

History Center's Black History Month Programs Include Smithsonian National Summit

The ***From Slavery to Freedom*** exhibit enhancements are part of several activities to recognize Black History Month throughout the month of February at the History Center:

- **Smithsonian National Youth Summit: Freedom Summer**
Wed., Feb. 5, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.
The Smithsonian-affiliated History Center will help to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Freedom Summer as part of a special Smithsonian National Youth Summit. The Smithsonian's National Museum of American History will link high school students across the U.S. to the Old Capitol Museum in Jackson, Miss., for an engaging program focusing on the history and legacy of the 1964 youth-led effort for voting rights and education. Prior to the National Youth Summit, local Pittsburgh students will participate in an on-site panel discussion featuring local Civil Rights leader Sala Udin. For more information on this school program, visit www.heinzhistorycenter.org and click on the events tab.
- **Saturday Speaker Series: "The Paradox of American History – From Slavery to Freedom"**
Sat., Feb. 15, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.
The History Center's Director of African American Programs, Samuel W. Black, will address the attitudes of Americans toward the legacy of slavery as part of a special lecture, looking specifically at the history of the abolition movement and slavery in Western Pennsylvania and how it affects today's opinions. The Saturday Speaker Series is free with admission and free to History Center members. For reservations, please contact Sandra Baker at 412-454-6412 or slbaker@heinzhistorycenter.org.
- **Healthy Heritage Cooking Series, presented by UPMC Health Plan**
Sat., Feb. 15, 1 p.m.
The History Center will host Elise "The Diva Chef" Wims, who will share traditional African American recipes in the museum's Weisbrod Kitchen Classroom. Seating is limited so reservations are required. Admission is \$20 for general admission and \$10 for History Center members. For reservations, please contact Sarah Rooney at 412-454-6373 or serooney@heinzhistorycenter.org.
- **From Slavery to Freedom Film Series: The Rise and Fall of Jim Crow**
Wed., Feb. 26, 5:30 p.m.
Homewood Library Auditorium, 7101 Hamilton Ave., Pittsburgh, Pa.
The History Center will sponsor a special screening of the film "The Rise and Fall of Jim Crow," which explores segregation from the end of the Civil War to the dawn of the modern Civil Rights Movement. The film screening will be followed by a discussion of the film's major themes. Admission is free. Registration is not required. For more information, please contact Sarah Rooney at 412-454-6373 or serooney@heinzhistorycenter.org.

MEDIA NOTE: Samuel W. Black, the History Center's Director of African American Programs, is available for interviews to discuss the new enhancements to the *From Slavery to Freedom* exhibit, as well as the importance of observing African American history in Western Pa.

For more information, photos, and events related to ***From Slavery to Freedom***, please visit www.heinzhistorycenter.org.

The Senator John Heinz History Center, an affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution and the largest history museum in Pennsylvania, presents American history with a Western Pennsylvania connection. The Western Pennsylvania Sports Museum is a museum within a museum, comprehensively presenting the region's remarkable sports story through hundreds of artifacts and interactive experiences for visitors of all ages. The History Center and Sports Museum are located at 1212 Smallman Street in the city's Strip District, and are open every day from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The History Center's museum system includes the Sports Museum; the Fort Pitt Museum in historic Point State Park; and Meadowcroft Rockshelter & Historic Village, a National Historic Landmark located in Avella, Pa. in Washington County. More information is available at www.heinzhistorycenter.org.

***From Slavery to Freedom* Exhibit Presenting Sponsor:**



BNY MELLON



The ***From Slavery to Freedom*** exhibition, presented by **BNY Mellon**, details more than 250 years of African American history with rare artifacts and immersive museum settings, such as this recreated 18th century slave ship.



Recent additions to the ***From Slavery to Freedom*** exhibit include six interactive touch-screen stations where visitors can explore the safe houses that were part of the Underground Railroad in Western Pa., including several locations in downtown Pittsburgh.



The History Center's ***From Slavery to Freedom*** exhibit recently added this life-like museum figure of Civil War soldier Alexander Kelly, who lived in Allegheny City and was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for saving the colors of his company in 1864 during the Battle of Chaffin's Farm in Virginia.