



## Smithsonian highlights book on history of Black-owned banks

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National Museum of African American History and Culture event features "A Great Moral and Social Force: A History of Black Banks."

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In February, the [Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History and Culture](#) highlighted *A Great Moral and Social Force: A History of Black Banks*, a Kansas City Fed book released this year.

The museum hosted a conversation with the author—the Bank's executive writer, Tim Todd—in a virtual program titled "Historically Speaking: A Great Moral and Social Force." The event, part of the museum's Black History Month observances, was moderated by Michael Fletcher of ESPN's "The Undeclared."

The program explored the book's content, which focuses on the stories of Black banks in five cities: Richmond, Virginia; Boley, Oklahoma; Chicago, Illinois; Memphis, Tennessee; and Detroit, Michigan. The book examines factors that contributed to the dismantling of Black banks and why that has played a role in hurdles that many Black people face today regarding financial security and amassing generational wealth. A video recording of the Smithsonian program is available at [youtu.be/4wvEc1ZJ-Ns](https://youtu.be/4wvEc1ZJ-Ns).

Learn more about [A Great Moral and Social Force: A History of Black Banks](#) and order the free book.

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