

**CITY OF PEORIA, ARIZONA  
CITY MANAGER REPORT**

**RCM #:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date Prepared:** February 7, 2011

**Council Meeting Date:** February 15, 2011

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**TO:** Carl Swenson, City Manager  
**THROUGH:** Susan J. Daluddung, Deputy City Manager  
**FROM:** J.P. de la Montaigne, Community Services Director  
**SUBJECT:** Peoria Celebrates Black History Month

**SUMMARY:**

The City of Peoria Diversity Committee and Library & Arts will host an evening of film and art in honor of Black History Month on Wednesday February 23, 6pm at the Main Library. The featured film will be, *Only the Ball was White* followed by a lecture by Dr. Raymond Doswell, interim President of the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum. The spot light will also focus on the art of two sisters, Kimberlyn and Carla Keaton.

The Negro Leagues featured some of the 20<sup>th</sup> century's greatest U.S. baseball players, including-hit pitching king Satchel Paige and home run champion Josh Gibson. Until 1946, rigid segregation kept African American players from advancing into the all-white Major League.

Doswell was appointed as the first curator for the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum in 1995 where he has played an increasingly integral role in the growth and development of the museum. He travels extensively as a public speaker/lecturer and has been seen on ESPN, NPR, Showtime, and the BBC.

Sisters Kimberlyn and Carla Keaton will be honored with a joint reception to showcase their dual exhibit in the Friends Gallery of the Main Library. Kimberlyn's photographs capture a unique mix of Arizona landscape. Carla's paintings often depict family members as subjects to present a sense of community. Their exhibit has been well received.

The Peoria Diversity Committee's mission is to promote awareness, understanding and appreciation of equity and diversity throughout the organization and the community. They co-host the monthly Paving the Way film series with the City's Library and Arts.

Next month's film in the Paving the Way film series will be *Salt of the Earth* shown on March 30 at 6pm with a lecture by University of New Mexico Professor David Myers. The film is about a mine strike to protest dangerous working conditions and low wages.

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