila Driscoll
Special Projects Manager

Rick Osborne
RCTV Programming Manager

Farah St. Cloud
Administrative Assistant

John Watson
Producer/Director

Carol White Llewellyn
Marketing Director

Eric Townell
Lorna Underwood
Rudolph Valentino
Job Valluthamannukal
Patricia Walker
Rosalind Walker
Nia Walker
Karen Ward-Wilder
Neville Warren
Calvin Washington
Stacey Washington
Sertzaig Weld
Nicholas Wilt
Lorraine Woerner
James Wooden, Sr.
Rudy Young
This year marks the 200th Anniversary of the birthday of Frederick Douglass, arguably the most celebrated 19th-century African American statesman, orator, author, publisher, and abolitionist.

In his honor, a collaborative initiative took place between lead partners Rochester Community Media Center [Carvin Eison, project director and general manager of RCTV and Associate Professor, The Department of Journalism, Broadcasting and Public Relations, The College at Brockport] and Rochester Contemporary Art Center [Bleu Cease, co-project director and executive director of RoCo] in collaboration with the Frederick Douglass Family Initiatives and diverse community partners who have come together as the Frederick Douglass Bicentennial Commemoration Committee. In addition to numerous events and activities, a hallmark of the collaboration was the public art project called *Re-Energizing the Legacy of Frederick Douglass*.

Rochester artist Olivia Kim was commissioned to create a series of life-size statues of Frederick Douglass for installation in locations that are historically significant in Douglass’ life. By taking measurements of the 1899 Stanley W. Edwards statue in Highland Park, and by also modeling the hands of Kenneth B. Morris, the great-great-great grandson of Frederick Douglass and Founder of the Frederick Douglass Family Initiatives, she sculpted the 13 statues, each of which is remarkably representative of the original, but also unique unto itself, because of the creation process.

In a press conference held on July 19, the first of the Frederick Douglass Statues was unveiled at Hochstein School of Music and Dance [formerly Central Presbyterian Church], the location of Frederick Douglass’ Rochester funeral. The final of the 13 statues was installed in October, completing what has become known as the Douglass Tour [www.DouglassTour.com], a self-guided tour of statues installed on sites in Rochester that played a significant role in the life and work of Douglass. Each statue has a QR code that, when accessed using an electronic device, offers insights about Douglass’ life and the location at which the statue is positioned.

Discussions are under way for the prospective commission of one, or more, bronze statues that would be located in other cities throughout the country. This important series of statues bear testament to Douglass’ impact on the nation, and his pursuit of freedom and equality for all.