

Gateway Gazette

Special programs at the Historic Old Courthouse commemorate African Americans in history

Celebrate African-American Heritage Month at the Old Courthouse and the Gateway Arch with a series of special performances and presentations about African Americans in history.

Beginning February 1 and ending March 1, 2008, the African American Heritage Month Series features performances by groups and individuals to commemorate the special place of African-Americans in American history.

On February 1 and 2, actor Gregory Carr will convey the exploits of mountain man and buffalo hunter, Jim Beckwourth, in "The Adventures of Jim Beckwourth: African American Frontiersman" at the Museum of Westward Expansion.

February 8 and 9, storyteller Carole Shelton will portray Elizabeth Keckley, seamstress and confidante to Mary Todd Lincoln, in the Old Courthouse rotunda.

On February 14, 15 and 16, Company A-10th Memorial Calvary Buffalo Soldiers, a group of reenactors from Fort Concho Historic Site and Museum in San Angelo, TX, will reenact aspects of military life and drills from the Civil War era. Their presentations will take place in the Museum of Westward Expansion.

On February 22 and 23, St. Louis storyteller Loretta Washington will present her one-woman drama, "Where Would We Be Without Thee." Washington portrays several African-American females, including Sojourner



Storyteller Carole Shelton portrays Elizabeth Keckley, seamstress and confidante to Mary Todd Lincoln. (NPS photo)

Truth, Harriet Scott and Harriet Tubman.

On February 29 and March 1, actor and playwright Paxton Williams will present his one-man drama, "Listening to the Still Small Voice: The Story of George Washington Carver" in the Old Courthouse rotunda. Paxton is an alum of Carver's alma mater, Iowa State University.

The series will end on March 1 with a special day-long commemoration of the 151st anniversary of the Dred Scott Decision.

The day's events will include a performance of Paxton Williams' "Listening to the Still Small Voice," as well

as an historic vignette about the Blow family and Dred Scott by National Park Service Rangers Nancy Hoppe and Chris Anibal. Certified genealogist and Special Collections Librarian Ruth Ann Hager from the St. Louis County Library will present findings from her research on Harriet Scott and her family.

Throughout the day, visitors may reenact a trial based on one of Dred Scott's original petitions for freedom in 1850. The trials will take place in one of the restored courtrooms on the second floor of the Historic Old Courthouse.

Education Department welcomes new Director

Julie Northrip returns to St. Louis; brings experience in teaching and museum programming

On February 11, 2008, Julie Northrip took the helm as the new Director of Education at Jefferson National Expansion Memorial (JNEM). Northrip comes to JNEM by way of Fort Smith National Historic Site in Fort Smith, AK, where she worked for eight years. Before that, she was the Director of the Fort Smith Art Center.

Originally from St. Louis, Northrip taught geography and history at Villa Duchesne 1982 through 1987 and history at Clayton High School in 1988. In

between, she served as Director of the Margaret Harwell Art Museum in popular Bluff, MO, and Manager of School and Teacher Programs at the Terra Museum of American Art in Chicago, IL.

Northrip brings the right combination of teaching and museum programming to her new position as Director. Because JNEM programs are curriculum-based and interactive, she will look for ways to strengthen connections between park resources and the frameworks teachers use to teach history and social studies.

"I'm looking forward to returning to the city," Northrip said. "My family is here and I look forward to the opportunity of being a resource for educators.

There are so many rich resources here at JNEM and the history ties in well to many of the subjects taught in both Missouri and Illinois schools."

Northrip also looks forward to networking with history and social studies teachers in Missouri and Illinois.

"Establishing strong connections with teachers is what keeps our Museum Education Programs thriving," she said. "We will continue looking for ways to reach out to our audience, particularly elementary school teachers."

So don't be surprised to find her seated next to you at your next Missouri Council for Social Studies conference or Social Studies Network meeting.

Lewis and Clark: Larger-than-life

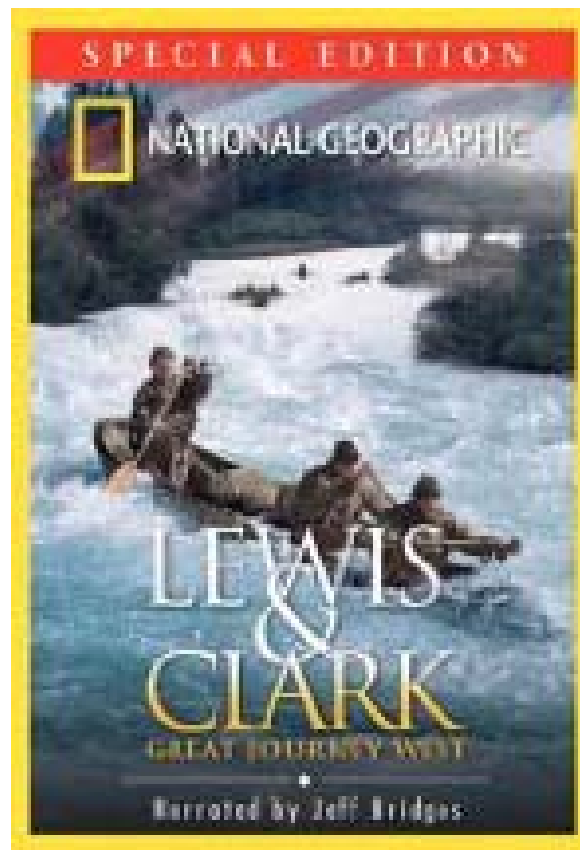
The National Geographic film *Lewis and Clark: Great Journey West*, filmed in Imax format, will be showing in the World Odyssey Theater under the Gateway Arch through 2008.

Great Journey West, narrated by actor Jeff Bridges, retraces the epic journey of the Lewis and Clark Expedition from St. Louis to the Pacific Ocean and back during the years 1804 to 1806. Aerial photography puts viewers in the middle of sweeping panoramas and stunning vistas encountered by the explorers.

"We are glad to, once again, have this exciting and informative film for visitors to the Arch," said Frank Mares, acting Superintendent of Jefferson National Expansion Memorial. "Lewis and Clark began their trek in the St. Louis area and returned to the Levee in front of where the Arch stands today. It is a very appropriate presentation for our visiting public."

Great Journey West features an original score by composer Sam Cardon. Cardon composed scores for nine other large-format films, as well as for National Geographic Explorer and the 1988 and 2002 Winter Olympics.

Great Journey West will be shown on the half-hour daily between 9:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$7.00 for adults, \$4.00 for 13-15 year-olds and \$2.50 for ages three-12.



Follow the compelling story of the Corps of Discovery as they travel to the Pacific Ocean and back again.

The Jefferson National Expansion Memorial commemorates the people, places, and events involved in America's Westward Expansion during the nineteenth century. The Gateway Arch and Old Courthouse symbolize St. Louis' role as "Gateway to the West" during the 1800s.

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The National Park Service cares for the special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

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Education programs and resources at JEFF are supported by Jefferson National Parks Association (JNPA), a federally recognized NPS cooperating association. Through the sales of educational products, JNPA helps to conserve, develop, and interpret areas of historical significance for the benefit of the public and posterity. As a tax-exempt, non-profit organization identified under section 501(c)(3) of the federal tax code, all JNPA proceeds fund its educational mission.

African-American History Month Quiz

- When did the foreign slave trade end in the United States?
 - The foreign slave trade was abolished in 1808.
 - The foreign slave trade ended with the Emancipation Proclamation of 1863.
 - The Missouri Compromise of 1820 abolished the foreign slave trade.
- What was the significance of June 19, 1865, known as *Juneteenth*?
 - The remaining slaves in the United States learned that the Civil War had been won by the North and that they were now free.
 - The Fifteenth Amendment was passed, giving African-American men the right to vote.
 - The Freedmen's Bureau was established.
- During Reconstruction, who became the first African-American senator, ironically completing the term vacated ten years earlier by Jefferson Davis, who left the Senate to become the president of the Confederacy?
 - Frederick Douglass
 - Hiram Revels
 - P.B.S. Pinchback
- During the end of the 1800s and into the early 1900s, a debate raged between two black leaders. One called for blacks to strive for economic betterment that would eventually win them wider acceptance in white society, and the other called for immediate social and political equality. Who were the two framers of this debate?
 - George Washington Carver and Booker T. Washington
 - W.E.B DuBois and Carter Woodson
 - W.E.B. DuBois and Booker T. Washington
- Which of the following was NOT a black nationalist movement?
 - Philip Randolph's Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters
 - Malcolm X's Nation of Islam
 - Marcus Garvey's Universal Negro Improvement Association
- Rosa Parks's refusal to give up her seat on a Birmingham bus is an iconic moment in the civil rights movement. But what were the actual circumstances of her refusal?
 - Parks, sitting in the "whites only" section of the bus, refused to move to the back of the bus.
 - Parks, sitting in the "colored section" of the bus, was expected to give up her seat to a white man because all the "whites only" seats in the front of the bus were filled.
 - Parks, having just finished a long day of work, told the bus driver she was simply too tired to get up and move to the back of the bus.