

Emails to Capitol Commission Posted Week of November 1

From: Jennifer Oh <oh_jennifer@hotmail.com>
Date: Thu, Oct 29, 2020 at 5:33 PM
Subject: George C. Marshall as a inappropriate replacement of Robert E. Lee
To: USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov <USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov>

Greetings,

I'm a Virginia citizen and a licensed Washington, DC history guide who as a civics & history educator takes thousand if visitors into the U.S. Capitol every year.

It would be helpful to know how to submit a recommendation for Virginia native son and civil rights pioneer Arthur Ashe?

I am also troubled by the growth of support for George C. Marshall.

The common understanding for replacing Robert E. Lee is to have a Virginia representative that symbolizes a life of inclusion. Someone, whose lack of inclusion doesn't have to be excused and rationalized.

As president of the American Red Cross, George Marshall upheld the racial segregation of the nation's blood supply. That alone should disqualify him, and I'm surprised that wasn't already known to the Commission and used to negate this idea.

Add onto that, there doesn't seem to be evidence that he supported the racial integration of the Armed Services i.e.. the Japanese American 442nd, the Tuskegee Airmen, and women being given G.I Bill and other Veterans benefits while serving as an Army General.

While Secretary of State, Marshall did not usher in the hiring of minorities and women as full rank foreign service officers. It would be great to be wrong about this, but it isn't looking good for Marshall right now in this matter of diversity at State.

The Commission is encouraged to consider these factors before allowing it to gain further media presence, thus likely causing embarrassment to the Commission members for not catching this sooner.

Thanks,

Jennifer Oh
Fairfax, VA

From: Mark Stoler <Mark.Stoler@uvm.edu>
Date: Mon, Nov 2, 2020 at 1:35 PM
Subject: Statue Recommendation
To: <USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov>

To Commission Members and the General Public:

I am writing to recommend George Catlett Marshall for the second Virginia statue in the nation's Capitol. I do so as a professional historian, as a biographer of Marshall, and as editor of the last two volumes of his papers.

Marshall is often considered one of the two greatest soldier-statesmen in U.S. History. The other was, of course, Virginia's George Washington. Yet there is no statue of Marshall anywhere in Washington. It would be fitting for him to be in the Capitol with George Washington as Virginia's two greatest contributions to the nation.

Sincerely,

Mark A. Stoler
Editor, George C. Marshall Papers
Professor Emeritus of History
History Department
University of Vermont
Wheeler House--133 S. Prospect St.
Burlington, VT 05405

From: Vernon Williams <vwill3@comcast.net>
Date: Tue, Nov 3, 2020 at 2:31 PM
Subject: Statue Nominee
To: <USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov>

Dear Commission:

My nomination to replace the Lee statue is James Armisted who served under General Lafayette during the American Revolution. He is sometimes referenced as James Armistead in Lafayette. He was a spy for America who later argued and won his freedom. He represents an ideal American.

Regards,

Vernon Williams

From: Brian Shaw <shawbd1121@gmail.com>
Date: Tue, Nov 3, 2020 at 6:22 PM
Subject: George Catlett Marshall
To: <USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov>

To the Members of the US Capitol Commission: It is my sincere honor to join those who are recommending that George Catlett Marshall replace Robert E. Lee as one of the two representatives from Virginia in Statuary Hall in the US Capitol.

As president of the George C. Marshall Foundation in Lexington, VA

from 2008 to 2013, having started there in 2000, I was and remain deeply respectful of Marshall's role as a soldier, statesman and world leader. Marshall was an active participant in every major event that shaped the first half of "the American Century." Through his tireless and selfless efforts, Marshall worked with presidents and foreign leaders - through war and peace - to ensure that America's position as a global power and ally would never diminish.

Yet, given the lens through which we look at things in 2020, it is Marshall's advocacy on advancing the cause of African American and other minority soldiers in World War II and the Korean Conflict that calls for this recognition. At a time when Jim Crow and racial injustice were very much a part of everyday life, Marshall elevated these soldiers and enabled them to fight for the United States, against the wishes of many. Marshall's actions set the stage for the US military to become the most diverse part of our nation's fabric.

It is my fervent hope that you will give Marshall every consideration for this high honor. He and his legacy deserve it.

Sincerely,

Brian D. Shaw
President, George C. Marshall Foundation, 2008 - 2013
107 N. Harvie Street
Richmond, VA 23220

From: Russell Nicoll <hcps-nicollrj@henricostudents.org>
Date: Wed, Nov 4, 2020 at 9:56 AM
Subject: Statue Recommendation
To: <USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov>

November 4, 2020

To The US Capitol Commission:

I am writing to you to recommend Dr. Robert Russa Moton to the Commission. I believe he is the ideal candidate to represent Virginia and replace the former Robert E. Lee statue in the Capitol.

The reason Dr. Robert Russa Moton is perfect is because he, along with Booker T. Washington traveled throughout the country promoting the importance of education for African-Americans. Dr. Moton was also largely responsible for the creation of the Veterans Hospital in Alabama for African-American soldiers returning from WWI. Dr. Moton also wrote the original program for the Tuskegee Airmen and purchased the first plane in 1937. After Dr. Moton's death in 1940, President Roosevelt approved the program, and the airfield the Tuskegee Airmen flew from was named after him.

Thank you for considering my recommendation and for your time.

Sincerely, Russell Nicoll

9th Grade Student
Highland Springs High School
15 S Oak Ave Highland Springs, VA 23075

From: Chrishelle Traynham <hcps-traynhacf@henricostudents.org>
Date: Wed, Nov 4, 2020 at 10:02 AM
Subject: history
To: <USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov>

November 4, 2020

To the US Capitol Commission:

I am writing to you to recommend DR. Morton to the commission. I believe he is the ideal candidate to represent Virginia and replace the former Robert E. Lee statue in the Capitol.

The reason I recommend Doctor Morton is because he accomplished a lot of things by traveling the world, and being entertained by presidents, kings and heads of states. Which a lot of African Americans didn't get to do.

Thank you for considering my recommendation and for your time.

Sincerely,

Chrishelle Traynham

9th grade student
Highland Springs Highschool
Highland springs VA, 23075

From: Trinity Davis <hcps-davistm@henricostudents.org>
Date: Wed, Nov 4, 2020 at 10:07 AM
Subject: State Submissions
To: <USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov>

November 4, 2020

To The US Capitol Commission:

I am writing to you to recommend Maggie L. Walker to the Commission. I believe she is the ideal candidate to represent Virginia and replace the former Robert E. Lee statue in the Capitol.

The reason Maggie L. Walker is perfect is First, she was an African-American businesswoman and teacher. Second, Walker was the

first African-American woman to charter a bank and serve as its president in the United States. Third, As a leader, she achieved successes with the vision to make tangible improvements in the way of life for African Americans.

Thank you for considering my recommendation and for your time.

Sincerely,

Trinity Davis

9th Grade Student
Highland Springs High School
15 S Oak Ave
Highland Springs, VA 23075

From: Jaylin Jordan <hcps-jordanjt@henricostudents.org>
Date: Wed, Nov 4, 2020 at 10:42 AM
Subject:
To: <USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov>

November 4, 2020

To the US Capitol Commission:

I am writing to you to recommend Roger Arliner Young to the Commission. I believe she is the ideal candidate to represent Virginia and replace the former Robert E. Lee statue in the Capitol.

The reason Roger Arliner Young is perfect is because she was an African American scientist that worked with biology, zoology, and marine biology and she was, the first African American woman to receive a doctorate degree in zoology. Plus, she was born in Clifton Forge Va.

Thank you for considering my recommendation and for your time.

Sincerely,

Jaylin T Jordan

9th Grade Student Highland Springs High School 15 S Oak Ave Highland Springs, VA 23075

From: J'kyiah Bradley <hcps-willija16@henricostudents.org>
Date: Wed, Nov 4, 2020 at 10:53 AM
Subject: Statue Recomendation
To: <USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov>

November 4, 2020

To the US Capitol Commission:

I am writing to you to recommend Maggie L. Walker to the Commission. I believe she is the ideal candidate to represent Virginia and replace the former Robert E. Lee statue in the Capitol.

The reason Maggie L. Walker is perfect is because one she was born in Richmond Virginia, she was the first African American female to charter a bank, and she was honored as one of the first group of Virginia Women in History.

Thank you for considering my recommendation and for your time.

Sincerely,

J'Kyiah Bradley

9th Grade Student

Highland Springs High School

15 S Oak Ave

Highland Springs, VA 23075

From: Brealyn Thomas <hcps-thomasbe2@henricostudents.org>

Date: Wed, Nov 4, 2020 at 3:42 PM

Subject: Statue Recommendation

To: <USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov>

November 4, 2020

To The US Capitol Commission:

Good afternoon, I am writing to you to recommend Dr. Robert Russa Moton to the Commission. I believe he is the ideal candidate to represent Virginia and replace the former Robert E. Lee statue in the Capitol.

The reason Dr. Robert Russa Moton is perfect is because he has been affiliated with parts of history such as the Tuskegee Airmen, knowing he was a slave still went on to create speeches and letters that are now in the Library of Congress, and having Dr. Martin Luther King stay in his house as he writes his "I Have A Dream Speech" under the 400 Oak tree. I feel like he should be recognized for his work since he isn't a talked about person, he was one out of a thousand forgotten heroes that deserved to be recognized. My uncle Dr. Moton never gave up even after numerous death threats from the KKK and other people that wanted to stop him from creating a Veterans Hospital for African American soldiers returning from World War 1.

Thank you for considering my recommendation and for your time.

Sincerely,

Brealyn Thomas

9th Grade Student

Highland Springs High School

15 S Oak Ave

Highland Springs, VA 23075

From: Mina Samaan <hcps-samaanmg1@henricostudents.org>

Date: Wed, Nov 4, 2020 at 7:23 PM

Subject: Suggestion for Statue

To: <USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov>

November 4, 2020

To The US Capitol Commission:

I am writing to you to recommend Booker T. Washington to the Commission. I believe he is the ideal candidate to represent Virginia and replace the former Robert E. Lee statue in the Capitol.

The reason Booker T. Washington is perfect because he fought for his people to get economic progress, education, and justice under the U.S. courts. He also believed that they should stay separate from whites instead of attempting desegregation that way no other problems occur. He was the first person African American to be invited into the White House by Theodore Roosevelt. His work in the field of education helped to give access to new hope to thousands of African Americans.

Thank you for considering my recommendation and for your time.

Sincerely,

Mina Samaan

9th Grade Student Highland Springs High School 15 S Oak Ave Highland Springs, VA 23075

From: <hcps-brooksja2@henricostudents.org>

Date: Wed, Nov 4, 2020 at 9:56 PM

Subject: Who should represent Virginia ?
To: <USCapitolCommission@dhr.virginia.gov>

From: Javare Brooks 11/4/2020

RVA 23221

Dear Government, I believe that Maggie L Walker should represent the state of Virginia. Robert E. Lee is the statue we have currently but the community wants it taken down because of what happened back in the day, and the racial situation. I believe that Maggie L Walker should represent our state because she was the first business leader of the United States of America. She was also born from our city and state so that should give a bonus to why she should represent us. She also was the first woman to own a bank named after her which is extremely amazing ! Considering she was a leader makes her a great companion and a greater example than Robert E Lee. She also has passion because she did all of this in the segregation period! Overall Maggie L Walker should replace Robert because she was a great leader during his time and also had confidence to do it with segregation.

Sincerely, Javare Brooks

From: Lee McCown <aleemccown@verizon.net>
Date: Thu, Nov 5, 2020 at 12:19 PM
Subject: Replacement for Lee statue in the U.S. Capitol
To: uscapitolcommission@dhr.virginia.gov <uscapitolcommission@dhr.virginia.gov>

U.S. Capitol Commission members,

We join the crowd asking that General George C. Marshall be selected as Virginia's replacement statue in the U.S. Capitol.

The Civil War was fought largely on Virginia soil. It's where Lee surrendered to Grant.

The preservation of the Union led to a country strong enough to win World War II. General Marshall led that heroic effort. We agree with the headline on an August 1997 Smithsonian magazine article about him--The Last Great American--as we have given considerable thought to who might be greater but have not been able to think of anyone.

Did anyone ever live a more productive life, in service to his country and the world? His Marshall Plan helped our enemies survive to become our trading partners and allies.

Thank you for your work and this important project.

Respectfully,

Lee McCown and Laura Cameron
1404 Floyd Avenue
Richmond, VA 23220