

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

History of Black New York

Examining the history of New York's African-American citizens and culture from the early 1600s through today and its impact on the world is the critically acclaimed film New York Noir: The History of Black New York.

African-Americans lived in New York City long before the arrival of the British, Irish and Italians or anyone Jewish or Catholic. Their contributions as both slaves and free men and women were integral to the rise of one of the world's greatest cities.

The areas now known as China Town, Little Italy and Greenwich Village were once called the "Negro Frontier." Yet Blacks were the last to become full citizens.

The film features rare historical footage and segments on civil rights, politics, business, military heroes and entertainment.

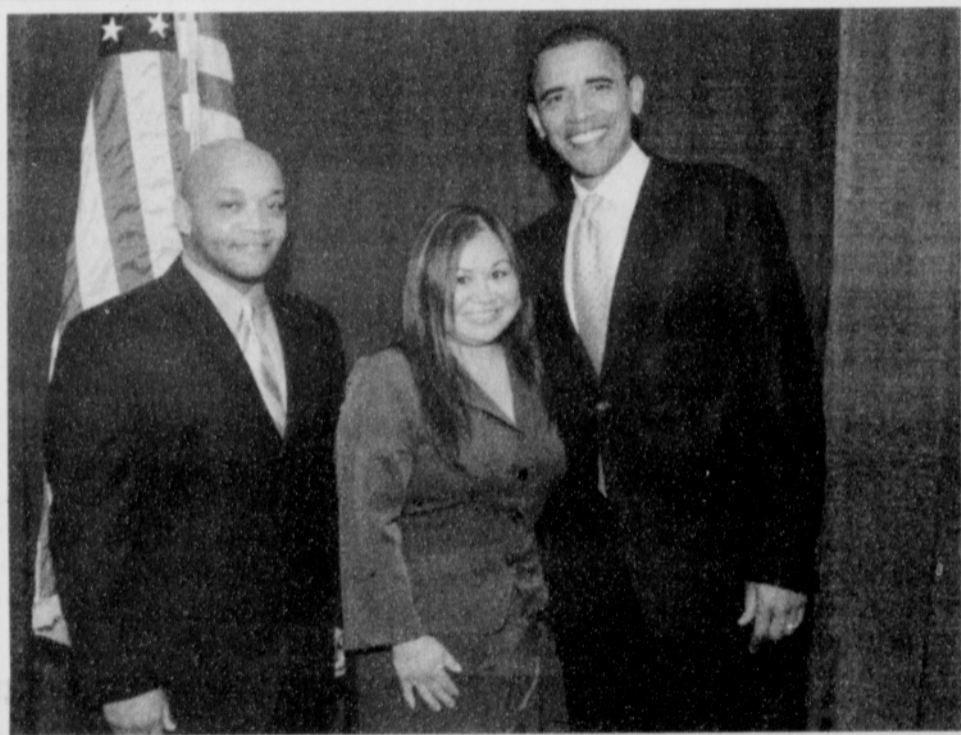
This film honors and pays tribute to the many stellar contributions African-Americans have made to New York, the nation and, indeed, the world—including Marcus Garvey, Malcolm X, Count Basie, Cab Calloway and Colin Powell, among many others.

In color and black and white, New York Noir: The History of Black New York is presented by Little Dizzy Home Video.



Celebrated Singer Takes a Stand

Contralto singer Marian Anderson performs on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial on Easter Sunday on April 9, 1939, after she had been refused permission to perform in Washington D.C.'s Constitution Hall by the hall's owners, the Daughters of the American Revolution. The outdoor concert attracted a large crowd, and many more listened by radio, focusing attention on Anderson and subsequent cases of racial discrimination.



James & Mytien Kent with President Barack Obama



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1924 Civil Rights Book Recast Documenting rarely recognized achievements

(AP)—The Ku Klux Klan was rising again. Segregation was the law and Martin Luther King Jr. was not even born yet.

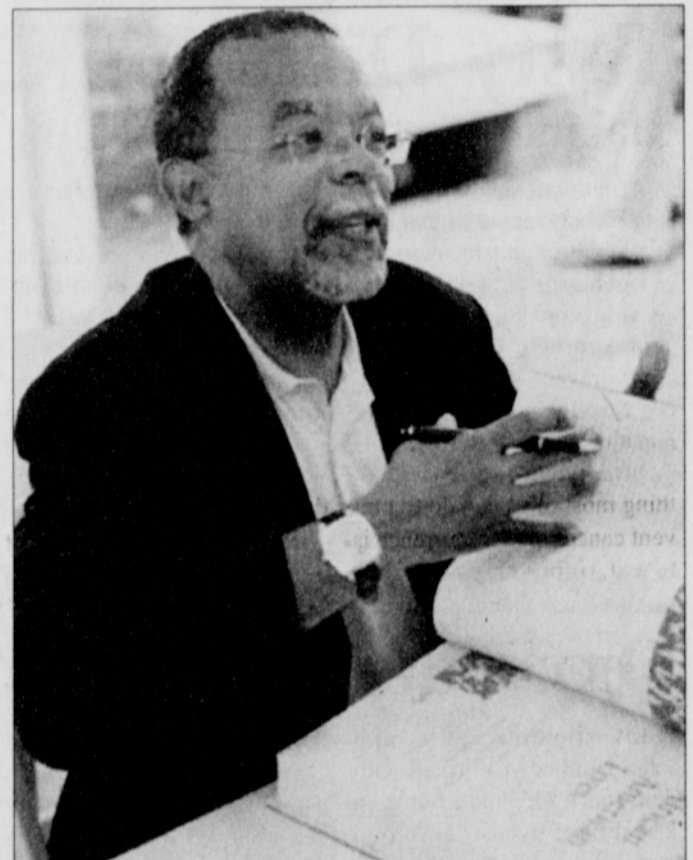
Amid the terror and oppression, civil rights pioneer W.E.B. DuBois published a groundbreaking book in 1924 that challenged the pervasive stereotypes of African-Americans and documented their rarely recognized achievements.

His book, "The Gift of Black Folk: The Negroes in the Making of America," detailed the role of African-Americans with the earliest explorers to inventions ranging from ice cream to player pianos. He argued that blacks were crucial to conquering the wilderness, winning wars, expanding democracy and creating a prosperous economy by producing tobacco, sugar, cotton and rice and helping to build the Panama Canal.

"The Negro worked as farm hand and peasant proprietor, as laborer, artisan and inventor and as servant in the house, and without him, America as we know it, would have been impossible," DuBois wrote.

A new edition of the book is being published to mark the 100th anniversary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, which DuBois co-founded. The new edition also marks Black History Month and arrives with President Barack Obama taking office.

"African-Americans have served on the Supreme Court, in the cabinet, and, finally, as president of the United States," Carl Anderson, supreme knight



Harvard University professor Henry Louis Gates Jr. welcomes a new edition of the book by W.E.B. DuBois "The Gift of Black Folk: The Negroes in the Making of America."

of the Knights of Columbus, wrote in the introduction. "The Gift of Black Folk allows us to fully appreciate these monumental achievements."

Harvard University professor Henry Louis Gates Jr., who edited DuBois' works, including "The Gift of Black Folk," welcomed the Knights reissuing their own edition. The book, which came during the Harlem Renaissance, sparked similar books that raised the nation's consciousness of African-American achievements, he said.

"Black people were using art

and historical narrative as weapons in the civil rights movement, trying to show that black people were innately as intelligent as white people, that they weren't distinctly inferior by nature and the best way to do that they felt was by holding up the achievements of intelligent or artistic or creative black people," Gates said. "And no one did this more brilliantly than the great W.E.B. DuBois himself."

The Knights, the world's largest Catholic lay organiza-

continued on page A9



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Families are welcome to drop in at these free events:

- Regence Boys & Girls Club 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 21 4430 N. Trenton St.
- Blazers Boys & Girls Club 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 28 5250 N.E. Martin Luther King Blvd.
- OMSI Family Science Night 6-8 p.m. Monday, March 2 1945 S.E. Water Ave. (OMSI Café will be closed)



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GREGORY P.

"When evil men shout ugly words of hatred, good men must commit themselves to the glories of love. Where evil men would seek to perpetuate an unjust status quo, good men must seek to bring into being a real order of justice."

—Martin Luther King, Jr.

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