

¡Bien hecho!

New DC Museum Sure to Local 26 working for Valid Electric

Good job!



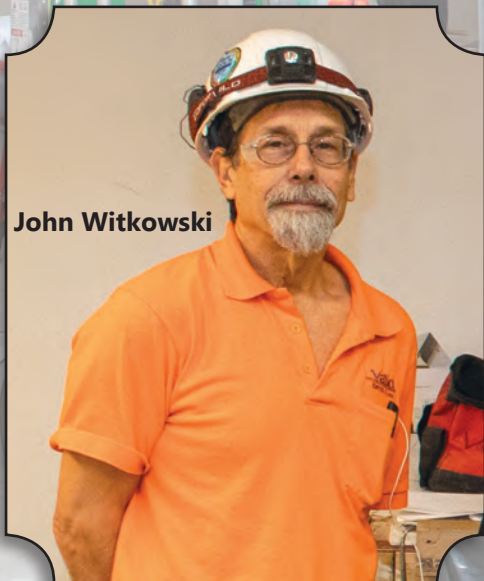
From left, Business Agent Cordelia McKoy, Andrew Stone, Brian Brumby, Drew Vinson, John Pardoe, Sub-Foreman Tom McFarland, Foreman Steve Seaton, Project Manager James Humble, Business Manager George Hogan, and Retired Business Agent Riley Gaines

Bien joué!

be the Talk of the Town

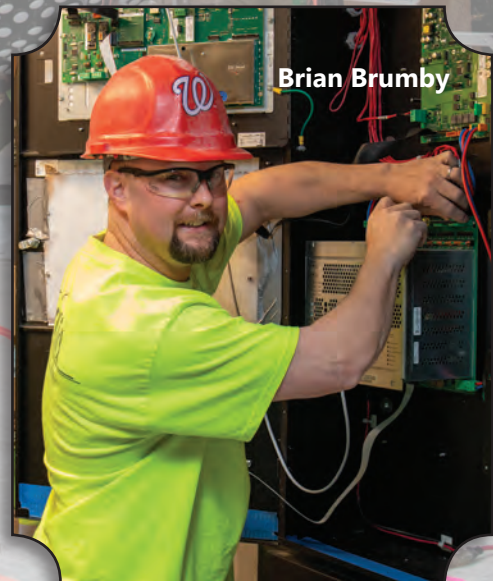
Help Create Planet Word Museum

Gut gemacht!



John Witkowski

BEN FATTO!



Brian Brumby



Good job!

Bra jobbat!

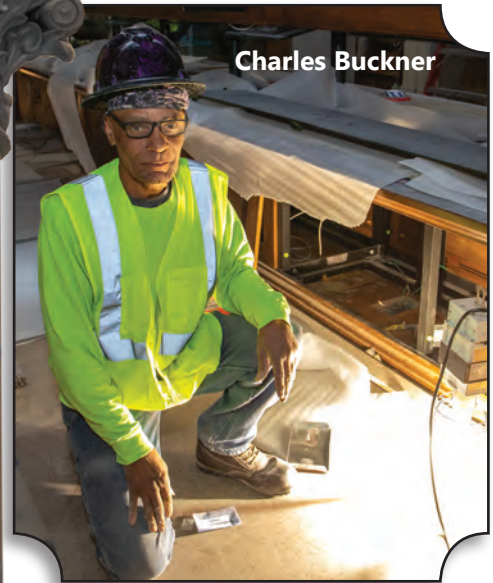


Sub-Foreman Tom McFarland and Foreman Steve Seaton

Bom trabalho!

Молодец!

**This material is historic
Please treat it with care.
Thank you!
Este material es historico.
Por favor de tener cuidado.
¡Gracias!**



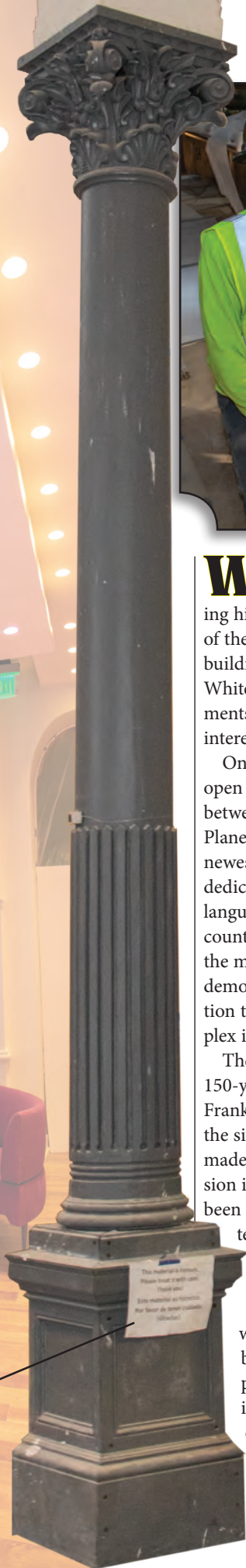
Charles Buckner

When visitors come to Washington, DC they can expect a living, breathing history lesson as they walk the streets of the Nation's Capital. From government buildings open for public tours to the White House to memorials and monuments, the District is awe-inspiring and interesting, engaging, and educational.

One of the city's newest museums (yet to open due to Covid-19) strikes a balance between out-of-the-box and historical. Planet Word Language Museum is the newest museum to be built in DC and it is dedicated to language, in all forms. Why language? Language is everywhere, in every country and every culture and according to the museum, "the very strength of a democracy depends upon a literate population to understand and address the complex issues of the day."

The museum is located in the historic 150-year-old Franklin School building on Franklin Square, which is best known as the site where Alexander Graham Bell made the first-ever wireless voice transmission in 1880. Since then, the building has been a public school, a homeless shelter, a teacher's college, and an Occupy DC protest site. But now, it sits proudly as Planet Word.

Local 26 contractor Valid Electric was part of the construction team that brought this museum to life all while preserving and retrofitting the building, which is on the National Register of Historic Places. Under the collective leadership and efforts of Superintendent Larry Humble,



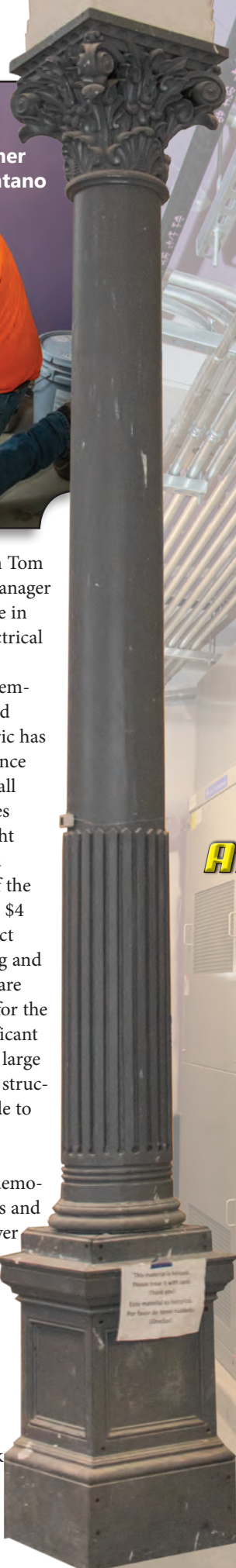


Christopher Montano

Foreman Steve Seaton, Sub-Foreman Tom McFarland and Estimator/Project Manager James Humble, Local 26 came on site in January 2019 and completed the electrical work one year later in January 2020.

Approximately twenty Local 26 members were part of the crew that logged about 25,000 manhours. Valid Electric has been a proud signatory contractor since 1988 and has worked on projects of all sizes and across a wide variety of uses including commercial, retail, and light industrial, as well as educational and healthcare facilities. The total cost of the project was about \$30 million with a \$4 million electrical package. The project spanned all five floors of the building and two mezzanines, totaling 56,000 square feet. As the building sat abandoned for the past couple of years, there was significant damage to the interior finish, due in large part to water infiltration, and minor structural damage. Repairs had to be made to the existing wood and masonry and updates made to meet modern code.

The electrical work included the demolition of all existing electrical systems and the installation of new electrical power distribution including a new 2500A switchboard and associated panelboards. New museum lighting was installed including some DMX-controlled and Lutron lighting systems, as well as new emergency power distribution and a generator. Telecom and AV conduits were also roughed in. All of the electrical work required careful coordination with



Dobra robota!



Mahdi Moore of Local 24

Aferin!



Damian Briscoe

Kerja bagus!

kazi nzuri

Valid
Electric Co., Inc.

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הבוט הדובע

добра работа



From left, Business Manager George Hogan, Sub-Foreman Tom McFarland, Foreman Steve Seaton, Project Manager James Humble, and John Pardoe

Godt jobbet

the architects, the exhibit fabricators and the AV sub-contractors.

Once the museum opens, visitors will be visually and intellectually impressed with Planet Word. In one gallery alone sits a 12-foot high-wattage globe where visitors can select different languages and learn some culturally specific words and phrases. There is an interactive installation that has hundreds of speakers programmed with phrases of famous poems and speeches and there is a quiet space for visitors to listen to poetry, solve puzzles, and paint surrounded by walls adorned by words in various languages. Even the bathroom walls are covered in words from a variety of languages. In the museum's auditorium, visitors will be able to listen to modern-day spoken-word poets, listen to authors read from their latest books, and enroll in classes on songwriting, storytelling, or sign language. Visitors can also take a try at delivering a famous speech or creating a marketing pitch. The museum is as fun as it is thought-provoking and Valid Electric was proud to be a part of the team that brought it to fruition.

Project Manager Evan Prucha with Whiting-Turner Contracting Company, the general contractor tasked with overall project construction, witnessed firsthand the pride Local 26 and Valid Electric had in being part of the Planet Word project. "Valid was able to adapt to the ever-evolving design and coordinate their own work and even the work of others for the betterment of the project as a whole," noted Prucha. "We were tremendously appreciative that we could always rely on Valid at a very high level."

When the museum is able to open it will be an exciting day for Washington, DC, to have a museum that unites people of all cultures and backgrounds with one thing we can all appreciate—the importance of communicating and expressing ourselves. Good job to the Local 26 members working for Valid Electric!

Good job!

Drew Vinson

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