

ENTREPRENEURIAL SPIRIT

Museum Hours

Tuesday – Saturday: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Closed Sunday and Monday

Admission

Admission to the Mosaic Templars Cultural Center is free.

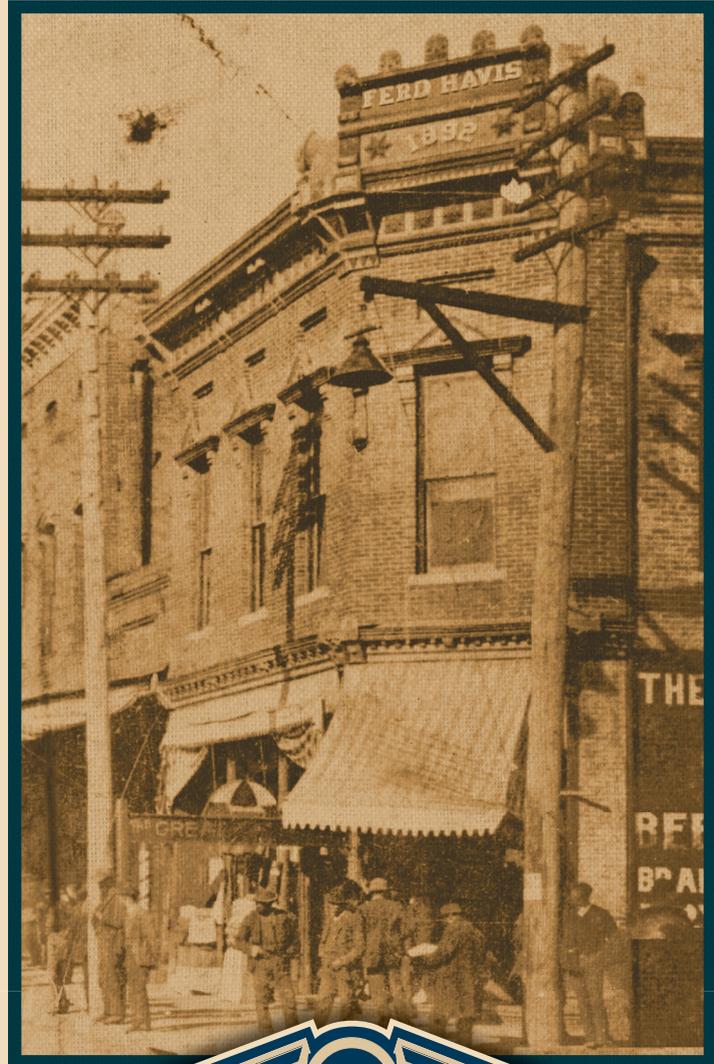
Group Tours

Reservations are required for all group tours.
Please contact the Education Department at 501-683-3592
(for student groups) or 501-683-3620 (for adult groups).
More information about group tours is available at
MosaicTemplarsCenter.com.



**MOSAIC TEMPLARS
CULTURAL CENTER**

501 W. Ninth St. • Little Rock, Arkansas 72201
501-683-3593 • 501-682-5866 (fax)
MosaicTemplarsCenter.com
e-mail: info@mosaictemplarscenter.com



**MOSAIC TEMPLARS
CULTURAL CENTER**



Entrepreneurs recognize an opportunity to start a new business and use whatever resources are available to them to make the opportunity a stepping-stone for success.

Historically, African-American entrepreneurs have incorporated ideals of self-help, economic independence and an economic cooperative spirit. Before the Civil War, the opportunity for ownership was a rarity for black Arkansans; however, after 1865, black business ownership began to greatly increase.

The end of the Civil War brought freedom and success for some blacks, but it also brought laws that legalized segregation and denied equal opportunities. The rise of a Jim Crow South, along with a hunger for ownership and economic freedom, created the right environment for blacks to have an opportunity

to establish their economic independence. Black business districts began to develop in Little Rock, Pine Bluff, Helena, El Dorado and other Arkansas towns to meet the needs of the underserved black population.

Black entrepreneurs began to succeed in many areas. Blacks began to obtain farmland and establish themselves as successful farmers and businessmen. Blacks also used the trades and occupations they learned as slaves, such as blacksmithing, shoemaking, carpentry, laundering and barbering, as a way to create their own economic success, thus becoming Arkansas's first black entrepreneurs.

Explore this exhibit and discover how black Arkansans succeeded despite discrimination and segregation to become successful entrepreneurs.