



# PRESS RELEASE

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## **MARVIN GAYE: FROM DC TO DETROIT** **A PANEL DISCUSSION CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND CAREER** **OF THE "THE PRINCE OF SOUL"**

**WASHINGTON, DC – APRIL 9, 2021** - The African American Music Association (AAMA) is celebrating legendary DC native Marvin Gaye in his birthday month of April. "Marvin Gaye: From DC to Detroit" is a virtual Zoom panel discussion about Marvin Gaye, from his beginnings in Washington, to his journey in becoming a Motown legend. The online event will take place on Friday, April 16, 2021, from 7:00-8:30 p.m. EDT and will give attendees the opportunity to learn about Marvin Gaye's life and career from some of the people who knew him best and those who were positively influenced by his music. This event is free and open to the public. Registration is required and attendees should reserve a spot at the following website: [aama-marvingaye.eventbrite.com](https://aama-marvingaye.eventbrite.com).

"Marvin Gaye: From DC to Detroit" panelists will include Motown artist Kim Weston, who recorded the duet "It Takes Two" with Marvin; Louvain Demps, member of the female Motown background group, "The Andantes"; Rev. Dr. Sandra Butler Truesdale, community historian and Chair of the DC Legendary Musicians; Raymond Fauntroy, community historian; and Frank Sirius aka "Scooby", Washington-area performing artist who has been influenced by Marvin Gaye. The panel moderator will be Bill Wax, a noted music historian and host of the Blues and R&B show "Roots and Fruits," which airs on WPFW 89.3 FM in Washington, DC, on Saturdays from 2-4 p.m. EDT. Special guest appearances to be later announced.

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**"25 years of service to the artists and the arts in the community"**

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Marvin Gaye was a musician and singer from the time he was a young boy living in Washington, DC. He knew he was destined for greatness as he made his way from the Howard Theater to the recording studios of Motown Records in Detroit. "This virtual panel discussion, 'Marvin Gaye: From DC to Detroit,' will provide first-hand knowledge about Marvin, his music and his talent, from people who grew up with him and those who helped to create a legend," states AAMA Executive Director, Beverly Lindsay-Johnson.

The African American Music Association, Inc, a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) entity, was established in 1992 to preserve, protect, promote, and foster the continued development of African American music and the legacy of those who compose, record, and perform the music. It is organized exclusively for charitable, cultural, and educational purposes. The AAMA has presented an annual Marvin Gaye Day celebration of events since 1984. Other ongoing activities include networking events and an annual health fair. The AAMA also strives to offer programs that promote a better quality of life for persons pursuing performing arts as a career. The "total well-being" of the artist, through human and personal development, is paramount. For more information about AAMA programs and services visit [www.AAMADC.org](http://www.AAMADC.org).

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