

## CODRE Report September 2019

CODRE is sponsoring the following event for the university community in September. Please help us spread the word.

Lonnie G. Bunch III is the 14th Secretary of the Smithsonian, as secretary, he oversees 19 museums, 21 libraries, the National Zoo, numerous research centers, and several education units and centers.

He is founding director of the Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History and Culture will present: A Moderated Discussion of the National Museum of African American History and Culture - Open to all of campus

Wednesday & Thursday, September 25-26  
Wednesday Sept. 25th

**12:00 - 1:30 pm Join Dr. Bendapudi as she hosts Secretary Bunch for a Moderated Discussion of the National Museum of African American History and Culture**

**Open to all of campus**

SAC Multipurpose Rooms A&B

**6:00 - 8:00 pm Reception at the Kentucky Center for African American Heritage **Open to the public - <https://kcaah.org>****

1701 W. Muhammad Ali Blvd.

Thursday

**4:00 - 5:00 pm Global Humanities Lecture: A Fool's Errand: Creating the National Museum of African American History and Culture during the Age of Bush, Obama, and Trump**

**Open to all of campus**

Bingham Humanities 100

Respectfully submitted,

J.P. Mohsen, Ph.D.  
CODRE Chair

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## Talks with Lonnie G. Bunch III Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution



### A place for ALL people

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Bingham Humanities 100

Lonnie G. Bunch III is the 14th Secretary of the Smithsonian, as secretary, he oversees 19 museums, 21 libraries, the National Zoo, numerous research centers, and several education units and centers.

Previously, Bunch was the director of the Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History and Culture. When he started as director in July 2005, he had one staff member, no collections, no funding and no site for a museum. Driven by optimism, determination and a commitment to build "a place that would make America better," Bunch transformed a vision into a bold reality. The museum has welcomed more than 5 million visitors since it opened in September 2016 and compiled a collection of 40,000 objects that are housed in the first "green building" on the National Mall.

A prolific and widely published author, Bunch has written on topics ranging from the black military experience, the American presidency and all-black towns in the American West to diversity in museum management and the impact of funding and politics on American museums. Lectures and presentations to museum professionals and scholars have taken him to major cities in the United States and many nations abroad, including Australia, China, England, Ghana, Italy, Japan, Scotland, South Africa and Sweden.

Born in the Newark, New Jersey, area, Bunch has held numerous teaching positions at universities across the country, including American University in Washington, D.C., the University of Massachusetts in Dartmouth and George Washington University in Washington, D.C.

In service to the historical and cultural community, Bunch has served on the advisory boards of the American Association of Museums and the American Association for State and Local History. Among his many awards, he was appointed by President George W. Bush to the Committee for the Preservation of the White House in 2002 and reappointed by President Barack Obama in 2010. In 2005, Bunch was named one of the 100 most influential museum professionals of the 20th century by the American Association of Museums.