Voting Matters (September 27 - April 4, 2021) is an interactive multimedia installation designed in five parts, illustrating the seminal role African Americans have played from pre-Reconstruction through to the present in the development of basic principles and values surrounding notions of the “right to vote.” The panelists will discuss the purpose and inspiration behind the exhibition and why it is important for Americans today to get out and vote.

Dr. William Byron Reese, Jr. is a psychotherapist, professor, pastor and philosopher. He has degrees in Religious Studies, Clinical Psychology, and Theology and Ministry from Princeton Theological Seminary. His specializations are in child play therapy, clinical depression, men and masculinities, clergy counseling, family systems, and bipolar disorders. His work impacts individuals from all walks of life.

Dr. Stacey Deering (ABD) grew up in Detroit and attended Detroit Public Schools for grade-school. Growing up with adversity and conquering obstacles increased her desire to help others do the same. As an African American woman and native Detroiter, she has a strong desire to serve as an Associate Professor and urban scholar in the Metro-Detroit area. At Wayne State University she teaches courses in American Government, Public Administration and Urban Policy. She will moderate the discussion of Voting Matters.

William Reese, III was born in Detroit, Michigan and grew up in Plymouth, Michigan. He has served as a government affairs intern at Quicken Loans, where his internship innovation project was titled “Motown Revitalization” which placed emphasis on reviving the artistic culture and creating a vibrant music district in the city of Detroit. In addition, William has also served as a U.S Congressional Intern. He is greatly inspired by the social justice tradition of the modern Civil Rights movement, and the 1970s singer-songwriter movement.

A community collaboration between
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