



About the Observance of the 50th Anniversary of the May 1970 Augusta Riot

1970 Augusta Riot Observance Committee

May 2020 will mark the 50th anniversary of Augusta's violent civil rights uprising. On May 11-12, 1970, a protest turned violent and the lives of six men were lost in downtown Augusta. On the afternoon of May 11, 1970, Black Augustans gathered at City Hall to protest a suspected act of police brutality that crystalized the severe racism of Augusta.

Two days prior, Black leaders faced the evidence of torture on the body of a Black 16-year-old boy, Charles Oatman, who had died while in custody at the City Jail. Out of frustration, some protesters set fire to locally owned businesses in the area now known as the Laney Walker and Bethlehem neighborhoods. The uprising grew in scale and number, but police mobilized, firing rounds throughout the night. By dawn, police had shot in the back and killed six black men and boys. Many more people were wounded.

A diverse group of community leaders, historians and local organizations are planning a commemoration to mark the 50-year anniversary of these events. Currently the events include a Candlelight Vigil at May Park, State Marker Unveiling at the Municipal Building, Keynote Speaker and Reconciliation Service, previewing of *"The Steering Committee"* film accompanied with a history panel discussion, a panel discussion on the 1970 Riot with eye witnesses, a Student art show and podcast listening party, and several visual art exhibitions and public art events.

Your support is crucial for the success of these planned engagements. We are accepting tax-exempt cash donations, at any level to which you feel comfortable, thanks to assistance from the Community Foundation of the CSRA, and request your specific support.

Mission Statement

Inform. Gather. Heal.

The Augusta May 1970 "Riot" Observance events strive to cultivate awareness, recovery, and justice for the community through education, conversation and creative experiences.

The AUGUSTA RIOT 1970 Observance

SPONSORSHIP LEVELS & PACKAGES

Presenting Sponsor(s): \$5,000

Inkind / Media \$10,000

- VIP seating for 4 at all events where seating is available
- Inclusion in Media Releases
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- Inclusion on Signage
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- Inclusion on Signage
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The AUGUSTA RIOT¹⁹⁷⁰ Observance

SPONSORSHIP COMMITMENT CONTRACT

Sponsor Level and Amount: \$ _____

Presenting Gold Silver Supporting

Sponsor Name _____
(As it should appear on promotional materials or be announced)

Confirm Logo will be provided in high resolution EPS or PNG; color and B&W if available
Email to 1970AugustaRiot@gmail.com

Sponsor URL for web link _____

Contact Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Office/Cell Phone _____

Email _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Please sign commitment, scan and return to 1970AugustaRiot@gmail.com

(Please endorse checks payable to the **Community Foundation of the CSRA** and included on the FOR line "1970 Augusta Riot Committee"). We like to thank you in advance for your generosity

Checks can be mailed to:

Attn: Augusta Riot Observance
The Community Foundation for the CSRA
Post Office Box 31358
Augusta, Georgia 30903

Please include a copy of the sponsorship commitment form with checks.