

MEDIA CONTACT: Crystal Turner | Director of Communications & External Relations E: <u>crystal.turner@lewismuseum.org</u> | P: (443) 963-5429 830 E. Pratt St. | Baltimore, MD 21202 <u>www.lewismuseum.org</u>

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### THE LEWIS MUSEUM TO HOST JUNETEENTH "DAY OF JUBILEE" BLOCK PARTY: A Free Community Celebration Honoring Freedom, Legacy, and Black Joy

**Baltimore, MD (6.2.25)** – On **Thursday, June 19, from 11 AM to 6 PM**, the Reginald F. Lewis Museum of Maryland African American History & Culture invites the public to a powerful, joy-filled Day of **Jubilee in celebration of Juneteenth and the museum's 20th anniversary**.

This vibrant indoor-outdoor block party will transform the museum and surrounding area into a jubilant community festival. The free event will feature live music (in honor of African American Music Month), local food trucks, panel discussions, line dancing, poetry, film screenings, hands-on children's activities, community organizations, and a collaborative mural activity. Museum galleries, including, TITAN: the Legacy of Reginald F. Lewis, iWitness: Media & the Movement, and the third floor permanent history gallery will be open for all to explore. Visitors are encouraged to register in advance on the museum's website (www.lewismuseum.org).

"We have so many reasons to celebrate this year—our 20th anniversary, Juneteenth, a new community mural, and our bold new brand," said Terri Lee Freeman, President of The Lewis Museum. "This day of Jubilee is more than a celebration—it's a call to action. In a time when Black history is under threat, people often ask how they can help. The answer is simple: visit, learn, support and donate. Become a member, make a donation, and join us in actively protecting and amplifying our history."

Though the event is free, The Lewis is encouraging visitors to honor its 20th anniversary by making a \$20 donation - or more - to support its continued mission.

As part of the day's celebration, The Lewis will unveil its new visual identity to the community—The Crown—developed pro bono by global brand experience agency, SGK. The refreshed brand centers on the theme "Black is Royalty," paying homage to the richness and resilience of African American culture. "The Lewis is the pinnacle expression of that story," the new brand statement reads. "A kingdom of African American history, the crown jewel of Black culture. For the people, the power, the crown."

#### Page 2/2

## THE LEWIS MUSEUM TO HOST JUNETEENTH "DAY OF JUBILEE" BLOCK PARTY: A Free Community Celebration Honoring Freedom, Legacy, and Black Joy

Another highlight of the day will be the unveiling of a new community mural, A Taste of Legacy, created by local artist Reginald Lewis– no relation to the museum's namesake. Although the two Lewis' do not share a bloodline, Reginald Lewis - the artist - carries the spirit and vision of the museum's founder: to celebrate Maryland's Black art, history and culture– and those who create it. The piece celebrates African American food traditions and history. "This mural is a love letter to our ancestors and to the next generation," said the artist. "It honors the power of our roots and the beauty of our evolution."

The mural was created in collaboration with Chief Curator Robert Parker, who contributed historical insights to the piece. The hibiscus plant, which is featured prominently in the mural, "became a symbol of resistance, African tradition and memory—a cultural throughline that connects our past to our present," said Parker.

# Join The Lewis on Juneteenth for a day overflowing with pride, purpose, and celebration—a true Jubilee of Black freedom, history, culture, and joy.

For more information, visit www.lewismuseum.org, follow the @lewismuseum on social media: Facebook, Instagram, Youtube, and LinkedIn, or contact Crystal Turner | Director of Communications & External Relations at crystal.turner@lewismuseum.org.

#### ###

### About the Reginald F. Lewis Museum

The Reginald F. Lewis Museum of Maryland African American History and Culture documents, interprets, and preserves the complex experiences, contributions, and culture of Black people in Maryland. The museum serves as a catalyst for sustained change by providing programs, exhibitions, and bold conversations that educate and challenge.