

Library Locations

Algiers Regional

3014 Holiday Dr.
596-2642

Alvar

913 Alvar St.
596-2624

Children's Resource Center

913 Napoleon Ave.
596-2628

East N.O. Regional

5641 Read Blvd.
596-2646

Gentilly

2098 Foy St.
596-2644

Hubbell (Algiers Point)

725 Pelican Ave.
596-2642

Keller

4300 S. Broad
596-2675

King

1611 Caffin Ave.
596-2695

Latter

5120 St. Charles Ave.
596-2625

Main Library

219 Loyola Ave.
529-READ

Nix

1401 S. Carrollton Ave.
596-2630

Nora Navra

1902 St. Bernard Ave.
596-2623

Smith Regional

6301 Canal Blvd.
596-2638

NEW ORLEANS  PUBLIC LIBRARY

Visit our Web site: nutrias.org

Celebrating Black History Month 2004 and Remembering the 50th Anniversary of Brown vs. Board of Education



Photo Courtesy of: National Archives.

*Black History Month programming
made possible through funds from the*



Brown vs. Board of Education

In May 1954, the Supreme Court passed the Brown vs. Board of Education of Topeka decision that struck down segregation in public schools and opened the doors to integration in public places. The significance of the event can best be viewed when considering the plethora of Jim Crow laws that surfaced in the early 1900s that disavowed rights for African Americans. These Jim Crow laws gathered strength from the 1896 Supreme Court decision of Plessy vs. Ferguson, a case which began in Louisiana in an attempt to legally mandate the equality of African Americans, but upon its failure caused the opposite to transpire.

This year the Black History Committee of the New Orleans Public Library will shed light on the local significance of the Brown vs. Board of Education decision. This year's lineup of free programs focuses on education in general and looks at the problems in the educational system that can be linked to opposition to Brown vs. Board of Education. Fifty years following the decision, problems still arise from the unequal distribution of educational resources in public schools.



A soldier stands guard in front of Little Rock's Central High School, the site of one of the most controversial integration attempts of the civil rights era. (Photo Courtesy of: Library of Congress)

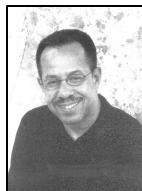
Celebrating Black History Month 2004 Schedule of Events

Celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, January 15, Noon, Main Library— Guest



speakers **Gail Etienne-Netters**, **Tessie Prevost Williams** and **Leona Tate** integrated McDonogh 19 School in 1960. They will discuss their role in the integration of New Orleans Public Schools.

The Impact of Brown vs. Board of Education Panel Discussion, January 28, 6 p.m., Smith Regional Branch— A discussion on how this landmark decision affected our local public schools. Panelists include **C.C. Campbell Rock**, Co-Chair of Parents for Educational Justice, Author **Keith Weldon Medley** (*We as Freeman: Plessy vs. Ferguson*),



Medley

Dr. Rosalind Pijaux Hale, Chair and Associate Professor of Education at Xavier University and Attorney **Lolis Edward Elie**.

New Names Over New Orleans Public Schools, January 31, 1 p.m., Main Library— Community activist **Malcolm Suber** discusses the name changes of New Orleans Public Schools and the significance of these changes.

Tips for Raising Children, February 4, 6 p.m., East N.O. Regional Branch— Children do not come with instructions. Join us as Children's Bureau Social Worker **Rashonda Webb-Bias** presents tips for the modern parent on raising children in today's society.

Storytelling with Mama Suma, February 3, 10:20 a.m., Nix Branch and February 4, 10 a.m., Latter Branch— **Mama Suma** delights children with stories rooted in the African oral tradition.

Tracing Your Roots, February 7, 10 a.m. (Beginner's workshop) and 1 p.m. (Intermediate workshop), Main Library— Local genealogist **Greg Osborn** offers beginning and intermediate level workshops on conducting African American genealogy research.

Movie Time: Journey for Justice: The A.P. Tureaud Story, February 5, 11 a.m., Nora Navra Branch and February 11, 6 p.m., Gentilly Branch— The library will show this documentary by **Rachel Emmanuel** which showcases the life of the famous civil rights attorney, **A.P. Tureaud**, who won numerous desegregation cases throughout the south. **The showing at Nora Navra Branch will be followed by a wreath laying ceremony in A.P. Tureaud Park.**

Kids and Banking, February 5, 11 a.m., Children's Resource Center and February 10, 11 a.m., King Branch— **Mike Scott** of Bank One uses games and activities to teach children earning skills, good management skills and saving tips.

A Bus of Our Own, February 17, 10 a.m., Alvar Branch and February 19, 10 a.m., Children's Resource Center— Author **Freddi Williams Evans** reads her children's book *A Bus Of Our Own* which tells the story of a community coming together to purchase a bus for the African American students in a Mississippi town.

Securing Financial Aid for College, February 7, 1 p.m., Gentilly Branch, February 28, 1 p.m., Keller Branch and March 13, 1 p.m., Algiers Regional Branch— **Roshanda Hanible** of the Louisiana Office of Student Financial Aid will present tips on how to secure state and federal funding for college. She'll discuss the requirements for completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid and Louisiana's **Tuition Opportunity Program for Students** application.

From Stress to Success: Preparing for the LEAP Test, February 12, 11 a.m., Nora Navra Branch and February 26, 10:30 a.m., King Branch— Representatives from Sylvan Learning Center offer test taking pointers for students preparing for Louisiana's high stakes LEAP test.

African American Art Exhibit, February 1-29, Main Library— An exhibition of emerging African American artists whose work can be found in and around the Crescent City. The exhibition can be viewed during the library's normal operating hours: Monday-Thursday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Friday & Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Paul Robeson Acting Competition, March 6, 1 p.m., Main Library— Students, ages 13-18, can showcase their talent in this competition by creating and performing a 5-minute monologue about a famous African American before a public audience. The presentations are judged by local, professional actors. Students can pick up entry forms at their school or the African American Resource Center on the 2nd floor of the Main Library. **The deadline for entries is February 27.**



In 1896 the Supreme Court ruled that "separate but equal" facilities for blacks and whites was constitutional. Segregation in schools was thus considered an accepted American practice. However, facilities were not equal, and black schools, such as the one above, were run down and poorly kept. The "separate but equal" doctrine was successfully challenged in 1954, when the Court found segregated schools were unconstitutional in *Brown vs. Board of Education*. (Photo Courtesy of: Library of Congress)