

Lighting The Road To The Future

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Mardi Gras

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Black to the Future



Young African-American Leaders in the 21st Century

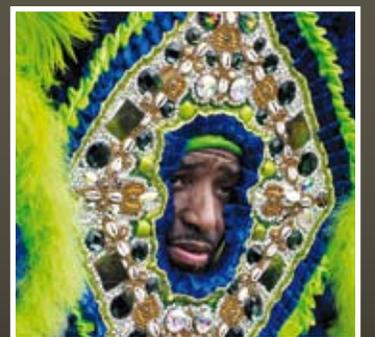
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Black to the Future

Young African-American Leaders in the 21st Century

Written and Edited
by Edwin Buggage

African-Americans: A Journey of Struggle and Sacrifice

During the African-American sojourn in this country it has been a struggle where generation upon generation of people standing on the shoulders of those who made sacrifices to open the doors of democracy for everyone. Because of those struggles and sacrifices today we have an African-American occupying the White House and many who once were locked out of the mainstream because of racial prejudice today are in all spheres of American life. New Orleans is a City with a rich culture and history and full of young people who are part of a great tradition and are leading the City in many areas of endeavor. From politics, business, education to the arts, they are people who have dedicated themselves to inspiring the next generation to strive for greatness. In our final installment of our series for Black History Month we would like to introduce some outstanding New Orleanians who are making a difference and hope their stories can inspire a community to reach higher.

Dr. Calvin Mackie: Motivational Speaker and Scholar

Dr. Calvin Mackie is an award-winning Mentor, a former engineering professor, an internationally renowned Motivational Speaker, and a successful Entrepreneur. His message as a mentor, speaker, and entrepreneur continues to transcend race, gender, ethnicity, religion,



Dr. Calvin Mackie

and time. Calvin Mackie founded the Channel Zero Group LLC (CZG), an educational and motivational consulting company and has presented to numerous civic, educational institutions and Fortune 500 Corporations. Through his national and international travels and online mentoring presence, Mackie reaches millions of youths and professionals annually. Possessing instant social, political, cultural, and technical credibility, Calvin Mackie was featured prominently in Spike Lee's HBO Katrina documentary, When The Levees Broke: A Requiem in Four Parts (HBO 2006) and its successor If God Is Willing and Da Creek Don't Rise (HBO 2010) and has appeared on numerous national and local news shows including the PBS News Hour with Jim Lehrer. Mackie received international ac-



US Congressman Cedric Richmond

claim during and after a 2006 visit to the country of Kuwait as an Ambassador of the LRA and the guest of the U.S. Embassy in Kuwait, appearing on Good Morning Kuwait and in numerous international Arab newspapers. Dr. Calvin Mackie is the Author of the book: "A View from the Roof: Lessons for Life and Business."

Cedric Richmond: U.S. Congressman

Cedric Richmond for some is the hope for continued Black political leadership in New Orleans. He has had a career in politics where he has soared to lead-

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Cover Story, Continued from previous page.

ership at every turn. He was the Louisiana State Representative for District 101 (Orleans Parish) from 2000 to 2011.] Having been first elected shortly after his 27th birthday, at the time he took office he became one of the youngest legislators ever to serve in Louisiana. After his going to Baton Rouge and becoming a leader of the Louisiana Legislative Black Caucus and authoring key pieces of legislation, in 2010 he successfully ran for the U.S. Congress in Louisiana District 2. Richmond became only the second African-American since the end of Reconstruction to be elected to Congress from the State of Louisiana. During the election cycle, Richmond was the first candidate in the 2010 elections to have President Barack Obama appear in a television ad on his behalf. Richmond is becoming a rising star in the National Democratic Party and with his profile rising the district remains hopeful that this will lead to much needed help coming into the district as it continues to recover from the wrath of Hurricane Katrina. As now we have a strong advocate on Capitol Hill.

Nathanael Scales: Entrepreneur

Nathanael Scales is a young man who has become a force to be reckoned with in the world of business and community activism. He is the owner of two successful businesses Garden Doctors and Louisiana Hospice of Greater New Orleans. He has also been a recipient of awards for his community service, most notably Data News Weekly Trailblazer. He is a young man deeply rooted in his spirituality and lives by the maxim, "To whom much is given, much is expected." This is how Scales have chosen to live his life. Dedicating his time to inspire another generation to reach higher and know nothing is beyond their reach.

Regina Bartholomew: Judge Civil District Court

Judge of Civil District Court Division B, Regina Bartholomew



Nathanael Scales

is a woman who has done much in her professional career in addition to her commitment to serving others and inspiring her community. In addition to the practice of law, Ms. Bartholomew has devoted her life to many civic and bar association activities. Specifically, she is a member of the American, National and New Orleans Bar Associations. In addition, she is a board member of the Early Childhood & Family Learning Foundation; she is a member of the A.P. Tureaud Chapter of the American Inns of Court, the Louisiana Association of Black Women Attorneys, and the Louis A. Martinet Legal Society. She is also a member of the League of Women Voters of New Orleans and the Independent Women's Organization of New Orleans. She is a former member of the Lawyer Referral and Information Service Committee and the Practice Assistance and Improvement Committee of the Louisiana State Bar Association. Ms. Bartholomew has also served as a board member of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Southeast Louisiana, AIDS Law of Louisiana, Inc., and a board member and Secretary of the Louis A. Martinet Legal Foundation and Camp Fire USA Greater New Orleans Council. Further, she served as co-chair of the Louis A. Martinet Legal Foundation's Law Camp and the CLE Programs Committee of the Young Lawyers' Section of the New Orleans Bar Association. Moreover, she has served as a liaison for the Pro Bono Project of New Orleans and as a Judge for Teen Court of New Orleans. Most recently, Ms. Bartholomew was inducted into the New Orleans CityBusiness' 2011 Leadership in Law Class.



Judge Regina Bartholomew



Dr. Andre Perry

Dr. Andre Perry: Scholar, Commentator and Activist

Scholar, Commentator and Activist, Andre Perry, Ph.D. is putting his theories to the test. Andre Perry is the Associate Di-

rector for Educational Initiatives for Loyola Institute for Quality and Equity in Education. UNO Press recently released his new book, *The Garden Path: The Miseducation of the City*. Perry uses creative non-fiction to tell the story of an idealistic Professor, Dr. Isaac Boyd, who quickly rises to the forefront of the post-

Katrina Charter School Movement—a movement deemed unsympathetic as it takes control of persistently failing schools from the hands of local community leaders. In addition to his work as an Education Administrator and Author he is also a public

Cover Story,
Continued on next page.

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Mardi Gras Highlights

Mardi Gras 2012 – The days prior to Mardi Gras were soggy ones, but a little rain didn't dampen the Spirit of the Season. Mardi Gras Day the weather was great, it was a beautiful day with lots of sunshine and tons of fun. Some of the best moments were captured by our photographers, and like always, rain or shine, Data was there.

Photos by Glenn Summers



Cover Story, Continued from page 3.

intellectual, who advocates for quality public education. Perry's views, opinions and educational leadership have been featured on National Public Radio and CNN and he served as producer and was featured in the Award-Winning Documentary "Close Ties: Tying on a New Tradition." Through his weekly newspaper column in The Louisiana Weekly, Perry provides political commentary on municipal governments and K-16 leadership and governance in Louisiana. He can also be heard on WWNO 89.9-FM during NPR's "All Things Considered."

Dee-1: Raptivist

Dee-1 (David Augustine) is a man on a mission. He is a one man army taking the world of



Dee-1

hip-hop by storm as a one man army of positive uplifting lyricism. He is in the spirit of many of the greats of music married lyricism and activism. One of

his main projects was a collaboration with Dr. Rani G. Whitfield M.D., a.k.a. "Tha Hip-Hop Doc," with whom he toured schools on the lecture circuit. Dee-1 has been featured in national media outlets such as CNN and Billboard Magazine. When

many think of rappers they generally think they are uneducated but Dee-1 is a graduate of Louisiana State University, and for a time he was a middle school teacher for two years, but then resigned to use hip-hop to teach and uplift the community. He has released a series of successful mix-tape and an inde-

pendent album that has caught major buzz on MTV and he is working with super Producer Mannie-Fresh on his next project. In an industry where positive messages are few and far between, Dee-1 is a force to be reckoned with spreading music that uplift and celebrates a community.

J. Renee: Artist and Visionary

J. Renee is a native of New Orleans who after graduating from Xavier University with a degree in Fine Arts began an amazing and storied career that has taken her and her amazing creations across the globe. But she is and has always been dedicated to celebrating and giving back to the people of New Orleans. Her

work is part of the permanent displays at the W.E.B. Dubois Museum in Ghana and at the McKenna Museum in New Orleans. Her work is part of a collection owned by the likes of Quincy Jones, Wynton Marsalis, Art Neville and many others. Her work reflects the beauty and significance of Black life in America and the Diaspora. Recently, she was accepted at a Haitian exhibit in New York honoring the 400 years of experience of Haitians at the United Nations in New York. J. Renee is a woman who continues to influence and inspire people with her work and making an impact in the world of art.

Cover Story, Continued on page 10.

trailblazer

Eddie Compass

A Man of Compassion

by: Edwin Buggage



Eddie Compass is a man whose image will be forever etched in people's minds as one of the true heroes of Hurricane Katrina. As the then City's Police Chief; his tough yet compassionate demeanor gave a human face to what was going on in the City during its darkest hour. During these tumultuous times the world only caught a glimpse of this quiet hero who throughout his over five decades of life has dedicated his time to giving back. "There were so many people who were instrumental in my success growing up people like Jerome Smith who was a Mentor and Otis Washington at St. Augustine High School," remarks Compass. Continuing he says

of the importance of mentors, "I feel that the most important time to impact someone's life whether it is good or bad is when they are young and I feel because when they are young they can be more easily influenced," says Compass.

Reflecting on some of the early experiences that's shaped his life he says of his first job and the lessons he learned, "I grew up in Treme and my aunt lived in the Desire Housing Development, so I spent a lot of time there and so a lot of people think I am from there, but I am from Treme right across from the Lafitte Housing Development and that's where

I met Jerome Smith and was inspired seeing a man dedicate his life to young people." Talking about one of his first work experiences and how it impacted his life to focus on giving back, "Louis and Bernard Charbonnet gave me my first job and that's where I gained a solid work ethic and I try to instill that in all the young people I meet and mentor." As he reminisces of a childhood where a wealth of positive influences poured into his cup of life, speaking of one of these instances he says, "I remember Don Hubbard telling me you're going to be very influential in your community because you really put your all into everything you do and I see you really care about people."

Recounting the early experiences of the satisfaction he felt giving back he says, "I was 16 years old when I started working with young people," continuing he says, "These were people that were my own age and I was counseling them and at that point I realized that my life calling was to help people." As he became part the New Orleans Police Department, his dedication to community took shape, as he worked to create, develop and work with programs that were aimed at helping the youth, "When I became a police officer it opened up so many avenues to deal with young people, I started with Rev. Charles Southall and we expanded the Police Athletic

League (PAL) we had almost 500 kids, I also set up a Karate Program in the Iberville Housing Project that is still in place today and I have worked with Eric O' Neal with Blue Lion Academy and still work with him touching kids lives."

Of the qualities he feels that are important to have to be successful in any endeavor in life he says, "Discipline and confidence are important things to have in life," he says. Harkening back to his youth he remarks at what drives him to give back, "The foundation of my life is reaching out to young people with no ulterior motives than just to contribute and make a difference and I just want to show people that it is o.k. to give." He also spends time at his alma mater working with kids, "I am a volunteer coach for St. Augustine High School doing strength and conditioning and that puts me in contact with a lot of young people; when I am working with these kids you can see how they are touched that someone is spending time with them and truly care about them; and I get a so much joy seeing these young people become successful in life."

These days Compass is involved in the life of his two young children being actively involved in their lives, "I have two young children and I coach

Trailblazer, Continued on page 9.

JMJ
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Shoot Ya Best Shot!

2012 Zulu Parade

Photos By Kichea S. Burt



HER EFFORTS CONTINUE TO MOVE US FORWARD TODAY.

Born to former slaves in 1864, Maggie Lena Walker rose to a level of prominence rarely achieved by women in her time. She taught school, started a newspaper and, in 1903, became the first woman in the United States to found a bank. Regions is proud to honor Maggie Walker, a woman whose remarkable achievements continue to move us forward today.

In honor of Black History Month, Regions is proud to offer the Regions Riding Forward Scholarship Essay Contest.*

Twenty-five \$5,000 scholarships will be awarded to high school seniors in Regions' banking areas who will attend college this year. To enter, write a 500-word essay about an African American, past or present, who has inspired you. For more details and to enter, visit regions.com/ridingforward.



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Help Me Somebody



Julianne Malveaux
NNPA Columnist

by the side of the road? Maybe a 21st Century feminist would have voiced such sentiments, but a sixties sister? Hardly.

Speaking of hardly, my opinion hardly matters. There is rich discussion among African-American women about the movie, the book, and the reality. I just want to remind my sisters that in 1940 seventy-percent of us were maids, or private household workers. I want to remind us that even those of us who had advanced degrees worked some time as a maid. I want folks to remember the scene in "The Color Purple" where the Oprah's character was incarcerated because she had the dignity to decline private household work. Many Black women did "days work" because they needed to make a living. Many were humiliated into doing days work to

keep the peace in their household or community. In other words, no matter who you were, you should still serve.

My opinions about days work are rooted in my past, both as a daughter and as a researcher. My mom, Proteone Malveaux, is a retired Social Worker. She worked with organizations that organized private household workers. As a kid, I stuffed envelopes for a woman named Helen Little, who led the National Welfare Rights Association in San Francisco. Women like Mrs. Little and my mom were dedicated to ensuring that private household workers got fair pay, vacations, and dignity of work conditions. Too many folk, back in the day, thought that used clothes or leftover food were a substitute for a living wage.

When I moved to Boston, I

somehow connected with a woman who was doing work on training private household workers. There was an irony. The federal government had actually funded her organization to train maids, and I thought the best way to train them was to move them out of household work. Somehow, in graduate school, my mentor Dr. Phyllis Wallace, encouraged me to write about my experiences, and about the data that undergirded them. It was interesting to explore the facts, the fiction, and the many ways Black women have been pushed into the role of nurturing others and the stereotypes this has engendered. So help me, somebody, if I haven't rushed to see "The Help".

I'd rather see a movie about the National Domestic Workers Union, founded by Dorothy Lee

Bolden in 1968. Or I'd rather see Mrs. Little featured in a film about the National Welfare Rights Organization. Instead, I'm clapping for Viola Davis and Octavia Spencer who garnered Best Actress and Best Supporting Actress accolades from the Screen Actors Guild. Davis is a contender for an Oscar, and in many ways, that's a good thing.

Also a bad thing. Whenever Black folks win Oscars it's because they hark back to stereotypes, letting White folks wish they were in the land of cotton. A sister is not going to win an Oscar (never mind even being casted in a role) as a scientist, leader, dreamer, or thinker. Where is the Coretta Scott King film, which

Malveaux, Continued
on page 11.

I still have not gone to see the movie, "The Help". I read the book and that was enough for me. I read a book where a White woman fully engaged herself in cultural appropriation, putting 21st Century voices into 1960s throats. Which Black women, in 1960, would have said that Black men left their families like trash

Human Tragedy and Triumph = Ratings Magic



Cheryl Pearson-McNeil
NNPA Columnist

backs up the common sense notion that Blacks tend to gravitate to programming where there are larger numbers of people who look like us – but this year, the number of us who watched the Grammy's was almost off the charts (no pun intended). The recent 54th Annual Grammy Awards attracted nearly 40 million viewers (39.9 million), which made it the largest Grammy audience since 1984 and the second largest in the history of the broadcast. Of those 39.9 million viewers, African-Americans made up 6.21 million. That means a whopping 60% more Black folks watched the Grammy's this year than last (3.7 million out of a total viewership of 24.7 million in 2011).

Some people like me may tune in to see who's wearing what. How fabulous will our favorites be, or how outrageous? Others are true music aficionados. While the why for this year's phenomenal success of the Grammy's has not yet been officially analyzed, I suspect that the tragic news of the sudden death of beloved music icon Whitney Houston the night be-

fore piqued the increased interest. If you were like me and my friends, we were reeling with disbelief. Tuning into the Grammy's seemed to offer a kind of solace and camaraderie in our collective desire to pay homage to a musical phenomenon who was one of our own.

Now, in the interest of full disclosure, the show didn't hold my attention for long beyond the luscious LL's prayer for "our fallen sister" (a very nice touch). But after his intro and having glimpsed the outrageous outfits of Nicki Minaj, Gaga and the sweet acknowledgements from Alicia Keys and Bruno Mars, I begged my Facebook friends to wake me up when they got to the Whitney tribute. Someone from Ft. Wayne, Ind. (my hometown) actually alerted me when Glen Campbell's tribute came on. (You couldn't grow up in the Fort without being inundated with his music back in the day). So I loudly and proudly sang along to the tribute. My son watched me with his mouth hanging open in disbelief. "Really, mom?! Seri-

ously, you LIKE this country music?" (If he reacted like this to my Glen Campbell tribute, he does NOT want to be around when my sister, his Aunt Natalie, goes berserk over Kenny Rogers). Following Jennifer Hudson's moving tribute of "I Will Always Love You," and after fighting back tears, I clicked off.

On the flip side, Americans love to cheer on an underdog, a "Rocky," a champion who rises from the ashes of obscurity to achieve victory. In two words: Jeremy Lin. It was my basketball-playing son who turned me onto the phenomenon that was taking place with the undrafted 23-year old, Harvard-educated Asian-American from California and his fortuitous match-up against the New Jersey Nets. Lin has averaged 27 points per game – launching him from bench warmer to global superstar. In addition to a 73 percent increase in viewership of Knicks games on MSG and ESPN in New York, nationally the February 10th game between the Knicks and the Lakers on ESPN was the most-watched

Friday night regular season NBA game on the network, so far this season – with just over three-million viewers.

On top of that, NM Incite (a Nielsen McKinsey company) reports that social media buzz has also hit a frenzied pitch around the world since the first February 4th game. Even the phrase "LinSanity" has been coined. The online chatter about Lin has surpassed conversations about the Knicks, LeBron James and Kobe Bryant combined. Now, that's powerful. And so are you. Because, if you follow these ratings stories, you know these surges in increased viewership are a result of people just like you and me tuning in. It's great news for the networks as well as the advertisers. Those advertisers are dedicated to reaching us – the consumers. Which brings me to my mantra, "Knowledge is power." The power is in your hands, and so is the remote control.

Cheryl Pearson-McNeil is Senior Vice President of Public Affairs and Government Relations for Nielsen. For more information and studies go to www.nielsenwire.com.

I am always fascinated by the impact of human emotions on our consumer behavior – whether those emotions are inspired by tragedy or triumph. Two television broadcasts made ratings history recently, one because of a tragedy and one because of a triumph: the 54th Annual Grammy Awards on CBS and the contest between the Los Angeles Lakers and the New York Knicks, February 10, on ESPN.

Nielsen research has proven Americans love sports and music programming. African-Americans are typically well-represented in both. The Grammy Awards have been a viewing favorite. Research

Mardi Gras Indians Parade

Photos By Kichea S. Burt



Trailblazer/ Continued from page 5.

their teams, it is about being involved, it keeps me busy and grounded," says Compass. Continuing he says of some of the other work he is doing these days, "I have worked as an adjunct Professor at Tulane and I am teaching part of a class about the causations of murder; the work I do now keeps me in touch with young people from all ages and stages in life from small children to young adults who will be the change agents in our society, so I feel blessed to be in this position."

He is presently working with kids in the Recovery School District where he is the Head of Security and Safety. On his work with the RSD and helping young adults he says, "I am committed to RSD and presently I am working at Abramson with kids at risk." On the secrets of his success with youngsters he says, "I feel I have been able

to reach people because they see I care and have a lifetime of service. I have been working with kids from the time I was 16 and now I'm 53. Speaking of how these programs not only helped kids in the community but how they impacted the lives of his own children is a testament to his dedication, "I have always had my kids in the programs that I've worked with so I can show how I want my kids and your kids to be friends. I want my kids and your kids to have the same things in life and I feel that is important when giving back that you see the kids just like you see your own."

Summing up his life and his mission he says, "I have always volunteered my time, and it has never been about money it has been about kids and everything I've done. I have always volunteered my time because I know this is an investment in our future

when helping young people realize their dreams." Continuing Compass says, "It is about expanding the circle of those who want to help kids, I realize God has not finished with me yet and I want to help young people, and I've been blessed to have a job I will never retire from and that is giving back; and that is what I will continue to do until the day I die." Eddie Compass is a man who is a compassionate, caring individual and it showed as he was a bright shining light during the darkest days for our City. Today he continues in his mission where he lives to give and giving the young people of the City a helping hand and inspiration and for his service he is being honored as the Trailblazer for the Month of February of 2012.

Cover Story

Cover Story/ Continued from page 4.

Wilbert "Chill" Wilson: Entrepreneur and Humanitarian

He is an Entrepreneur, Author and Humanitarian who has used his barbershop as a place where the community can gather to be inspired. Wilbert "Chill" Wilson is someone who during Hurricane Katrina came into the spotlight and was an inspiration for a City during its darkest hour. His well-known story as the resilient guy with the tent and generator on Napoleon and S. Claiborne Avenue in his makeshift shop around the corner from his ravaged building was broadcast by the media across the nation. In this scenario the barbershop was a place where people gather and came to be a place where people came to talk about what happened to them and their City. This led Wilson to begin to plant



J. Renee

the seeds what would become his new mission in life; community organizing and being a force for change. Once in his new building he began Walk-A-Mile For A Child, an event dedicated to the



Wilbert "Chill" Wilson

community refocusing its efforts on educating the youth of the City. He also authored the well-received book "When the Walls Came Down" and his shop was the set for the critically acclaimed

and award-winning "Close Ties: Tying on a New Tradition." Wilson is now working on his own film and other projects aimed at the youth of the City of New Orleans.

One Goal Many Voices

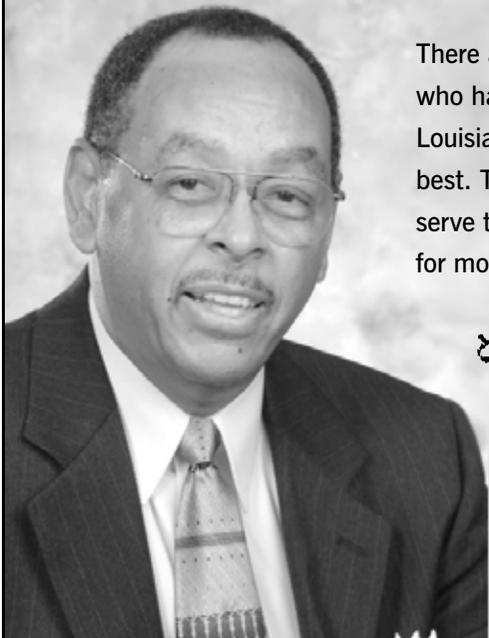
The struggle that many of our ancestors fought for continues today. Today the battlegrounds are different and the obstacles are sometimes not as evident. Which calls for a different breed of leader, no longer is it simply just church or political leaders, but a vast array of people from different walks of life just taking small steps to make a dif-

ference. This is what defines a leader today. And with this definition anyone has the potential to be a leader, so let us bring our collective fingers together and make a fist and knock out injustice and lack of opportunity wherever it stands. This month Data News Weekly has highlighted Black History and those making history and an impact on the City. While this month we placed special emphasis in our cover stories, it is our goal every issue to celebrate and cover what is important in our community. For we are publishing history every week, chronicling the history of an amazing people and an amazing City. We hope you have enjoyed our series this month, looking at Blacks in New Orleans. And we hope that this inspires a community to understand that history is not only looking at yesterday, but making history today to build a better tomorrow.

Black History Moments in New Orleans

- 1957 Reverend A.L. Davis organizes the Southern Christian Leadership Conference
- 1970 Israel Augustine elected first Black Criminal Court Judge
- 1978 Ernest "Dutch" Morial elected first Black Mayor
- 1985 Erroll G. Williams and Kenneth M. Carter elected first African American Assessors in Orleans Parish
- 1991 William Jefferson elected Louisiana's first Black Congressman
- 2004 State Senator Diana Bajoie becomes first woman to serve as Senate President Pro Tempore
- 2011 Erroll G. Williams becomes first elected citywide Assessor in New Orleans

There are many African Americans who have make history in Louisiana every day by doing their best. Thank you for letting me serve the citizens of our great city for more than 30 years.



In Honor of Black History Month

I celebrate Our Progress



HON. DALE N. ATKINS

Clerk, Civil District Court

"And so we shall have to do more than register and more than vote; we shall have to create leaders who embody virtues we can respect, who have moral and ethical principles we can applaud with enthusiasm." ~Martin Luther King, Jr.

Never Forgotten

Education Center at The Wall to Exhibit Photos of 7,262 African American Vietnam War Heroes Photos of 5,429 Black Vietnam Heroes Still Needed

Washington, DC – The Vietnam War saw the highest proportion of African-Americans ever to serve in an American war. During the height of the U.S. involvement (1965-69), African-Americans, who formed 11 percent of the American population, made up 12.6 percent of the soldiers in Vietnam.

The Vietnam Veteran Memorial Fund's (VVMF) mission to honor these heroes continues with the National Call for Photos, a movement to collect photos of the more than 58,272 service-members inscribed on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial (The Wall) in Washington, DC. When collected, all photos will be displayed for generations to come at The Education Center at The Wall, a place on our National Mall where our military heroes' stories and sacrifice will never be forgotten.

"African-Americans have served in every war waged by the United States," says Brigadier General George Price, USA (Ret.), long-time supporter of VVMF and The Education Center. "Throughout the nation's history, Black soldiers, sailors, airmen and marines have contributed conspicuously to America's military efforts."

With the support of schools, volunteers, friends, and family from around the country, VVMF has collected more than 30,000 pictures to date, including photos of 1,833 African-Americans.

The task is far from complete. Generous support from volunteers, fellow service-members, family, and friends is still needed in order to gather the remaining



5,429 photos necessary to honor our African-American heroes at The Education Center.

With a groundbreaking planned for November 2012, The Education Center at The Wall is a multi-million dollar, state-of-the-art visitor's center and learning facility to be built on the grounds of the Vietnam Veterans and the Lincoln Memorials. Visitors will better understand the profound impact the Vietnam War had their friends and family members, their home towns, and the Nation. The Education Center will feature the faces and stories of the 58,272 men and women on "The Wall," and will forever honor those who fell in Vietnam, those who fought and returned, as well as the friends and families of all who served.

For more information, visit www.buildthecenter.org.

"African-Americans suffered greatly and sacrificed their futures in the Vietnam War," said Jan C. Scruggs, Founder and President of VVMF. "The Education Center will allow Americans to put faces with the names of brave men and women who lost their lives, fostering appreciation and respect for generations to come."

VVMF urges active involvement to assist the National Call for Photos by submitting photographs of fallen service-members and generously donating to the Education Center at The Wall, ensuring that the sacrifices of our military heroes are never forgotten.

How to Submit a Photo

If you have a picture of a loved one or fellow veteran whose name is on The Wall, please help the Memorial Fund honor these individuals by putting a face with a name. You may use any of the following methods to submit your photograph:

Submit Online

If you have a digital copy of the photograph, you can upload the photograph at: http://vvmf.org/submit_other

Mail a copy of your photograph

Make a copy of your photo. VVMF does not want original photos and cannot be responsible for returning photos to donors. When having the photo copied, ask the photo professional to make it the highest quality possible, use a glossy finish and reproduce the photo at an 8 x 10 size, if possible. Fill out the photo submission form. Please indicate on the front of the envelope that a photo is enclosed. Mail to:

Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund
Attn: Call for Photos
2600 Virginia Avenue, NW Suite 104
Washington, D.C. 20037

For more information about how to add a photograph to the collection, please contact the Memorial Fund at (202) 393-0090 or via email at mjohnson@vvmf.org.

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Malveaux/ Continued from page 8.

ought to be most compelling? Or, in reality TV world, where is the Michelle Obama film? In order to win recognition we have to be subservient. We have to serve. Help me somebody.

When I made critical comments about the book, The Help I was flooded with email comments from Bennett alums who said that I should not be critical of a film that "lifted up" Black women. For a moment I was stunned, and even a bit chastened. Then I realized that

this work, this private household work, is private, personal, and even sad. I remember my grandmother, the Tuskegee graduate, taking me to see "her White folks" in Sausalito, California, and proudly bragging to them that I was a smart girl who was going to college. And while time may have tinted the memory, I remember the smirking White woman who gave me a twenty-dollar bill for my studies. I was about 13, a fiery revolutionary, and I wanted

to crumple the bill and throw it back in the woman's face. My grandmother kicked me under the table and I mumbled a thank you. Now, with folk that help me manage my life, I try to never replicate that moment for anyone else. When work is fairly paid for, it can be good and honorable work. But we have to work at it, at the relationship, at the ties that bind.

We are intertwined, we women who manage households with help, and the folk who help

us. We must manage those who help us while maintaining their dignity. We must understand the many ways we are connected, and how we cannot survive without each other. We must have a conversation about help, helping, work and quality of life. Helping is part of Black women's history and heritage. And it is also and always a dilemma. Help me, somebody.

Julianne Malveaux is President of Bennett College for Women in Greensboro, North Carolina.

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