

**ISSUE:** Certificate of Appropriateness for alterations

**APPLICANT:** City of Alexandria

**LOCATION:** Old and Historic Alexandria District  
201 South Washington Street

**ZONE:** CD/Commercial Downtown Zone

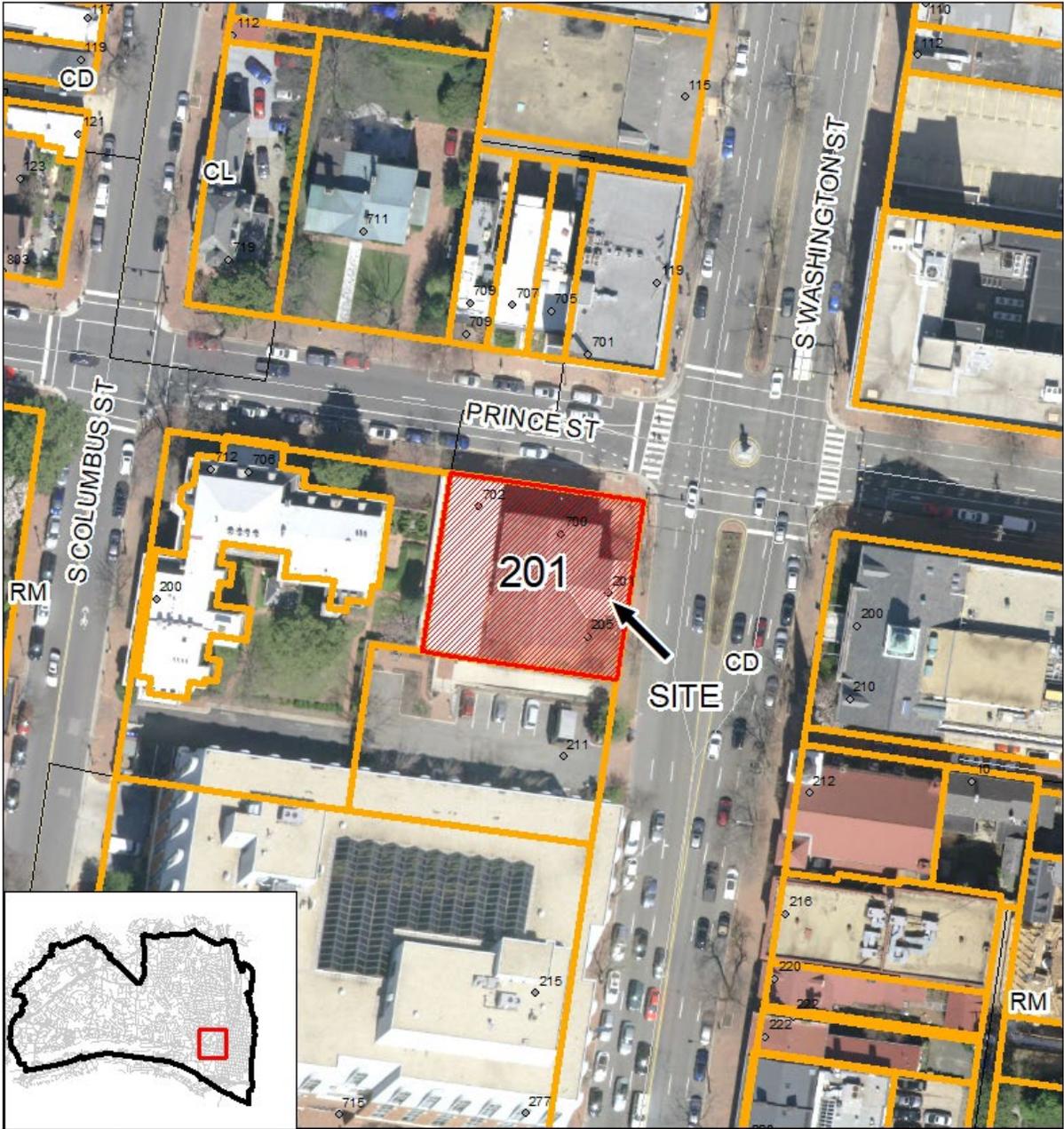
---

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends approval of the Certificate of Appropriateness with the condition that the awning material be Sunbrella or similar fabric.

**GENERAL NOTES TO THE APPLICANT**

1. **APPEAL OF DECISION:** In accordance with the Zoning Ordinance, if the Board of Architectural Review denies or approves an application in whole or in part, the applicant or opponent may appeal the Board's decision to City Council on or before 14 days after the decision of the Board.
2. **COMPLIANCE WITH BAR POLICIES:** All materials must comply with the BAR's adopted policies unless otherwise specifically approved.
3. **BUILDING PERMITS:** Most projects approved by the Board of Architectural Review require the issuance of one or more construction permits by Department of Code Administration (including signs). The applicant is responsible for obtaining all necessary construction permits after receiving Board of Architectural Review approval. Contact Code Administration, Permit Center, 4850 Mark Center Drive, Suite 2015, 703-746-4200 for further information.
4. **ISSUANCE OF CERTIFICATES OF APPROPRIATENESS AND PERMITS TO DEMOLISH:** Applicants must obtain a copy of the Certificate of Appropriateness or Permit to Demolish PRIOR to applying for a building permit. Contact BAR Staff, Room 2100, City Hall, 703-746-3833, or [preservation@alexandriava.gov](mailto:preservation@alexandriava.gov) for further information.
5. **EXPIRATION OF APPROVALS NOTE:** In accordance with Sections 10-106(B), 10-206(B) and 10-307 of the Zoning Ordinance, any Board of Architectural Review approval will expire 12 months from the date of issuance if the work is not commenced and diligently and substantially pursued by the end of that 12-month period.
6. **HISTORIC PROPERTY TAX CREDITS:** Applicants performing extensive, certified rehabilitations of historic properties may separately be eligible for state and/or federal tax credits. Consult with the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (VDHR) prior to initiating any work to determine whether the proposed project may qualify for such credits.



 **BAR#2025-00545 - OHAD**  
**201 South Washington Street**

0 30 60 120 Feet

N

**I. APPLICANT'S PROPOSAL**

The applicant is requesting approval to install a 10'8" W x 3'0" D vinyl-laminated polyester fixed awning on the south/side elevation of the later addition at the rear visible from Washington Street (Figure 1).



**Figure 1 - View from South Washington Street**

Site context

The property sits at the southwest corner of the South Washington and Prince streets. There is a parking lot on the south side of the property which makes the proposed awning location very visible from the public way (see figure 1 above).

**II. HISTORY**

According to the Historic Alexandria Foundation (HAF) brochure of 1954, “The Lyceum, one of the few Greek Revival buildings constructed in Alexandria, and one of a smaller number built in Virginia, was started in June 1839 and completed six months later. Designed in the Doric Temple style, the Lyceum is brick and stucco.” Furthermore, “The building quickly became the heart of Alexandria’s cultural life, presenting musical concerts as well as debates and lectures, and its reading room stocked leading American and European periodics. During the war the building served as a hospital, and in 1868, the Lyceum Company sold it to John B. Daingerfield, who turned the building into a residence for his daughter, Mrs. Hugh McGuire, who lived in it until 1940, when the building was sold again and transformed into offices. The building was purchased by the City of Alexandria in 1970.”

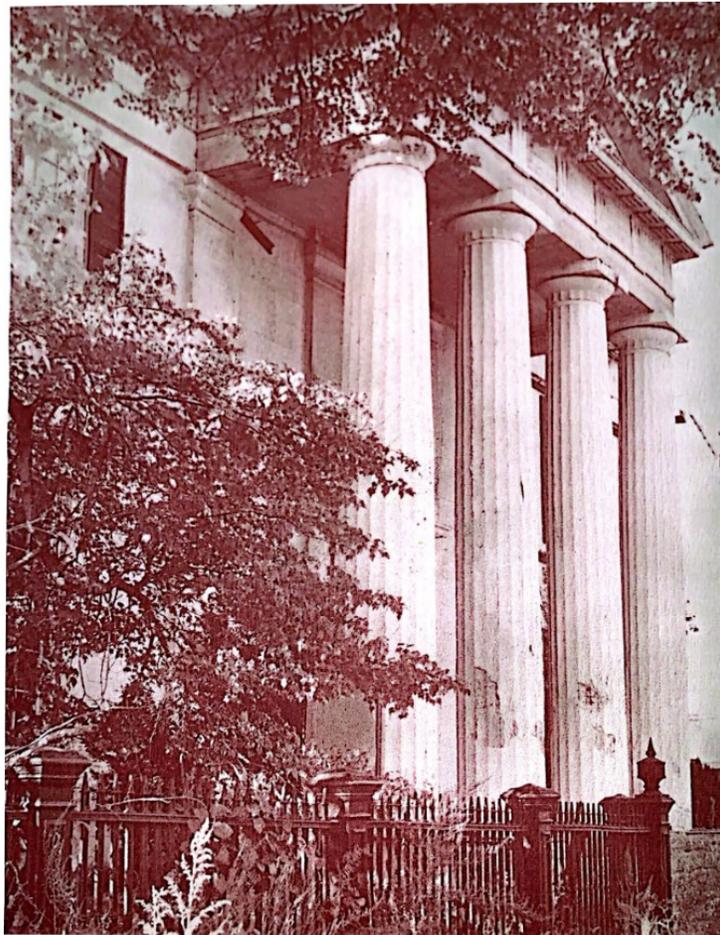


Figure 2 - HAF brochure image

*Previous BAR Approvals*

- 1973 – approval for alterations.
- 1974 – approval to construct a parking lot and screening wall.
- 1978 – approval for Bicentennial banner (for 90 days)
- 1983 – approval for banner.

More recently  
BAR2017-00049 – approval for several exterior repairs.

**III. ANALYSIS**

The BAR Guidelines for Awnings and Canopies states that “Installation of new awnings or canopies that are non-retractable, located on non-street-facing elevations, require administrative approval.” However, the Guidelines “discourage” awnings and canopies made of plastic or vinyl which is the proposed material for the new awning.

Staff has no objection to the proposed awning since it will be placed on a non-street-facing elevation of a later addition (built between 1941 and 1959) and will not distract from the main building’s integrity. However, vinyl awnings usually fade and can crack when exposed to extended weather conditions. Even though vinyl is more affordable, it requires high maintenance to be kept aesthetically presentable. Thus, staff suggests a more durable and aesthetically appealing material such as Sumbrella or any similar fabric. With the conditions above, staff recommends approval of the project.

**STAFF**

Marina Novaes, Historic Preservation Planner, Planning & Zoning  
Tony LaColla, AICP, Land Use + Preservation Division Chief, Planning & Zoning

**IV. CITY DEPARTMENT COMMENTS**

Legend: C- code requirement R- recommendation S- suggestion F- finding

**Zoning**

C-1 Proposed awning will comply with Zoning.

**Code Administration**

C-1 A building permit is required

**Transportation and Environmental Services**

R-1 The building permit must be approved and issued prior to the issuance of any permit for demolition, if a separate demolition permit is required. (T&ES)

R-2 Applicant shall be responsible for repairs to the adjacent city right-of-way if damaged during construction activity. (T&ES)

- R-3 No permanent structure may be constructed over any existing private and/or public utility easements. It is the responsibility of the applicant to identify any and all existing easements on the plan. (T&ES)
- F-1 After review of the information provided, an approved grading plan is not required at this time. Please note that if any changes are made to the plan it is suggested that T&ES be included in the review. (T&ES)
- C-1 The applicant shall comply with the City of Alexandria's Solid Waste Control, Title 5, Chapter 1, which sets forth the requirements for the recycling of materials (Sec. 5-1-99). (T&ES)
- C-2 The applicant shall comply with the City of Alexandria's Noise Control Code, Title 11, Chapter 5, which sets the maximum permissible noise level as measured at the property line. (T&ES)
- C-3 Roof, surface and sub-surface drains be connected to the public storm sewer system, if available, by continuous underground pipe. Where storm sewer is not available applicant must provide a design to mitigate impact of stormwater drainage onto adjacent properties and to the satisfaction of the Director of Transportation & Environmental Services. (Sec.5-6-224) (T&ES)
- C-4 Any work within the right-of-way requires a separate permit from T&ES. (Sec. 5-2) (T&ES)

**Alexandria Archaeology**

- F-1 No archaeology comments.

**V. ATTACHMENTS**

- Application Materials
- Completed application
- Plans
- Material specifications
- Scaled survey plat if applicable
- Photographs

BAR CASE# \_\_\_\_\_  
(OFFICE USE ONLY)

ADDRESS OF PROJECT: 201 South Washington Street, Alexandria, Va., 22314

DISTRICT:  Old & Historic Alexandria  Parker – Gray  100 Year Old Building

TAX MAP AND PARCEL: tax map #74.02, parcel 2 ZONING: CD

APPLICATION FOR: *(Please check all that apply)*

CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS

PERMIT TO MOVE, REMOVE, ENCAPSULATE OR DEMOLISH  
*(Required if more than 25 square feet of a structure is to be demolished/impacted)*

WAIVER OF VISION CLEARANCE REQUIREMENT and/or YARD REQUIREMENTS IN A VISION CLEARANCE AREA *(Section 7-802, Alexandria 1992 Zoning Ordinance)*

WAIVER OF ROOFTOP HVAC SCREENING REQUIREMENT  
*(Section 6-403(B)(3), Alexandria 1992 Zoning Ordinance)*

Applicant:  Property Owner  Business *(Please provide business name & contact person)*

Name: Francis J. Delimba

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Authorized Agent *(if applicable)*:  Attorney  Architect  PM

Name: Francis J. Delimba Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Legal Property Owner:

Name: City Of Alexandria

Address: 301 King Street

City: Alexandria State: Va Zip: 22314

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**NATURE OF PROPOSED WORK:** Please check all that apply

- NEW CONSTRUCTION
- EXTERIOR ALTERATION: Please check all that apply.
  - awning
  - doors
  - lighting
  - other \_\_\_\_\_
  - fence, gate or garden wall
  - windows
  - pergola/trellis
  - HVAC equipment
  - siding
  - painting unpainted masonry
  - shutters
  - shed
- ADDITION
- DEMOLITION/ENCAPSULATION
- SIGNAGE

**DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED WORK:** Please describe the proposed work in detail (Additional pages may be attached).

Small awning on the rear / side entrance to the museum to prevent water or other elements of the weather to come into the building.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS:**

Check this box if there is a homeowner's association for this property. If so, you must attach a copy of the letter approving the project.

Items listed below comprise the **minimum supporting materials** for BAR applications. Staff may request additional information during application review. Please refer to the relevant section of the *Design Guidelines* for further information on appropriate treatments.

Applicants must use the checklist below to ensure the application is complete. Include all information and material that are necessary to thoroughly describe the project. Incomplete applications will delay the docketing of the application for review. Pre-application meetings are required for all proposed additions. All applicants are encouraged to meet with staff prior to submission of a completed application.

**Demolition/Encapsulation :** All applicants requesting 25 square feet or more of demolition/encapsulation must complete this section. Check N/A if an item in this section does not apply to your project.

- N/A
- Survey plat showing the extent of the proposed demolition/encapsulation.
  - Existing elevation drawings clearly showing all elements proposed for demolition/encapsulation.
  - Clear and labeled photographs of all elevations of the building if the entire structure is proposed to be demolished.
  - Description of the reason for demolition/encapsulation.
  - Description of the alternatives to demolition/encapsulation and why such alternatives are not considered feasible.

**Additions & New Construction:** Drawings must be to scale and should not exceed 11" x 17" unless approved by staff. Check N/A if an item in this section does not apply to your project.

- N/A Scaled survey plat showing dimensions of lot and location of existing building and other structures on the lot, location of proposed structure or addition, dimensions of existing structure(s), proposed addition or new construction, and all exterior, ground and roof mounted equipment.
- FAR & Open Space calculation form.
- Clear and labeled photographs of the site, surrounding properties and existing structures, if applicable.
- Existing elevations must be scaled and include dimensions.
- Proposed elevations must be scaled and include dimensions. Include the relationship to adjacent structures in plan and elevations.
- Materials and colors to be used must be specified and delineated on the drawings. Actual samples may be provided or required.
- Manufacturer's specifications for materials to include, but not limited to: roofing, siding, windows, doors, lighting, fencing, HVAC equipment and walls.
- For development site plan projects, a model showing mass relationships to adjacent properties and structures.

**Signs & Awnings:** One sign per building under one square foot does not require BAR approval unless illuminated. All other signs including window signs require BAR approval. Check N/A if an item in this section does not apply to your project.

- N/A Linear feet of building: Front: \_\_\_\_\_ Secondary front (if corner lot): \_\_\_\_\_.
- Square feet of existing signs to remain: \_\_\_\_\_.
- Photograph of building showing existing conditions.
- Dimensioned drawings of proposed sign identifying materials, color, lettering style and text.
- Location of sign (show exact location on building including the height above sidewalk).
- Means of attachment (drawing or manufacturer's cut sheet of bracket if applicable).
- Description of lighting (if applicable). Include manufacturer's cut sheet for any new lighting fixtures and information detailing how it will be attached to the building's facade.

**Alterations:** Check N/A if an item in this section does not apply to your project.

- N/A Clear and labeled photographs of the site, especially the area being impacted by the alterations, all sides of the building and any pertinent details.
- Manufacturer's specifications for materials to include, but not limited to: roofing, siding, windows, doors, lighting, fencing, HVAC equipment and walls.
- Drawings accurately representing the changes to the proposed structure, including materials and overall dimensions. Drawings must be to scale.
- An official survey plat showing the proposed locations of HVAC units, fences, and sheds.
- Historic elevations or photographs should accompany any request to return a structure to an earlier appearance.

**ALL APPLICATIONS:** *Please read and check that you have read and understand the following items:*

- I understand that after reviewing the proposed alterations, BAR staff will invoice the appropriate filing fee in APEX. The application will not be processed until the fee is paid online.
- I understand the notice requirements and will return a copy of the three respective notice forms to BAR staff at least five days prior to the hearing. If I am unsure to whom I should send notice I will contact Planning and Zoning staff for assistance in identifying adjacent parcels.
- I, the applicant, or an authorized representative will be present at the public hearing.
- I understand that any revisions to this initial application submission (including applications deferred for restudy) must be accompanied by the BAR Supplemental form and revised materials.

---

The undersigned hereby attests that all of the information herein provided including the site plan, building elevations, prospective drawings of the project, and written descriptive information are true, correct and accurate. The undersigned further understands that, should such information be found incorrect, any action taken by the Board based on such information may be invalidated. The undersigned also hereby grants the City of Alexandria permission to post placard notice as required by Article XI, Division A, Section 11-301(B) of the 1992 Alexandria City Zoning Ordinance, on the property which is the subject of this application. The undersigned also hereby authorizes the City staff and members of the BAR to inspect this site as necessary in the course of research and evaluating the application. The applicant, if other than the property owner, also attests that he/she has obtained permission from the property owner to make this application.

**APPLICANT OR AUTHORIZED AGENT:**

Signature: Francis Delimba

Printed Name: Francis Delimba

Date: 12/15/2025

**OWNERSHIP AND DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Use additional sheets if necessary

1. Applicant. State the name, address and percent of ownership of any person or entity owning an interest in the applicant, unless the entity is a corporation or partnership, in which case identify each owner of more than three percent. The term ownership interest shall include any legal or equitable interest held at the time of the application in the real property which is the subject of the application.

Name	Address	Percent of Ownership
1. City Of Alexandria	301 King Street	100
2.		
3.		

2. Property. State the name, address and percent of ownership of any person or entity owning an interest in the property located at 201 S Washington Street, Alexandria, VA 22314 (address), unless the entity is a corporation or partnership, in which case identify each owner of more than three percent. The term ownership interest shall include any legal or equitable interest held at the time of the application in the real property which is the subject of the application.

Name	Address	Percent of Ownership
1. City Of Alexandria	301 King Street	100
2.		
3.		

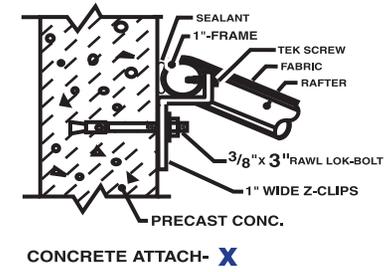
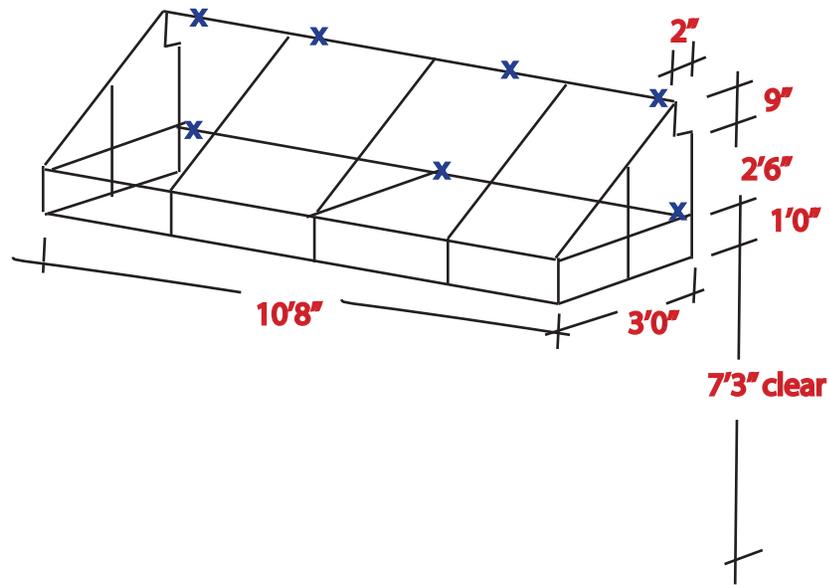
3. Business or Financial Relationships. Each person or entity listed above (1 and 2), with an ownership interest in the applicant or in the subject property is required to disclose any business or financial relationship, as defined by Section 11-350 of the Zoning Ordinance, existing at the time of this application, or within the 12-month period prior to the submission of this application with any member of the Alexandria City Council, Planning Commission, Board of Zoning Appeals or either Boards of Architectural Review.

Name of person or entity	Relationship as defined by Section 11-350 of the Zoning Ordinance	Member of the Approving Body (i.e. City Council, Planning Commission, etc.)
1.		
2.		
3.		

**NOTE: Business or financial relationships of the type described in Sec. 11-350 that arise after the filing of this application and before each public hearing must be disclosed prior to the public hearings.**

As the applicant or the applicant's authorized agent, I hereby attest to the best of my ability that the information provided above is true and correct.

12/29/2025  
Date
Francis Delimba  
Printed Name
*Francis Delimba*  
Signature



<b>Capital Canopies, Inc.</b>	
JOB: GSA/LYCEUM MUSEUM	
FRAME: 1" X 1"	FRAME COLOR: MILL
FABRIC: HAV	LETTERING: <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
DRAWN BY: <b>AW</b>	DATE: 11/21/25
APPD BY:	

© Copyright 2013 Capital Canopies, Inc. All Rights Reserved.



Alexandria  
History  
Museum  
at The Exchange  
201 S. Washington Street

HOURS  
Thursday-Friday  
11 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
Saturday  
11 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Sunday  
1 to 5 p.m.  
Doors Open Outward