

# Black Men's Xchange Celebrates 25 Years with New State-of-the-Art Community Space in Washington DC



Washington, D.C. – Black Men's Xchange (BMX), the nation's oldest and largest community-based movement devoted to the empowerment of diverse Black males, recently celebrated its 25th year anniversary with a festive gathering at their new, state-of-the-art community space in Northeast DC. The event was co-sponsored in partnership with celebrated D.C. staple Al Sura, Inc., a non-profit public charity foundation.

In addition to unveiling their beautiful new location, the esteemed organization, which acknowledges diversity in class, philosophy, sexuality and spiritual practice, noted the occasion as one of particular significance. The 25th anniversary marked the beginning of new leadership development; the welcoming back of former returning members; and an introduction to associates eager to learn more about and join the BMX team.

Cleo Manago, BMX founder and CEO, addressed the energetic crowd and noted, "This event is more than just an open house. We are here to reassure the community that BMX is not just firmly planted in DC, but is fresh, improved and excited about hearing the communities' voice, their concerns and ideas." Manago added, "The large crowd here today indicates the importance of BMX to this community. We are 25 years old, yet we still welcome transformation. It creates opportunity for introspection and problem-solving along with new blood and new people to affirm and learn from."

Facilitated by Darryl L C Moch, an Al Sura Inc. board member and local activist, a vigorous dialogue took place between curious community members and the many veterans of BMX in attendance. The interchange was respectful and illuminating. A clear highlight of the afternoon was the debut of the luxurious, new area where BMX's popular Black men's gatherings will take place. Enthused visitors openly commented on the splendor and tranquility of the new space, a sharp contrast to the badly lit library basement where meetings had been held over the past year.

Also introduced was the stunning new website recently launched by the BMX DC chapter at <http://www.bmxdc.org> and the FaceBook fan page which secured close to 900 'likes' in three days at <https://www.facebook.com/BMXchangeDC> .

The Black Men's Xchange (BMX), a national 501(c) (3) non-profit organization, is the nation's oldest and largest community-based movement devoted to promoting healthy self-concept, constructive decision-making, functional relationships between Black men, critical thinking and cultural affirmation (CTCA) and leadership development among diverse African descendant-males and allies. The mission of BMX is to affirm, heal, educate, unify, and advocate social-justice for diverse Black males while providing tools for self-determination, community responsibility, self-actualization, well-being and the prevention of health threats.

Starting Saturday February 1st, 2014, the BMX Black Men's gatherings will take place on a bi-monthly basis at 1160 1ST Street, NE, Suite 235 in Washington, DC at First and M Street.

For more BMX information, email [BMXNational@gmail.com](mailto:BMXNational@gmail.com) or call at 888-472-2837.