



Representation Matters.

In 1898, Robert R. Bowie and a group of other leading black bartenders in Washington D.C. founded the exclusive "Colored Mixologists Club." The Colored Mixologists Club was a professional organization for African American bartenders who used bartending as a vehicle for wealth and a certain degree of social acceptance.



During Black Restaurant Week in Washington D.C., Bowie's contributions to the liquor industry are honored annually with a cocktail competition. The spirits and mixed drink themed showcase features African and African American bartenders in the DC, Maryland and Virginia area to pay tribute to the bartenders of the past with vintage-themed cocktails.