



BEVERLY A. MORGAN-WELCH
BIOGRAPHY

Beverly Morgan-Welch serves as the chief executive of the oldest and most visible African American history museum in New England located on Boston's Beacon Hill and Nantucket. With four historic sites and collections that preserve the powerful past from the Colonial Period through the Abolitionist Movement, the museum provides Black Heritage Trail® tours, exhibits and public and education programs that illuminate and share a liberating American History.

Under Morgan-Welch's leadership, the Museum of African American History has become a nationally recognized institution increasing scholarship and collections. In 2003, she forged a powerful partnership, the museum's buildings became Historic Sites of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. In 2001, she purchased the Seneca Boston-Florence Higginbotham House on Nantucket (circa 1774), suddenly the oldest structure in the museum's collection of historic sites. In addition, she secured a building to house, what will become, the museum's new Education, Research, and Technology Center on Beacon Hill in Boston.

While preserving the historic sites, Beverly determined to tell the triumphant stories of enslaved, free, self-emancipated and liberated black communities in New England. She enlisted scholars to research and mount exhibits that are singular in their presentation of African American History, spanning topics from *Black Books: The First African American Authors* in 2003 to *Black Entrepreneurs of the 18th and 19th Centuries* in 2009 with the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston. Beverly also commemorated the 200th Birthday of William Lloyd Garrison (2005) in collaboration with his family and the 200th Anniversary of the African Meeting House (2006) in Boston, a National Historic Landmark. With powerful programming to present these important anniversaries, the museum mounted exhibitions entitled *Words of Thunder* and *A Gathering Place for Freedom* to celebrate these respective bicentennials.

Beverly's career spans three decades of experience in not-for-profit management and corporate philanthropy. She has served as the Executive Director of the Greater Hartford Arts Council, Director of Development at the Wadsworth Atheneum, and Assistant Dean of Admission at Amherst College. Beverly was also the Manager of Community Relations at Raytheon, a member of the Board of Directors of the Bank of Hartford, and Secretary of the Connecticut Mutual Life Foundation serving the company's Corporate Social Responsibility Department.

As a volunteer, her achievements include serving as Co-Chairperson of the Inauguration of the Honorable Deval Patrick, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and raising funds for the Bishop Desmond Tutu Southern African Refugee Scholarship Fund. A graduate of Smith College with a major in Theatre and Speech, in 2009, she received the Smith Medal awarded to graduates "who, in the judgment of the trustees, exemplify in their lives and work the true purpose of a liberal arts education."

Currently she is a Member of three distinguished history institutions: the Antiquarian Society, the Colonial Society of Massachusetts and the Massachusetts Historical Society. Beverly Morgan-Welch, the widow of the Reverend Mark Welch, resides in Andover, Massachusetts with their daughter, Alexandra.

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For more information: www.maah.org
The Museum's historic sites include:

Boston

African Meeting House, 1806
Abiel Smith School, 1835

Nantucket

African Meeting House, circa 1820
Seneca Boston-Florence Higginbotham House, c 1774