

Whispers of My Ancestor

Sponsorship Package

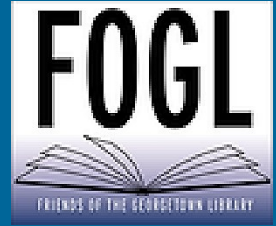


The Friends of the Georgetown Library group is working with Academy Award winning sculptor Wesley Wofford on a commissioned sculpture that will be named "Whispers of My Ancestor" for the newly renovated Georgetown Library on Cleland St. Mr. Wofford is the sculptor who created "The Journey to Freedom" sculpture of Harriet Tubman that was on display in Joseph Rainey Park in Georgetown from August through October of 2023.

The "Whispers of My Ancestor" sculpture will depict Harriet Tubman helping a young James A. Bowley up a set of stairs gesturing upwards towards his future. As Mr. Wofford describes his vision, *"It speaks of the power of building on the foundations of those that came before us, and the long term effects of nurturing education to uplift the next generation."*

James Bowley was Harriet Tubman's great nephew. In 1850, at 6 years of age, he was in the first group of enslaved Africans that Tubman helped to escape from Maryland along the famed Underground Railroad. While the rest of James' family continued on to safety in Canada, Tubman kept James with her in Philadelphia for 3 years so that he could gain an education. James would go on to serve in the Union Navy, move to Georgetown in 1867 to work with the Freedmen's Bureau as a teacher educating freed blacks, become the Georgetown School Commissioner, serve in the SC House of Representatives, serve on the Board of Trustees for the University of SC, and start a local newspaper.

James Bowley's remarkable story and achievements are a direct result of the influence and gift of education that he received from his Great Aunt Harriet.

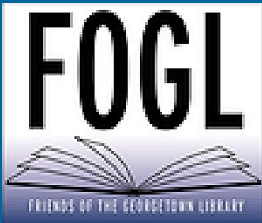


Friends of the Georgetown Library

405 Cleland Street
Georgetown SC 29440

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The Friends of the Georgetown Library will need to raise \$40,000 to commission this inspired bronze sculpture and to install the work in the newly renovated Cleland St library with appropriate stand and lighting. The library plans to position the sculpture near the entrance to the Children's section. The sculpture will be anchored so that it can be touched and enjoyed by young readers.

In addition to the sculpture, there will be an etched-on-bronze copy of a letter written in 1868 by James Bowley to his Aunt Harriet in which he writes "*...I with my parents were one of your first passengers from the house of bondage.*"



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The Friends of the Georgetown Library is planning to fund this endeavor through private donations. Your generous contribution to the Friends of the Georgetown Library is tax deductible and will be publicly recognized inside the library. Please consider contributing to this unique project.



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Sponsorship Levels:

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Great Ancestor Level: | \$ 5,000.00 and higher |
| Grand Ancestor Level: | \$ 1,000.00 to \$ 4,999.00 |
| Parent Level: | \$ 10.00 to \$ 999.00 |

Contributions can be made:

- By sending a check to the "**Friends of the Georgetown Library**" at:
The Georgetown Library (Attention: Whispers of My Ancestor)
405 Cleland Street, Georgetown, SC 29440
- By going to our website at:
<https://www.myfoql.org/whisperssponsorship>
- By contacting Bob Willey: Phone: 413-427-8224
Email: rwilley1019@gmail.com