# BLACK HISTORY MONTH

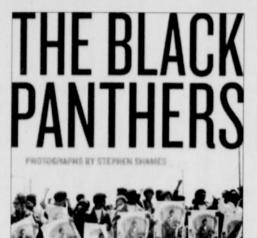
## History Exposed in "The Black Panthers" Collection

Photos and essays commemorate the group's 40th anniversary

sweeping through America, Huey the Panther's 40th Anniversary. P. Newton and Bobby Seale a new book of photographs by can Americans. Its methods were

In the midst of the largely non- party co-founders Seale and violent Civil Rights movement Charles E. Jones, coincides with

The Black Panthers, revered founded the legendary Black Pan- by some and vilified by others, ther Party in 1966 in Oakland, burst onto the scene with a revo-Calif. The release of "The Black lutionary agenda for social change Panthers" (Aperture, Oct. 2006), and the empowerment of Afri-Stephen Shames and essays by highly controversial and polariz-



The history of one of the most socially important organizations of the 1960's is chronicled in a new book titled "The Black Panthers.'

leader J. Edgar Hoover described the organization as the country's greatest threat to internal secu-

ment, from 1967 to 1973, pho-

ing, so much so that in 1969, FBI private meetings held in the Party headquarters, to Bobby Seale at work on his mayoral campaign in **Oakland** 

"The Black Panthers" brings During the height of the move- together a remarkable collection of images from Shames' archive. tographer Stephen Shames had This illuminating volume reveals unprecedented access to the or- how Shames insider status enganization and captured not only abled him to create an uncomits public face - street demon- monly nuanced portrait of this strations, protests and militant dynamic social movement, durposturing - but also unscripted ing one of the most tumultuous behind the scenes moments, from periods in U.S. history.

### **U.S. Stamp Honors Ella Fitzgerald**

#### Jazz legend broke many barriers

From the 1970 infamous commercials that the late Jazz singer Ella Fitzgerald asked of the world "Is it live or is it Memorex?" in which she performed a high note to break a wine glass, Fitzgerald, known as the "First Lady of Song" gets signed, sealed and delivered as the 30th honoree in the U.S. Postal service Black Heritage Stamp series.

Since 1940, the United States Postal Service has honored the legacy of Black History. From Booker T Washington, to Whitney Moore Young, an A to Z list of African American lives have been celebrated in the form of a United States postal stamp.

The 39-cent U.S. Postal portrait stamp illustrates a 1956 photograph of Ella Fitzgerald. Because ranges, Fitzgerald perfected her

chic by creating characteristic vocal syllable sounds that echoed the rhythms of instruments. The legendary jazz trumpeter Dizzy Gillespie, often requested that Fitzgerald accompany him.

"Listening to Dizzy made me want to try something with my voice that would be like a horn," Fitzgerald said. "He'd shout, 'go ahead and blow' and I would improvise." Her recordings of songs like "Lady Be Good" and "How High the Moon" consolidated Fitzgerald's reputation as a jazz singer. "How High the Moon" became one of her signature tunes.

Fitzgerald, who sang at the inaugural for president John F. Kennedy in 1961, had already broken many color barriers years before. One example was that she was one the first black artist to appear in various exclusive clubs around the United States, including the famed Copacabana in New York, in June 1957.

## Saluting Black History Month



"All labor that uplifts humanity has dignity and importance and should be undertaken with painstaking excellence."

— Martin Luther King Jr.



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### 'Red River' Brings History to Life

A U.S. postal stamp commemo-

rating the late Ella Fitzgerald.

honorees have to be deceased for

at least ten years, with the excep-

tion of U.S. Presidents, 2007 com-

memorates ten-plus years of Ella

"The First Lady of Song"

ability to combine the art of scat

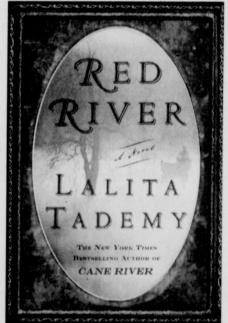
and singing in astonishing vocal

World renowned for her vocal

Fitzgerald's passing.

Red River," (Warner Books Hardcover; \$24.99) a new novel by Lalita Tademy, weaves together history and the story of Tademy's own family in an intertwining story of two families struggling to survive and thrive in an America deeply divided after the Civil War.

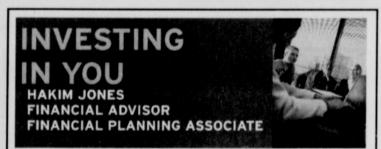
From slavery to freedom, to Reconstruction - after centuries of terror, blacks in America were told they would get their rights. What they got was draft riots and lynchings. Much has been written about this period of



the late nineteenth century, but little is know about an event that claimed the lives of nearly every black man in a small Louisiana town: the Colfax Massacre of 1873.

Tademy brings this tragedy to life in "Red River," a detailed and horrifying exploration of betrayal and renewal and of the massacre and its devastating impact on her father's people.

Tademy is also the author of acclaimed New York Times bestseller "Cane River," a riveting family saga chronicling four generations in Louisiana.

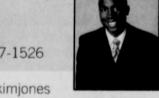


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