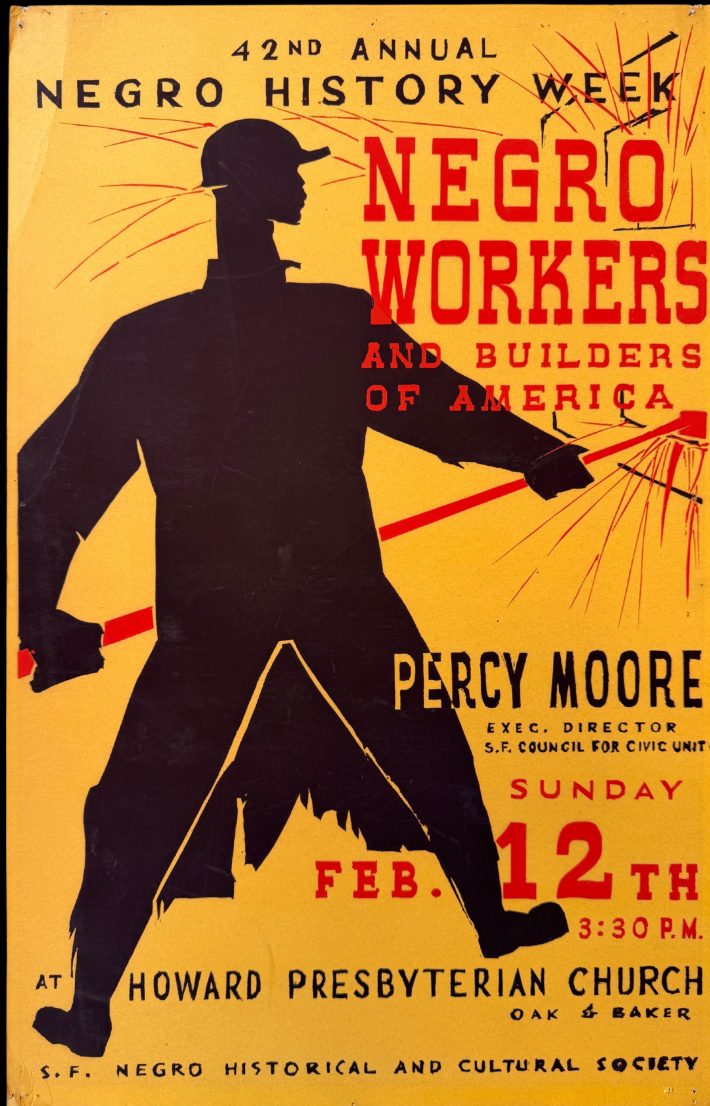


# Potpourri of Archive Treasures: Substance and Texture



Artifacts and documents from the Society's archives:

Importance to San Francisco African Americans

presented February 19, 2026



## Potpourri of Archive Treasures: Substance and Texture

Black History Month Programs, flyers and posters – ( 19 images)

Since 1957, the Society has annually observed Black History Month.

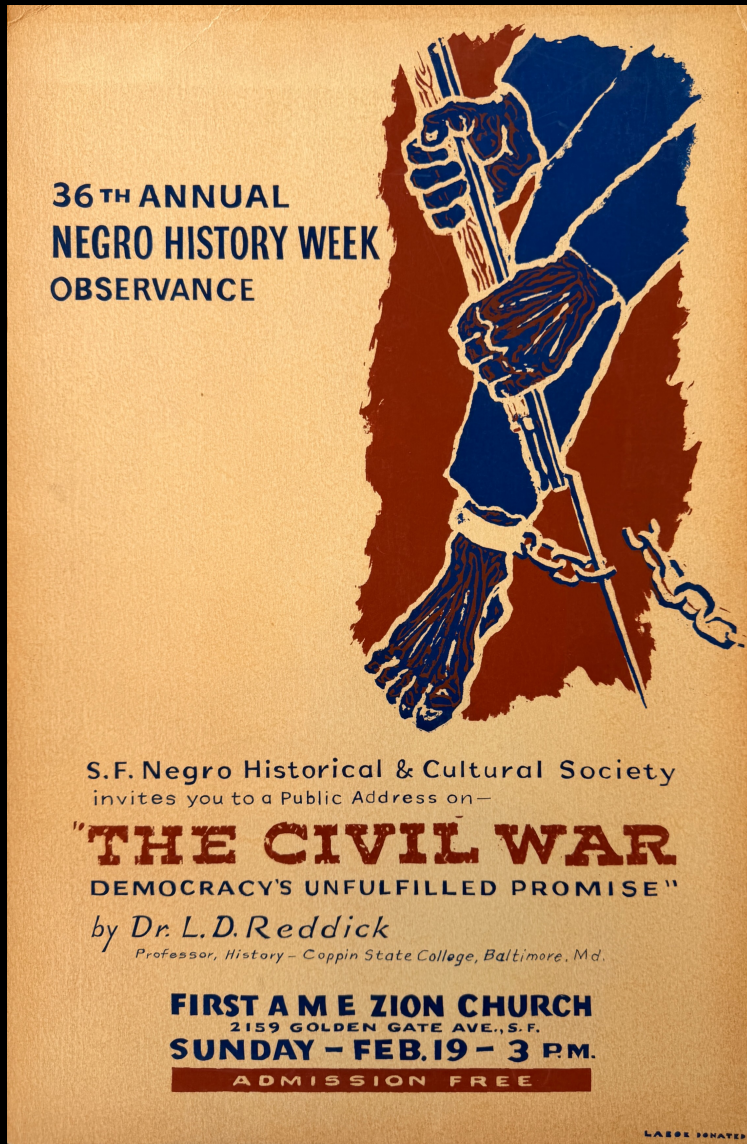
Posters, programs and flyers depict annual themes, speakers or guests, with images and graphics of the day.

Black History Month issues were timely, the keynote speakers and guests the best the Society could find.

These items are testaments to the longevity of the Society and its goal of annual observance of Black History Month.



## Potpourri of Archive Treasures: Substance and Texture



Poster, Negro History Week, 1961



# Potpourri of Archive Treasures: Substance and Texture

## 40TH ANNUAL OBSERVANCE OF NEGRO HISTORY WEEK

*Sponsored by the*  
SAN FRANCISCO NEGRO HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL SOCIETY

Mrs. Raymond Pickens, *Presiding*  
1965 Negro History Week Chairman

THEME: *Negro Pioneers in California History*

### Program

"LIFT EV'RY VOICE AND SING"..... Audience  
INVOCATION..... Rev. J. Austell Hall  
*Pastor, Bethel A.M.E. Church*  
GREETINGS AND OCCASION..... Mrs. Frances Albrier  
*President, S.F.N.H.C.S.*  
SOLO..... Miss Helen Dillsworth  
TRIBUTE TO CALIFORNIA NEGRO PIONEERS. Miss Mary L. Rattley  
OFFERING..... Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett  
PRESENTATIONS..... Mrs. Frances Albrier  
INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKER..... Mr. Noah Griffin  
*Second Vice President, S.F.N.H.C.S.*  
KEYNOTE ADDRESS..... Mrs. Charlotta Bass  
*Former Editor of The California Eagle*  
"BATTLE HYMN OF THE REPUBLIC"..... Audience  
BENEDICTION..... Rev. LeRoy Bennett  
*Pastor, First A.M.E. Zion Church*

*Ushers:* The Superiors Young Adult Club  
Booker T. Washington Community Center

*Reception:* Northern Section of California State  
Assoc. of Colored Women's Clubs Inc.

DeL

### BATTLE HYMN of the REPUBLIC

Mine eyes have seen the glory  
of the coming of the Lord;  
He is trampling out the vintage  
where the grapes of wrath are stored;  
He hath loosed the fateful lightning  
of his terrible, swift sword,  
His truth is marching on.

Glory, glory! Hallelujah!  
Glory, glory! Hallelujah!  
Glory, glory! Hallelujah!  
His truth is marching on.

### A TRIBUTE TO THE PIONEERS

They came out west, those pioneers.  
The ones whose skin was tinted black.  
They came as Fugitives, as Slaves,  
They came as free men, Stalwart and brave.  
They scaled the mountains, Forged streams  
They hacked the trails for the wagons, and teams.  
Yet thousands are sleeping in unmarked graves.

We offer our thanks for those Pioneers  
Who dreamed of this day in which we live,  
When a man could call his body his own  
Although God had chosen to make his skin black.  
They went to the mines to dig for gold  
They suffered disaster, from heat and from cold.  
Many felt the sting of the lash on their back  
When their only sin was being black.

They fought for freedom, with the weapons they had  
Keen minds, strong bodies, and a subtle approach.  
A prayer for the future, and Faith in their God.  
They toiled, and sweated, and prayed to God  
That someday all black men might be free  
To live their lives with dignity.

*Emma Maxwell*

Program, Negro History Week, 1965, Keynote Address



# Potpourri of Archive Treasures: Substance and Texture

40TH ANNUAL OBSERVANCE OF

## Negro History Week

### *Negro Pioneers In California History*

Sunday afternoon, February 7, 1965  
3:00 p.m.

**Bethel A.M.E. Church**  
916 Laguna Street  
San Francisco, California

Sponsored by The San Francisco

Negro Historical & Cultural Society

## Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing

Lift ev'ry voice and sing  
'Til earth and heaven ring,  
Ring with the harmonies of liberty;  
Let our rejoicing rise  
High as the list'ning skies,  
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.  
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us,  
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us.  
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,  
Let us march on 'til victory is won.

Stony the road we trod,  
Bitter the chast'ning rod,  
Felt in the days when hope unborn had died;  
Yet with a steady beat,  
Have not our weary feet  
Come to the place for which our fathers sighed?  
We have come over a way that with tears has been watered,  
We have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered.

Out from the gloomy past,  
'Til now we stand at last  
Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

God of our weary years,  
God of our silent tears,  
Thou who has brought us thus far on the way;  
Thou who has by Thy might  
Led us into the light,  
Keep us forever in the path, we pray.  
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met Thee,  
Lest our hearts, drunk with the wine of the world, we forget Thee,  
Shadowed beneath Thy hand,  
May we forever stand,  
True to our God  
True to our native land.

Words — James Weldon Johnson  
Music — Rosamond Johnson

Program, Negro History Week, 1965



## Potpourri of Archive Treasures: Substance and Texture




Photo, Negro History Week, 1966, San Francisco Mayor Joseph Shelley, and Society's Grandvel Jackson and Donnerter Lane, Society's 1<sup>st</sup> Negro History Week Proclamation



## Potpourri of Archive Treasures: Substance and Texture

THE SAN FRANCISCO NEGRO HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL SOCIETY PRESENTS:  
THE 41ST ANNUAL OBSERVANCE OF  
**NEGRO HISTORY WEEK**

*"THE TRUTH SHALL MAKE US FREE"*  
DR. PRICE M. COBBS ANALYZES  
**MYTHS AND STEREOTYPES**  
AND THEIR EFFECT UPON THE NEGRO PERSONALITY.

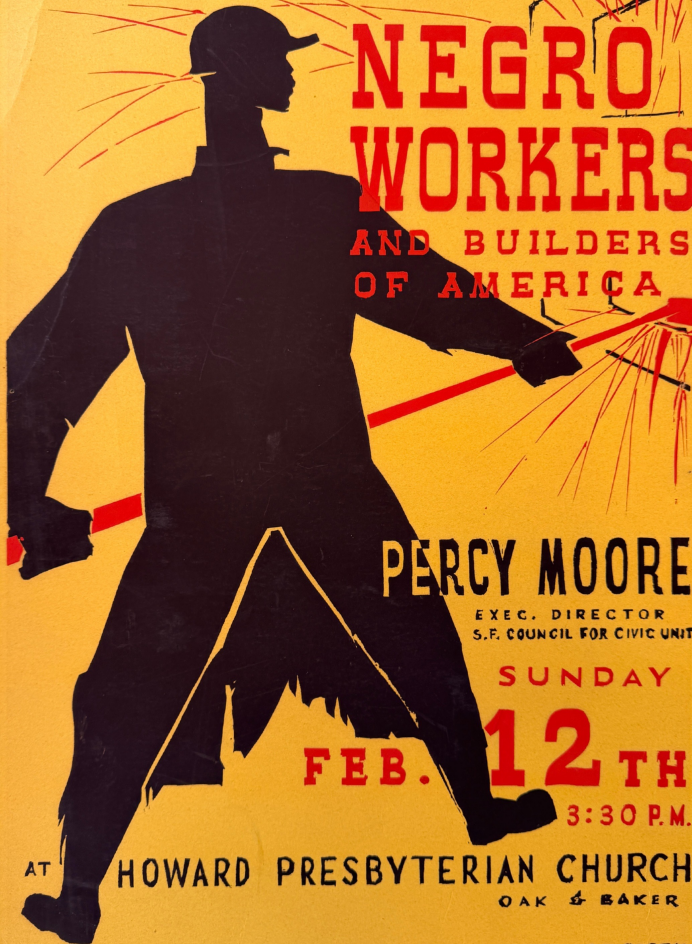


SUNDAY FEB. 13  
3:00 P.M.  
COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH  
1642 BRODERICK (at BUSH)

ALL ARE WELCOME  
ADMISSION FREE  
A COMMUNITY SERVICE

LABOR DONATED

42ND ANNUAL  
**NEGRO HISTORY WEEK**



**NEGRO WORKERS**  
AND BUILDERS  
OF AMERICA

**PERCY MOORE**  
EXEC. DIRECTOR  
S.F. COUNCIL FOR CIVIC UNIT

SUNDAY  
**FEB. 12TH**  
3:30 P.M.

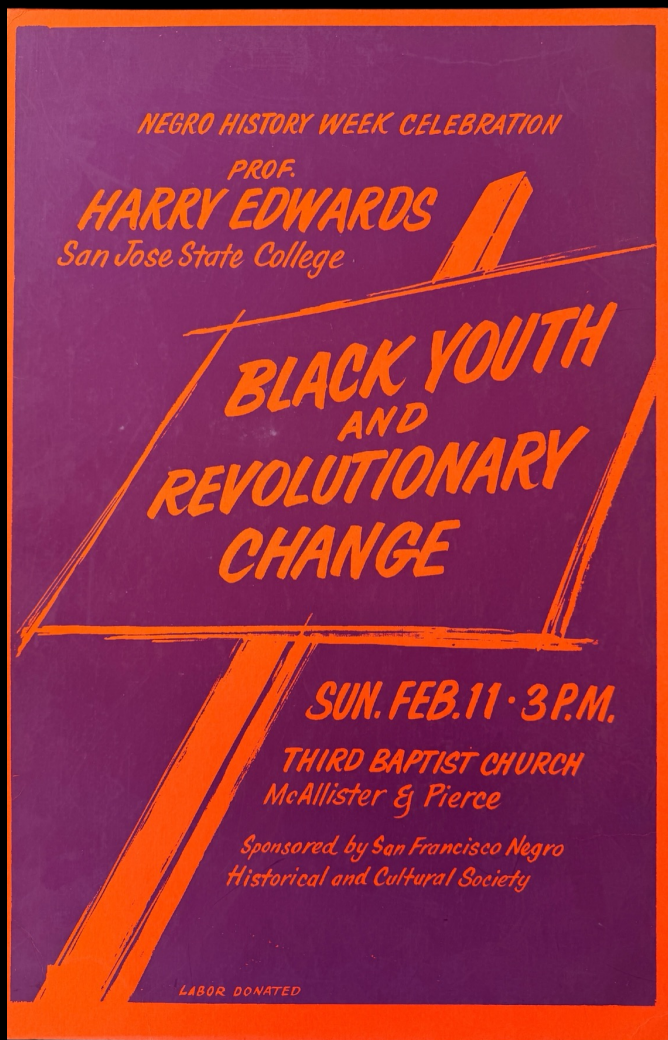
AT **HOWARD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
OAK & BAKER

S. F. NEGRO HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL SOCIETY

Poster, Negro History Week, 1966 Poster, Negro History Week, 1967



# Potpourri of Archive Treasures: Substance and Texture



Poster, Negro History Week, 1968



Poster, Negro History Week, 1970



# Potpourri of Archive Treasures: Substance and Texture

THE 45TH ANNUAL OBSERVANCE  
Of  
**NEGRO HISTORY WEEK**

"PROSPECTIVE OF THE SEVENTIES"



SUNDAY AFTERNOON, FEBRUARY 8, 1970

**COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH**

Broderick and Bush Streets, San Francisco

Sponsored by the  
**San Francisco Negro Historical & Cultural Society, Inc.**

## PROGRAM

HARRY F. JENNINGS, PRESIDING

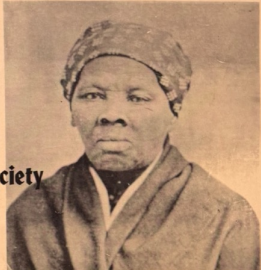
"LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING".....	Audience
INVOCATION.....	Rev. William Turner Pastor, Community Baptist Church
MUSICAL SELECTIONS.....	John Land Musical Director, Bethel AME Church
THE OCCASION.....	Harry F. Jennings Chairman, Negro History Week Committee S.F. Negro Historical & Cultural Society
OFFERING.....	Mrs. Edwin Johnson
INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKER.....	Washington E. Garner, M.D. Member of Police Commission City & County of San Francisco
ADDRESS.....	Hon. George W. Crockett, Jr. Judge Recorder's Court, Detroit, Mich.
BENEDICTION.....	Rev. William Turner Pastor, Community Baptist Church

Program, Negro History Week, 1970, Keynote Address



# Potpourri of Archive Treasures: Substance and Texture

46TH OBSERVANCE OF  
**BLACK HISTORY WEEK**  
 The San Francisco  
 African-American Historical & Cultural Society  
 presents



**BLACK PILGRIMAGE**

**A TESTIMONIAL TO THE "SISTUHS"**

**BLACK ART, BLACK DANCE,  
 BLACK LITERATURE,  
 BLACK MUSIC**

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 1971**  
 at 3 o'clock

in the new center  
**680 McALLISTER STREET**  
 Between Franklin & Gough - San Francisco

Free Admission - Refreshments



Flyer, Black History Week, 1971

**50th Annual Observance of  
 BLACK HISTORY WEEK**

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**  
 February 8th through 14th, 1976

THEME: Black Participation in Western (California) History  
 NATIONAL THEME: America for All Americans

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7**  
 1:00 p.m.  
 Society Headquarters  
 1271—23rd Avenue  
 San Francisco

A Walking Tour of the Black Presence in San Francisco during the 19th century.  
 Elizabeth L. Parker, Tour Conductor

8:00 p.m.  
 No-Host Cocktail Reception

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8**  
 First AME Zion Church  
 2159 Golden Gate Avenue  
 San Francisco

KEYNOTE ADDRESS  
 Dr. Derrick Bell, Professor of Law, Harvard University,  
 Author of *Race, Racism and the American Law*  
 Ms. Ellen Foster, Singer, "History & Comparison of  
 Black Spiritual and Gospel Music in 1976"

**MONDAY, FEB. 9** 10-11 AM & 1-2 PM CHILDREN'S PROGRAM  
**TUESDAY, FEB. 10** 1-2 PM "A Chronological Review of Afro-American Dance"  
**WEDNESDAY, FEB. 11** 10-11 AM & 1-2 PM Film & Demonstration,  
**THURSDAY, FEB. 12** 10-11 AM & 1-2 PM — Ms. Francine Kay, Co-ordinator  
**FRIDAY, FEB. 13** 10-11 AM & 1-2 PM Video Tape: Black Cowboys

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10**  
 10:00 AM  
 Society Headquarters

Senior's History Club

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14**  
 7:00 - 8:00 PM  
 8:00 PM  
 Miyako Hotel - Japan Center  
 Post and Laguna Streets

FUND RAISING EVENT — BUILDING FUND  
 No-Host Cocktails  
 Dinner — Blacks in the West - Hall of Fame  
 Tickets: \$15.00 per person

**FEBRUARY — MARCH**

TRAVELING BLACK HISTORY PERFORMERS  
 Ms. Ernestine Florence, Co-ordinator  
 Information: Lone Mountain College,  
 Telephone (415) 752-7000, Ex. 310

SPONSORED BY  
 The San Francisco African American Historical & Cultural Society, Inc.  
 860 McAllister Street  
 San Francisco, California 94102  
 (415) 864-1010

Calendar of Events, Black History Week, 1976



# Potpourri of Archive Treasures: Substance and Texture

San Francisco African American Historical and Cultural Society

## HISTORICAL SOUVENIR BOOKLET Black History Week

February 12-18, 1978



Theme: "Roots, Achievements and Projections: San Francisco"

680 McAllister Street  
San Francisco, California 94102

20 Years Community Service



Souvenir Booklet, Black History Week, 1978 , Poster, Black History Month, 1981



# Potpourri of Archive Treasures: Substance and Texture

## LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING

Music: J. Rosamund Johnson Lyric: James Weldon Johnson

C F A7 Dm F C7 Dm Gm A Bb Gm F G7 C

Lift ev'ry voice and sing, Till earth and heav'n sing, Sing with the har-mo-nies of Lib-er-ty, Let our re-

F A7 D Gm A Bb G7 F C7 F F

joice - ing rise high as the lit - tle - sing - alikes, Let it re - sound loud as the roll - ing sea. Sing a

Dm F Db F7

song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us; Sing a song full of the hope that the pre-sent has brought

C7 C F A7 D Gm A Bb G7 F C7 F

us: Fac - ing the ris - ing sun of our new day be - gun, Let us march on till vic - to - ry is won,

Scry the road we trod,  
Blister the chest 'tiling sod,  
Folk in the days when hope unborn had died;

Yet with a steady beat,  
Have not our weary feet  
Come to the place for which our fathers sighed?

We have come over a way that wih tears has been watered;  
We have come, treading our path thro' the blood of the slaughtered,

Out from the gloomy past,  
Till now we stand at last  
Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

God of our weary years,  
God of our silent tears,  
Thou who hast brought us thus far on the way:

Thou who hast by Thy might,  
Led us into the light,  
Keep us forever in the path, we pray.

Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met Thee,  
Lest our hearts, drunk with the wine of the world, we forget Thee:

Shadowed beneath Thy hand,  
May we forever stand  
True to our God, True to our native land.

Marcus Book Stores

BOOKS ABOUT BLACK PEOPLE EVERYWHERE

540 McALLISTER ST.  
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102  
(415) 863-2248

POSTERS MAPS FLAGS GREETING CARDS

2977 SACRAMENTO ST.  
BERKELEY, CA 94704  
(415) 845-5600



## 36th African-American History Month Observance Sponsored by the San Francisco African-American Historical & Cultural Society

Third Baptist Church  
Sunday, February 3, 1991 - 3:00 p.m.

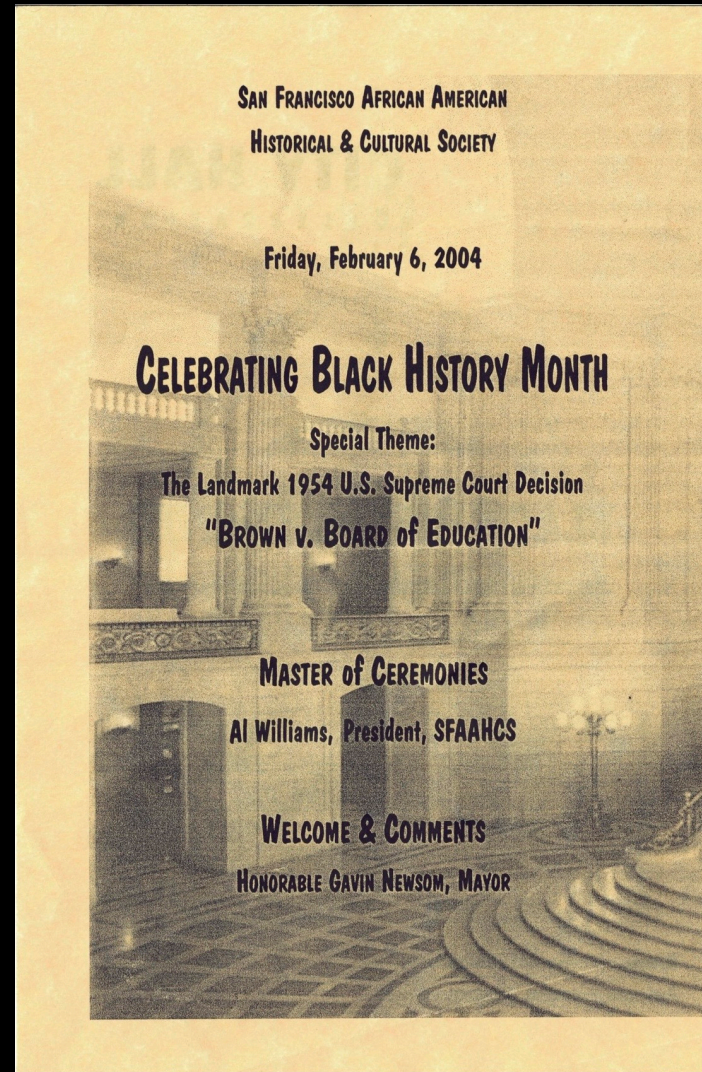
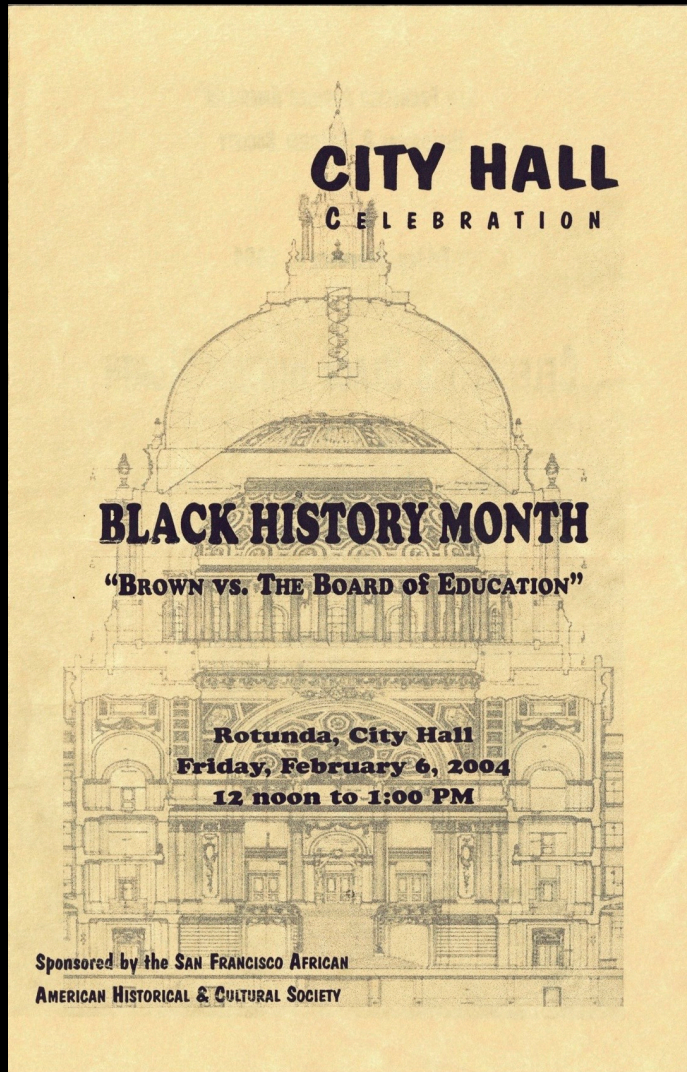
- Programme -  
Mr. Kevin B. Anderson, M.C.

Prelude.....	Organist
Processional.....	"Battle Hymn of the Republic"
Opening Ceremony.....	Mrs. Eldoris C. Cameron General Chairperson
Introduction of Master of Ceremony.....	Mrs. Eldoris C. Cameron Mr. Kevin B. Anderson, United Negro College Fund, Northern California Area Development Director
Opening Anthem.....	"Lift Every Voice & Sing"
Invocation.....	Reverend Amos Brown, Pastor, Third Baptist Church
Greetings.....	Mrs. Donnetter E. Lane, President, AAHCS
Presentation of City Proclamation.....	Deputy Mayor, Gayle Orr-Smith
Presentation of State Resolution.....	Ronald Colthirst, Aide John Burton
Spirituals.....	Third Baptist Cathedral Choir
"Homage to Dr. Carter G. Woodson".....	Mrs. Eloise McKinney Johnson Poet, Lecturer
Gospel Renditions.....	Bayview Opera House Community Choir
Education Presentation.....	Mrs. Donnetter E. Lane Dr. Soderia M. Wilson, PhD
Introduction of Keynote Speaker.....	Mr. Kevin B. Anderson
Keynote Speaker.....	Reverend Dr. Leroy Johnson Former President, Milos College
Remarks.....	Mrs. Donnetter E. Lane
Benediction.....	Reverend Dr. Cecil W. Howard Pastor, Bethel AME Church
Recessional .....	"Battle Hymn of the Republic"

## Program, African American History Month, 1991



# Potpourri of Archive Treasures: Substance and Texture



Program, Black History Month, 2004





## Potpourri of Archive Treasures: Substance and Texture

### Political Lapel Buttons – (2 images)

One of the Society's most prized artifacts is the "Goodlett for Governor" lapel button. Note names from the past: D'Army Bailey, Gene Brown and of course, Willie Brown. Burton is included as an ally to African Americans.

In the second image, we see support for and against positions or an announcement as a member of a group or movement. How many can you identify? Notably among these are the Western Addition EOCC, pro-vaccination and W.E.B. Dubois Clubs' buttons.

Political lapel buttons generally carried a union labor emblem along the outer rim. Some buttons were simply for a laugh.



## Potpourri of Archive Treasures: Substance and Texture

### Oral Histories of Afro Americans Residing in San Francisco Prior to WWII

Oral histories produced by the Society and the Friends of the Public Library, available digitally at SFPL and the Internet Archive. These are interviews with African Americans, many of whom were born in San Francisco, describing their origins, early life and activities, adult work and family life. Augustis Alberga, Ray Thompson, Helen and Kline Wilson, and Naomi Anderson Johnson are just a few of these elders that were interviewed in the mid-70s.

Hear audio from the interviews at DigitalSF:

<https://digitalsf.org/search?c=Afro-American+Oral+Histories%2C+pre-WWII&cc=Afro-American+Oral+Histories%2C+pre-WWII&ln=en>



## Potpourri of Archive Treasures: Substance and Texture



Birdies "Wedding" Photo - (1 image)



## Potpourri of Archive Treasures: Substance and Texture

### Birdies “Wedding” Photo - (1 image)

Freddie and Pearl Birdies came to and met in San Francisco in the late 1940's, raised a child and grandchild, were involved in their church, and lived well enough to purchase a home in Bernal Heights. This is a sweet photo of the two.

Photos have been painted and overlaid on a sculpted base; select items project outward giving Freddie's tie and Pearl's earrings a three-dimensional effect.

The item was made by the Pacific Sculpture Company, 821 Market St., San Francisco. Several similar items have been found on Facebook and elsewhere on the Internet.



## Potpourri of Archive Treasures: Substance and Texture

These are just a few of the artifacts in the Society archive that document the presence of African Americans in San Francisco.

These objects:

- represent a historical context
- reveal the social, cultural and political life of African Americans
- illuminate the Society's leadership role in observing Black History Month over the past 71 years in San Francisco

