

Time Life To Publish African Americans: Voices Of Triumph Time Warner To Underwrite Widespread Donation

Time Life Inc., a division of Time Warner headquartered in Alexandria, Virginia, has announced the publication of AFRICAN AMERICANS: VOICES OF TRIUMPH, a richly illustrated three volume historical survey of the African American men and women who shaped our society. VOICES OF TRIUMPH marks the inaugural foray into the multicultural market for Time Life Inc. Volumes are slated for publication at six month intervals, with Volume One, Perseverance, on sale for \$29.95 in bookstores nationwide in September. Time Warner Inc. is donating the three-volume set to every public secondary school and primary-branch public library in the nation.

Dr. Henry Louis Gates, chair of Harvard's Afro-American Studies Department, is the Senior Editorial Advisor for VOICES OF TRIUMPH. The other members of the advisory board are:

Dr. Maya Angelou, Inaugural poet, author and professor

The Reverend Calvin O. Butts, pastor of Abyssinian Baptist church in New York Mr. William H. Gray III, president of the United Negro College Fund and former Congressman from Philadelphia

Dr. Dorothy Height, President of the National Council of Negro Women Dr. Ruth Love, Educational Consultant and former Superintendent of Public Schools for the Cities of Chicago and Oakland

Mr. Gordon Parks, prize-winning photographer for Life magazine, author and filmmaker

The Reverend Dr. DeForest Soaries, Pastor of the First Baptist Church of Lincoln Gardens, Somerset, New Jersey.

John Fahey, CEO of Time Life said, "The African American market represents a rich and growing segment of the U.S. book publishing industry. While some African American history titles have an academic focus, VOICES OF TRIUMPH offers



a panoramic overview of African Americans, full of vivid detail, rare photographs, and fresh perspectives that will appeal to all generations."

Four years in development, VOICES OF TRIUMPH was the brainchild of three African American Time Life employees: series co-directors Roxie France-Nuriddin and Myrna Traylor-Herndon, and series design director, Cynthia Richardson.

Volume One, Perseverance, chronicles the vital role African Americans have played in American society, from the slavery era to the impact of the civil rights movement. Available in 1994, Volume Two, Leadership, focuses on two-hundred and fifty years of achievement by African Americans in business, science, education, religion and politics. Creative Fire, the third volume in the series,

showcases African American accomplishment in such areas as film and theater, the visual arts, literature and music.

Rosalyn Andrews, Director of Multicultural Markets, Time Life Custom Publishing, said, "VOICES OF TRIUMPH is a wonderful opportunity to tap into the vast network of talented African American writers, illustrators, agencies and vendors. By using the resources of the African American creative and business communities, we ensure the development of an authentic product that will enlighten and educate diverse audiences."

Drawing from the nation's foremost archives of African American history, VOICES OF TRIUMPH weaves a richly textured portrait of the African American experience, with rare photographs, archival material,

exclusively commissioned artwork, and unparalleled research. Readers will discover fascinating characters like "Stagecoach" Mary Fields, the cigar-smoking former slave who delivered the U.S. mail in Montana, and 110 year-old Jones Morgan, the oldest living Buffalo Soldier, who enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1890, at the age of 15. (Buffalo soldiers were members of African American regiments established after Reconstruction, who were stationed on the western frontier to protect settlers, trails, and telegraph lines). And the series showcases rare documents such as the turn-of-the-century photographs of survivors of the Wanderer, one of the last illegal slave ships, that arrived in the United States in 1858.

VOICES OF TRIUMPH also features contemporary African-American personalities such as physicist George Carruthers, who designed the Far-Ultraviolet Camera/Spectrograph aboard Apollo 16 that was placed on the lunar surface in 1972. As senior astrophysicist at the Naval Research Laboratory in Washington, DC, Carruthers received a NASA Exceptional Scientific Achievement Medal for his work on this instrument which photographs distant objects and records radiation in space. And VOICES OF TRIUMPH readers will learn of aerospace technologist Katherine Johnson who, in 1959, pioneered in developing the mathematic computations for launching space vehicles into orbit, tracking their positions, and safely retrieving them from space.

VOICES OF TRIUMPH is a publication of Time Life Custom Publishing, which publishes, markets, and distributes wherever books are sold. Current releases include the national bestseller MRS. FIELDS' COOKIE BOOK, THE WILLIAMS SONOMA KITCHEN LIBRARY, the soon to be published LAMBCHOP'S FABLES, and Jim Fowler's THE WILDEST PLACES ON EARTH.

Parties To Urban Service District Dispute Agree To Mediation

Representatives of the cities of Beaverton and Portland, along with officials from Washington County, notified Metro this week that they want to enter into mediation to resolve the dispute over the urban services boundary for the unincorporated suburban area of east Washington County.

The agreement allows Metro to initiate the second phase of discussions or mediation to seek a resolution of the disagreement residents and other facilities in the unincorporated area. Representatives of the three Community Planning Organizations (CPO's) which represent citizens in the affected neighborhoods indicated their willingness to go forward to seek settlement at the last joint meeting of the government and citizen representatives in late April.

One of the key issues was Portland's earlier action toward including the area in Washington County in the urban services boundary of the City of Portland. As a result of the case assessment phase of the dispute resolution, Portland officials have now postponed action on the service boundary and indicated their willingness to look at other alternatives.

Metro will contract with an expert in dispute resolution to facilitate this next phase of the discussions after consultation with Beaverton, Portland, Washington County and the CPO representatives. Larry Epstein, an attorney and planner who specializes in land use cases, was complimented by the participants for his facilitation of the case assessment meetings. The meetings identified issues which might be resolved through mediation rather than litigation. The second round of discussions will be led by an experienced mediator who may not be a expert in land use law.

The process is funded by the Oregon Dispute Resolution Commission's Public Policy Dispute Resolution Program which was established to reduce litigation in disagreements involving public agencies. Metro has obtained and administered the grant and is a participant in the mediation process as a affected party due to its statutory responsibility for regional coordination of land use plans.

Metro officials expect the mediation process to begin the last two weeks in May.

Sixth Annual Conference Of Black Chamber Of Commerce Set For August In Texas

Oscar J. Coffey, President and CEO, NBCC, cautioned members not to be misled by recent announcements made by a fledgling organization calling itself "National Convention of Black Chambers" that claims it will host a convention in Indiana this June.

"This new organization is not affiliated in any way with the National Black Chamber of Commerce headquartered in Oakland, California and founded in 1983," said Coffey.

Coffey said that many NBCC members might be confused because NBCC had originally scheduled its convention to be held in Indiana. Preliminary talks were held with a prospective host organization, the Hoosier Minority Chamber of Commerce. These negotiations were not successful.

Coffey said that the official NBCC Conference in Texas will be hosted by the Dallas Black Chamber of Commerce.

The Conference theme will be

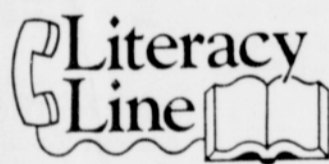
"Back to the Future: A Committed Past--A Prepared Tomorrow." Coffey said the focus will be "to recommit ourselves to the historic Black business pioneers' principles of service, caring and sharing, as we prepare educationally, spiritually and economically for a bright tomorrow."

"The National Black Chamber of Commerce will continue to pursue its goals on your behalf," Coffey said in a promise to NBCC members. "With the continued support of our members, corporations and elected officials, we are confident that our Sixth Annual conference will be productive for all."

"I look forward to seeing you in Dallas!"

The National Black Chamber of Commerce was organized in 1983 to promote the growth and development of Black-owned businesses nationwide and also to support statewide Black chambers of commerce. It is headquartered in Oakland, California.

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Oscar J. Coffey, Jr.
President, CEO National Black Chamber of Commerce

(NBCC Official Warns Members Not To Be Misled By Offshoot Indiana Group)

The National Black Chamber of Commerce (NBCC) will hold its Sixth Annual National Conference in Dallas, Texas, at the Radisson Hotel, 2330 West Northwest Highway, August 25-29, 1993. NBCC officials have announced.

perspectives

Africa Revisited II: Integrating Culture With Commerce

Last week I introduced some aspects of two decisive themes that would seem to place a number of African Americans poles apart in their thinking about the African continent. This was done with the expectation that a vigorous dialogue would be created; one which could lead to a reconciliation—even a synthesis—of two key viewpoints, both with avid partisans. "Vigor" we've got, not doubt about it. Thanks for your calls.

On the one hand it was put that (as there should be) many blacks have a deep cultural appreciation for the continuity of 'roots' extending to that other seminal continent. And, for further, there were cited many of the contemporary observances and ceremonies that give expression to an affective affinity with the past. Her, we speak of the entire spectrum of the cultural heritage, from song and dance to the costume and dress of various eras; from poetry and oral histories to sculptures and religious icons. Do not omit science, math, architecture and language.

And, quite properly, we note that scores of other ethnic groups in America (White and Asian) pay the same tribute to their ancestors and ancestral lands. Here in Portland, we see these people observing their traditions all over the place—in the Park Blocks, on the Water Front, in ethnic districts or dedicated places of assembly, wherever. If anything, most of these races demonstrate more unabashed public display of pride and respect for their roots than do the majority of blacks (fortunately things are improving).

On the other hand, I put it in opposition to this purely cultural approach, that there exists in some parts of the country a fast growing community of blacks whose interest and commitment to Africa is driven by economics. This is to be expected in a fast-shrinking world that is now described as a "Global Village" and which affords relatively cheap transportation and instant communication. And this is not to omit the 'information explosion' which is providing more relevant data on international trade each day; banks, vendors, United Nations, World Bank, shipping lines, embassies, libraries, seminars, universities.

It is my experience with this latter group of black Americans, driven by a vision of huge economic gain for the race, which led me to cite their position as "an opposing viewpoint in need of reconciliation with the traditionalists." It is my observation that too many of the 'entrepreneurs' have adopted a rather simplistic posture in respect to the 'traditionalists'. "Do away with all that singing, dancing and ritual," they say. "Get down to dollars and cents, and marketing."

And I find that underlying the main difference in the approaches of the two groups is a recurrent theme of our "disadvantaged" status in this country. Through no fault of their own, most blacks have a respective developed by life on the fringe of this society. This ugly and demeaning constraint limit perception, expectations, ambitions and the capacity of critical analysis. It does little good to have vast amounts of information available if

one does not have the proper frame of reference to intelligently process it. Meaningful knowledge requires the relating of things—the extraction of similars. Consider the following.

In that "Gales Encyclopedia of Associations" at the main public library, will be found listings for all of the major "ethnic" organizations in this country: British, Greek, Chinese, Japanese, French, East India, Yugoslav, German, South Seas, Russian, German, Norwegian, Iranian, Nigerian, Greek, Ethiopian, Kenyan, Arabian, Austrians, etc. There are hundreds upon hundreds of such organizations of "hyphenated Americans" who have highly structured connections with their overseas roots. And who maintain year-round social and commercial intercourse with their Foreign brethren.

On each side of the Atlantic or Pacific, they maintain offices, libraries, cultural and language centers, publishing houses, trade bureaus, Lobbyists, travel bureaus, etc.

On any given day the skies above the nations are filled with commuters who are pursuing the related business of these institutions. Hundreds of jobs are generated in consequence of this traffic. This is real power and much of the politics and other affairs of nations are shaped with in this context. "CULTURE AND COMMERCE ARE INTEGRATED!"

If African Americans are to survive and progress in this modern world, it is a given that they must understand where their future lies in this "Global Village". It is my hope that this attempt in reconciling two opposing schools of thought on our relations with the mother continent will reveal that they are not in opposition at all. I believe the two preceding paragraphs will take us a long way in that direction.

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