

BLACK COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



panc00-191

**BLACK COMMUNITY OF TUSCALOOSA &
THE AFRO-AMERICAN ASSOCIATION
BOX 1932
UNIVERSITY, ALABAMA**

**AFRO-AMERICAN ASSOC.
BOX 996
PHONE 348-4615
PHONE 348-8034**

From the collections of the
W. S. Hoole Special Collections
The University of Alabama

January 20, 1972

PARTY! PARTY! PARTY!!!

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FRIDAY.....JANUARY 21, 1972.....8:00 p.m. until.....

MARTHA PARHAM CAFETERIA

latest record sounds.....only 50¢.....proceeds to AAA Cultural Center

CLEAN-UP PARTY!

Everybody can do something to help clean up the Afro-American Cultural Center!

SATURDAY.....January 22, 1972.....1-5 p.m.....340 Thomas Street

Volunteer coordinators: Rilous Carter and Wayne Stanley, yards and grounds;
Wanda Welch - inside windows; Roland Chapman and Sylvester Jones - outside
windows; Hermanski Patterson - floors; Regina Colston - kitchen; Linda
Edwards - woodworks and closets; Riley Ashford and Andy Taylor - upstairs
and bathrooms.

Don't forget your cleaning buckets, Ajax, windex, rags, powder, etc.

FROM YOUR BLACK HERITAGE WEEK COMMITTEE:
(Patricia Perkins, Chairman)

The Black Heritage Week Committee has finally outlined the week's
activities for February 6-12, 1972. We have made the first step toward
making the program a success, and now it is up to you to take the second
and final step to make it a working reality.

The week's activities include:

- Monday : 6:00 p.m. ----- Dedication Service, Afro-American Cultural Center
guest of honor - Mrs. Vivian Malone Jones, first
Black graduate - University of Alabama
- 3:00 p.m. ----- "Equal Employment"
Union Ballroom Mrs. Vivian Malone Jones, Regional Director of
Equal Opportunity for the Environmental Protection
Agency (Atlanta, Georgia)

Tuesday : 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Black Art Exhibit.....Afro-American Cultural Center

Wednesday: 7:30 p.m. Morgan Auditorium

"Black History in Song"
featuring the Parker High School (Birmingham) choir
and the Afro-American Singers

Thursday: 7:00 p.m. Barnes Branch YMCA
"Make Way for the Young Folk"
Black history in song, skit, and narrative by youngsters
from the Afro-American Association's breakfast and youth development program.

Friday: 8 p.m. until AA Cultural Center
"ROCK STEADY JAM"

SATURDAY WORKSHOP: "BLACK STRATEGIES FOR CHANGE IN AMERICA" (AA Cultural Center)

9:15 - 10:15 "Black History and Culture"
Coordinator: Dr. Geneva Gay, chairman-Afro-American Studies
University of Texas at Austin

10:30- 11:30 "Black Religious Experience"
Coordinator: Dr. Dorsey Blake, Assistant to the President
of the Center for Urban-Black Studies - Berkeley, California

11:45- 1:15 Luncheon Banquet.....Galette's Restaurant

1:30 - 2:30 "Challenges of Black Political Power"
Coordinator: Attorney Al Hastings, Fort Lauderdale, Florida
1970 U.S. Senatorial candidate

2:45- 4:30 "Problems & Solutions: Role of Black Students in White
Institutions"
Coordinator: Ed Nall, University of Texas at Austin

8:00 p.m. until.....Union Ballroom
for your dancing and listening pleasure....from Birmingham

THE DYNAMIC SOUL MACHINE

The Black Heritage Week Committee wants to involve all students
directly in the week's activities. Students are needed for the following:

- *to register guests at the Center
- *to act as ushers and receptionists
- *to work on refreshments committee
- *to work on transportation committee
- *to work on office staff mailing letters and invitations

Any student living on campus or in an apartment who is willing to
house guests during the weekend of February 11-12, please contact Pat
Perkins at 348-4067 or come by room 325-Tutwiler. Also those students
who are interested in working on the above committees are asked to contact
her.

Students are urged to give their full support in order that this
program may be a success,

DO YOU SEW? (contact Merceria Ludgood now)
you can save the AAA much money by volunteering your services
to work with others in making draperies, pillows, etc. for the center.

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A SPECIAL MESSAGE FROM YOUR AFRO-AMERICAN CULTURAL CENTER COMMITTEE

(Delores Boyd, chairman)

The most critical period ever for Black students here at the University of Alabama confronts us this semester with the opening and dedication of our Afro-American Cultural Center. On Monday, February 7, when the Center is dedicated to the University's first Black graduate, the eyes and ears of the administration, faculty, and student body will be pessimistically turned and tuned toward our actions or lack of action... their prediction is failure.

Our success or failure depends largely on your commitment to share your time and talent in promoting your AAA's programs and projects. We are undertaking something that is unique to this campus and to the South. It is unique because never before has a Southern campus witnessed a body of bold Blacks fight with such determination to control the direction of its destiny. Without administrative or student government backing, without pledges of substantial financial support, without White men in all their dubious good intentions leading us by the hand, young Black students have the audacity to rent a large building and dare to prove we can make a positive impact on the surrounding community. At numerous institutions Blacks have demanded and received "cultural centers", but sadly enough, many of them deteriorated into nothing more than rooms where Blacks met and jived. Indeed, our own student government assured us that we would have adequate space in the new Union to meet, and they offered us portions of other buildings. But no, we responded, we plan to do more than provide entertainment and social life for the Blacks on this campus -- our purposes are politically, economically, and culturally directed.

So here we are -- less than a month away from what we wanted when we sat on the Union steps last year in protest, when we invaded the Administration last year, shouting "DO IT." Now the challenge is ours -- will we do it?

What about you? You're one of 450 Blacks --undergraduates and graduates-- here. You may or may not be one of the nearly two hundred who expressed support for the AAA by buying a \$2 membership card...you may or may not be one of nearly fifty who rallied when the going got rough and helped raise over \$700 in one week for the cultural center...you may or may not be one of the twenty-five brothers and sisters who alternate every day - leaving their warm beds at 6 a.m.-- to go on the other side of town for a breakfast program...you may or may not be one of the nearly thirty who have sacrificed Saturday mornings to play with, teach, and help develop younger brothers and sisters...you may or may not be one of the Afro-American Singers...you may or may not be one of several organizational committees that work to make the Association go.

You may be just another "nigger" at the University -- sliding along being cool or trying to...not giving a damn about anyone else but you...laboring under the decisively false notion that when you get your degree or your car or your fine home or whatever prestigious possession you long for..you will be viewed any more differently than the mass of 25 million like you by the policymakers and those in dominance. If this is your thing, then more power to it, but don't hinder the brother or the group that travels a different route.

Many of you will think you're too busy...many will think you have no talent...many will be fearful of what others will say...many will wait and criticize what the Center does not have or what the AAA does not do.

This is to be expected. But there is something everyone can do. If you agree, make your decision now. Look over the Cultural Center proposal and this outline of activities and programs and FIND YOUR PLACE. Put your name and phone number on the sheet and bring it to the AAA office, give it to your dorm rep or anymember of this committee.

1. COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAMS

- breakfast program
- youth development/tutorial program
- basketball/football/baseball teams in Black communities

Note: these programs are already in progress but must be expanded to this side of town to make use of the cultural center.

2. Other community action programs may be designed. Graduate students in social work, speech, and education as well as law students have a unique opportunity to design and coordinate programs in preparation for their careers, making use of the Center.

3. TUTORIAL PROGRAMS

This semester only two of our four projected programs can probably be instituted: the college student tutorship and the Black Studies/Reading Program, which is a part of the community action program. We can start to work now mapping plans for "worker education" and "high-school tutorship". We are also investigating speedreading programs.

4. EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

Students will plan and design guest lecture series and group discussion and educational classes.

5. CULTURAL PROGRAMS

Black literature/writing workshops; art shows; plays; dances; music; sculpture; films.

6. AFRO-AMERICAN AND AFRICAN LIBRARY

We are in the process of ordering books, newspapers, and magazines. Many students will be needed to work with the library committee. Andy Taylor is one coordinator - he needs help!!

BULLETIN BOARD DISPLAYS

Students are needed to assist Rilous Carter, who has agreed to be coordinator in clipping newspaper and magazine articles that contain relevant news about current Black activity and Afro-American Affairs.

RESEARCH ASSISTANTS

7. RECREATIONAL/ENTERTAINMENT ACTIVITIES

Committee needed to design such activities for the center.

8. PUBLICATIONS

Newsletters; Newspapers; Information and orientation booklets; Poetry Publications; etc.