

Simply the Best: Commemorate Tina Turner's 85th Birthday with a Lasting Bronze Tribute

BROWNSVILLE, TN, UNITED STATES, December 18, 2024 / EINPresswire.com/ -- In celebration of Tina Turner's 85th birthday (Nov. 26), the City of Brownsville and the Friends of the Delta Heritage Center are pleased to announce the official start of a fundraising effort to erect a sixfoot bronze statue of "The Queen of Rock and Roll" in the city of Brownsville, where the young Tina (Anna Mae Bullock) grew up. The statue will be placed within the city's Heritage Park - an area located on historic lefferson Street and across from Carver High where she attended secondary school. The city hopes to unveil the statue during its annual Tina Turner Heritage Days in September 2025.

Fans and corporations across the globe can have their names forever tied to this global icon with their financial contributions to this project. Though there is no minimum donation



To celebrate Tina Turner's 85th birthday, the City of Brownsville and Friends of the Delta Heritage Center have launched a fundraiser for a six-foot bronze statue of "The Queen of Rock and Roll" in her hometown.

required and various levels of sponsorships available, a limited number of donors who contribute \$500 or more will receive embossed paver bricks (based on a first-come, first-serve availability basis) for personal display, and an additional brick bearing their name/company will be installed in the landscaped paths surrounding the statue. In celebration of Turner's 85th birthday, a minimum donation of \$85 is suggested. For more information and to make a donation online, please visit WestTNHeritage.com/donate.

"We want to be sure that we continue to honor the legacy of Tina Turner in a monumental way," stated Brownsville Mayor William Rawls. "To have a statue across the street from where she

attended high school and played basketball is just another way for us to do our part to keep her legacy alive and tell more of her story."

The statue will be created by sculptor Fred Ajanogha (aka Ajano), whose works have been showcased all over the world, including the 1996 Olympics, Southern University Museum of Art and the Tubman Museum. His works are on also on display in Nigeria and Ghana, and a large portion of his public art pieces can be found in and around Atlanta.

The bronze statue and buildout of Heritage Park is the second installation within Brownsville honoring the late singer. In September 2014, before Turner's passing, Brownsville relocated the Flagg Grove School (the one-room schoolhouse built by Turner's great uncle and where she attended elementary school) from the small community of Nutbush to the West Tennessee Delta Heritage Center property. Flagg Grove School now



Sculptor Fred Ajanogha, aka Ajano (Left) with Mayor William Rawls (Right). Photo provided courtesy of West Tennessee Delta Heritage Museum.



West TN Delta Heritage Center logo

serves as the Tina Turner Museum. For more information, please visit WestTNHeritage.com.

About the West Tennessee Heritage Center

The West Tennessee Delta Heritage Center offers a refreshing Southern experience showcasing the history and culture of rural West Tennessee. Inside, visitors can learn about the history of cotton, explore the scenic and "wild" Hatchie River and get to know the legendary musicians who call West Tennessee home. Also, located on the grounds is the Flagg Grove School, the childhood school of Tina Turner and now, home to the world-renowned Tina Turner Museum, and the last house of Blues pioneer Sleepy John Estes. The West Tennessee Delta Heritage Center is located along the Americana Music Triangle, the world's #1 music destination - a preservation project along a 1,500-mile stretch of highway that birthed nine uniquely American genres of music.

About Tina Turner

Tina Turner is recognized as the most successful female rock artist of all time. In addition to winning an enviable twelve Grammys, the Guinness Book of World Records lists Tina as selling

more concert tickets than any other solo performer in history. Turner's combined album and single sales total approximately 100 million copies worldwide. Rolling Stone ranked her as 17 on the list of "Top 100 Greatest Singers of All Time." In 1991, she was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and in 2005 she was recognized by the Kennedy Center Honors at the John F. Kennedy for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C. Tina passed away on May 24, 2023 but left an astonishing legacy on the world of music that is now memorialized at the West Tennessee Delta Heritage Center and Flagg Grove school in Brownsville, Tennessee, the town where Tina was born.

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Suggested Links: <u>VisitBrownsville.com</u> <u>AjanoArt.com</u>

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Fans from around the world can help build icon's legacy in a "monumental" way.

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