OUR NATION IS IN THE MIDST of a critical conversation about the ways our collective past is represented in our culture and public spaces. This creates both a unique opportunity and a compelling responsibility for our country. To make an important and lasting contribution to our cultural landscape, the African American Cultural Heritage Action Fund Advisory Council invites you to join us for a Cultural Preservation Leadership Summit.

This two-day event brings together a “think tank” of visionary and creative leaders to create transformational change and catalyze social action. It will help to set the direction for the African American Cultural Heritage Action Fund, a multi-year initiative led by the National Trust for Historic Preservation, in partnership with the Ford Foundation, The JPB Foundation, and The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to elevate the voices, stories, and places of African American achievement, activism, and community.

**DAY 1: An Evening of Music, Reflection, and Inspiration**

We will launch the Summit with an evening at the historic Apollo Theater, birthplace and incubator for eight decades of musical innovation and a place virtually synonymous worldwide with African American artistic achievement. From the stage where icons from Billie Holiday to James Brown to Aretha Franklin electrified the world, we will reflect on the enduring power of African American cultural heritage. Jazz legend Wynton Marsalis will set the tone for this conversation with a private performance and conversation with Elizabeth Alexander, president of The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.
Day 2: Itinerary

FRIDAY, MARCH 29
9:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.
Cultural Preservation Leadership Summit
Ford Foundation Center for Social Justice
320 E 43rd St, New York, New York

A Day of Dialogue and Leadership with:
Darren Walker
President, The Ford Foundation
Action Fund Advisory Council Co-Chair

Phylicia Rashad
Actor and Director
Action Fund Advisory Council Co-Chair

Brent Leggs
Executive Director
African American Cultural Heritage Action Fund

Lonnie G. Bunch III
Founding Director
National Museum of African American History and Culture

Henry Louis “Skip” Gates, Jr
Professor, Historian, Filmmaker
Harvard University

Sherrilynn Ifill
President and Director-Counsel
NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund

THE WESTIN NEW YORK GRAND CENTRAL
212 East 42nd Street
Accommodations are available under the group block with a Standard Room rate of $199. To make a reservation, please call Westin’s reservation department at 800.937.8461 and reference the Ford Foundation group or click here to go directly online. The reservation cut-off is Monday, March 11, 2019.

DAY 2: Promoting Identity and Social Justice Through Cultural Preservation
Join us for a dynamic and inspirational dialogue with some of America’s most thoughtful and influential leaders on the power of historic African American places in reconstructing our national identity and in driving social innovation. We will convene visionaries and leaders from every sector—the arts, industry, policymaking, philanthropy, and community activism—to define a path forward, toward a more just and inclusive society. We will articulate an innovative program agenda and social justice framework for the African American Cultural Heritage Action Fund in the year ahead, capitalizing on the national spotlight and momentum around the Fund to create a nation where African Americans, and all people, see their stories, history, and potential in the places that surround us.

THE AFRICAN AMERICAN CULTURAL HERITAGE ACTION FUND is the largest nonprofit campaign ever undertaken to elevate and celebrate African American history in the places where it happened nationwide. The Action Fund is investing $25 million to save the places where African American artists, activists, and achievers of every generation made their mark and moved us all closer to America’s founding ideals. An esteemed national Advisory Council of America’s most respected and innovative thinkers and leaders guides and directs this effort. Find out more and review the list of Advisory Council members at SavingPlaces.org/TellTheFullHistory.

THE NATIONAL TRUST FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION is the only national nonprofit organization working to save the places that shape the American experience. We take direct action, inspire broad public support, and empower people nationwide to preserve the places that tell our stories, define our communities, and make our cities feel like home. For more information, visit SavingPlaces.org.

How to Register
Please register at SavingPlaces.org/LeadershipSummit2019 no later than March 22, 2019. Contact Lynn English at lenglish@savingplaces.org or 202.588.6015

QUESTIONS?
Contact Lynn English at 202.588.6015 or lenglish@savingplaces.org.