

TRADITIONS

Auburn Avenue Research Library
on African American Culture and History

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atlanta-fulton public library system

"Still I Rise," And Still I Rise."
Maya Angelou

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Library Hours: Monday-Thursday 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. • Friday-Saturday 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. • Sunday 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

The 2008 Sankofa History Challenge

The Sankofa History Challenge is an exciting "quiz bowl" tournament that provides middle and high school students with an opportunity to publicly demonstrate their knowledge of African American history. This program, sponsored by KMT Community Development, Inc., a group of African American men committed to encouraging black youth, began with a pilot involving teams from the Metropolitan Atlanta Boys and Girls Clubs in 2006. Through a continuing partnership with the Auburn Avenue Research Library, the program has grown to what is now known as the Sankofa History Challenge. The primary purpose of this program is to celebrate African American History Month and more importantly, African American history itself. Indeed, it is impossible to fully understand the history of the United States of America without understanding the experiences and contributions of African Americans. A secondary purpose of this program is to reward students for the kind of academic preparation and teamwork that success in this event requires. In this sense, the program is about academic achievement and African American history. The SANKOFA HISTORY CHALLENGE also provides communities with an opportunity to celebrate student achievement in arenas other than athletics and entertainment.



First Place Winners
Riverwood High School

Using more than 700 questions from the African Americans of Achievement board game, two teams of four (with two alternates) compete in a demonstration of their mastery of the material. This competition is modeled after the Florida Education Fund's Black History and Culture Brain Bowl, a statewide tournament in Florida, involving more than 100 teams across the state. While the Sankofa Challenge is still in its infancy, five more teams participated in the 2008 competition as compared to 2007. The Sankofa Challenge anticipates participation to continue to increase steadily as plans are made for the 2009 competition.

Two new champions were crowned at the culmination of the 2008 tournament. Inman Middle School and Riverwood High School emerged as champions in what proved to be an extremely competitive tournament. There were a record number of sudden-death overtime games, which is an indication of the level of preparation each team brought to the tournament. All of the participants received certificates, while first place through third place competitors also received medals. The champions also received trophies with an additional trophy given to each of the winning schools.

There is no doubt that next year's competition will keep pace with the excellent standards set thus far. Plans are underway to expand the contest to include schools from throughout the metropolitan area in 2009.



First Place Winners
Inman Middle School
Atlanta Public Schools

For more information on this program, please visit www.sankofachallenge.com.



In celebration of Women's History Month, the Auburn Avenue Research Library, in collaboration with Iyalode Productions, will host the 2008 Women of Color Film Festival.

Women Of Color Arts and Film Festival
March 20, 2008
March 21, 2008
March 22, 2008

Authors' Book Signing
May 01, 2008

Making My Mark: The Story of a Man Who Wouldn't Stay in His Place by Marvin Arrington



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Sankofa History Challenge Sample Questions

Who was the first Black man to serve a full term in the U.S. Senate?

Out of which city did the first Black-owned radio station broadcast?

How did millionaire Madame C.J. Walker make her living before she invented her hair straightening system and hair care products?

Who was the first African American to pilot NASA's space shuttle?

* Answers on p.4



Women Of Color Arts & Film Festival

In celebration of Women's History Month, Iyalode Productions kicks off its 4th Annual **Women of Color Arts and Film (WOCAF) Festival**. Now in its fourth year, WOCAF's schedule of films and music attracts a diverse audience of women and men. The 2008 festival will feature public screenings of more than twenty independent films, along with filmmaker discussions.

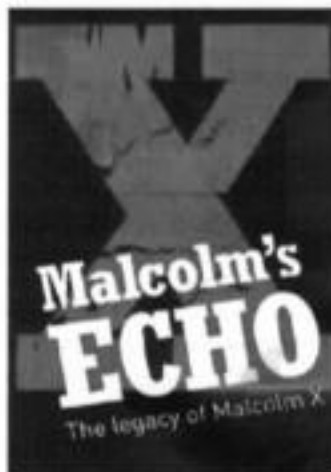
As the only one of its kind in the Southeast, this year's film festival promises to present an array of dynamic films by and about women of color. The WOCAF Festival will take place on **Thursday, March 20 through Saturday, March 22, 2008** at the Auburn Avenue Research Library on African American Culture and History.

A "Meet and Greet" the Filmmakers Reception, hosted by Iyalode Productions and the AARL will be held at the Research Library on opening night from 6pm to 7pm prior to the film screening. The opening night feature film will be "**A Winter Tale**," directed by Frances-Ann Solomon. Following the film screening there will be a question & answer (Q & A) segment with the director of the film. Highlights of the film festival include: **Yaa Asantewaa: The Spirit of the Ashanti Nation** by Love Aryeetey and the center piece feature, **Malcolm's Echo: The Legacy of Malcolm X**, each to be followed with a Q&A session.

Saturday's films are a celebration of Nigerian Cinema. This segment of the festival will be dedicated to the growing Nigerian film industry, including several popular Nigerian films: **The Narrow Path** by Tunde Kelani, **Catch Them Young** by Awoba Bob Manuel, **Irapada (Redemption)** by Kunle Afolayan and **Osanle** by Abimbola Ogunsanya.

The closing night film, "**The Amazing Grace**" is the first Nigerian/Nollywood film to be distributed widely throughout North America. The film is based on the true story of captured slaves from the Calabar region of Nigeria who inspired the song *Amazing Grace*.

For a detailed schedule of events visit www.wocaf.org or call 404-453-1053.



AARL has been selected as a recipient of the 2008 Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) *Connecting to Collections Bookshelf*, an initiative to improve conservation efforts at museums, libraries and archives. The IMLS Bookshelf focuses on collections typically found in art or history museums and in libraries' special collections, with an added selection of texts for living collections. It addresses topics including the philosophy and ethics of collecting, collections management and planning, emergency preparedness, and culturally specific conservation issues. Among the publications selected for the bookshelf were *The National Trust Manual of Housekeeping* (published by the British National Trust in 2005), the *Field Guide to Emergency Response* (published by Heritage Preservation in 2006), and *Essentials of Conservation Biology* (published by Primack in 2006). The Bookshelf also contains an online resource of over 200 links to web related resources for preservation and conservation.

