



Still Making American History

Leon E. Wilson Bio

Since becoming President and Chief Executive Officer at the Museum of African American History (MAAH) in January 2020 Leon E. Wilson has reached out throughout Massachusetts and the country to build relationships and increase awareness of MAAH's mission and goals.

Over the last decade, Wilson has been involved with the Museum serving in different capacities, including co-chair of the Living Legends Gala, and as a funder and consultant. In 2017, he served as the Museum's Executive Service Corp Fellow, and later as Chief Advancement Officer.

It is an honor and a privilege to be leading this historic institution," said Wilson. "I am deeply nourished by the rich history of African Americans in Boston and throughout New England and what they were able to accomplish in our fight for freedom and equal rights, as well as the engaging work the museum does to give voice to these brave men and women. The Museum will continue to serve as an anchor, and resource supporting and enriching the vibrancy and creativity of our community, as we have for decades."

Managing businesses is something Mr. Wilson knows very well, with nearly four decades in finance, and more than 20 years overseeing non-profit finance. Mr. Wilson brings a wealth of knowledge to the Museum having served as Executive Vice President and Managing Director of Bank of America's Philanthropic Asset Management Group, Chief Executive Officer and General Partner of Capital City Ventures in Washington D.C., Executive Vice President of Nonprofit Finance Fund's National businesses, and Corporate Senior Vice President and Managing Director at General Motors Acceptance Corporation Residential, where he headed Emerging Markets.

Mr. Wilson has served on numerous local and national non-profit boards in the areas of education, arts, and community impact. He is a former trustee for Boston Conservatory, Boston

University Presidential Archives and Research Center, Dimock Community Health Center, and Cambridge College. He has also served on the advisory board for Bell Foundation, Boston University, and as a board member of the Boston University Alumni Association.

Mr. Wilson is the recipient of numerous national professional and community service recognitions, including Boston University Distinguished Alumni Award, Henry Buckner School Award for Outstanding Commitment to Education, and the City of Cambridge Mayor's "Son of Cambridge" Achievement Award for Business Leadership.

He holds an undergraduate degree from Boston University and completed his graduate studies at Harvard Business School, and the Graduate School of Consumer Banking at the University of Virginia.