



**AUGUST WILSON AFRICAN AMERICAN CULTURAL CENTER
APPOINTS GINA RANGE AS
VICE PRESIDENT OF INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT**

July 23, 2020 – Pittsburgh, PA – The **August Wilson African American Cultural Center (AWAACC)** today announced the appointment of **Gina Range** as the Center’s **Vice President of Institutional Advancement**. Ms. Range, who was chosen to lead AWAACC’s development team following a nationwide search, recently served as Vice President of External Relations and Development with the African American Museum in Philadelphia (AAMP), where she was responsible for securing major gifts, re-configuring and growing its membership program, and expanding external partnerships.

“Gina has over two decades of extensive development experience which includes managing and leading major fundraising campaigns and building strategic alliances. She also has a demonstrated passion for the Center’s commitment to celebrating Black culture and the art of the African diaspora,” said **Janis Burley Wilson**, President and CEO of the August Wilson African American Cultural Center. “We are thrilled to have her step into this pivotal role as the Center continues to strengthen and expand its relationships within Pittsburgh and beyond. I look forward to collaborating with her as we look to the future and continue to explore ways to support our diverse community and artists from around the country.”

In her new role as Vice President of Institutional Advancement, Ms. Range joins the Center’s executive team to extend AWAACC’s capacity to present programming and exhibitions that champion Black artists and innovators to a diverse audience. She will also play a crucial role in energizing support for *August Wilson: A Writer’s Landscape*, the first-ever permanent exhibition dedicated to the life, works, and enduring legacy of August Wilson, which is scheduled to open at the Center in spring 2021.

“I’m honored to be a part of the August Wilson African American Cultural Center at this milestone moment in its history,” said **Gina Range**. “Since joining the Center’s team in April, I have experienced the degree to which Janis, the Trustees, and the Center’s dynamic staff are committed to August Wilson’s duty to champion Black art and culture—a mission that has never been more vital. I look forward to reaching out to community partners to sustain the innovative and inclusive programming and educational programs that the Center is known for, and helping bring to life one of the Center’s newest projects, *August Wilson: A Writer’s Landscape*.”

Ms. Range, a native Philadelphian, is a development and arts administration professional with experience in fundraising, donor stewardship, and creating, implementing, and designing organizational systems for not-for-profit institutions. During her tenure at AAMP, where she oversaw an increase in both the annual fund and its member base, Ms. Range garnered new support from corporate sponsors and major foundations and was responsible for securing key external partnerships that promoted the museum throughout the area. Before joining AAMP, she served as Vice President of Development Services at the Girl Scouts of Eastern Pennsylvania, where she established the development team and helped mobilize the organization’s capital campaign, doubling the organization’s contributed revenue in under three years. She began her career at the Philadelphia Orchestra, where, over a fourteen-year tenure, she advanced to the Managing Director of Development Services, playing a key role in the launch and

stewarding of a successful multi-million campaign in support of the Orchestra's endowment. She also held leadership roles at the Philadelphia Theatre Company.

About August Wilson African American Cultural Center

The August Wilson African American Cultural Center is a non-profit multidisciplinary arts center located in Pittsburgh's cultural district that generates artistic, educational, and community initiatives that advance the legacy of Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright August Wilson. One of the largest cultural centers in the country focused exclusively on the African American experience and the celebration of Black culture and the African diaspora, the non-profit organization welcomes more than 80,000 visitors locally and nationally. Through year-round programming such as the annual Pittsburgh International Jazz Festival, Black Bottom Film Festival, AWCommunity Days, TRUTHSayers speaker series, and rotating art exhibits in its two galleries, the Center provides a platform for established and emerging artists of color whose work reflects the universal issues of identity that Wilson tackled and which still resonate today. Opening in spring 2021, the Center will continue to expand its commitment to August Wilson's legacy with *August Wilson: A Writer's Landscape*, the first-ever permanent exhibition dedicated to the life and work of August Wilson.

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