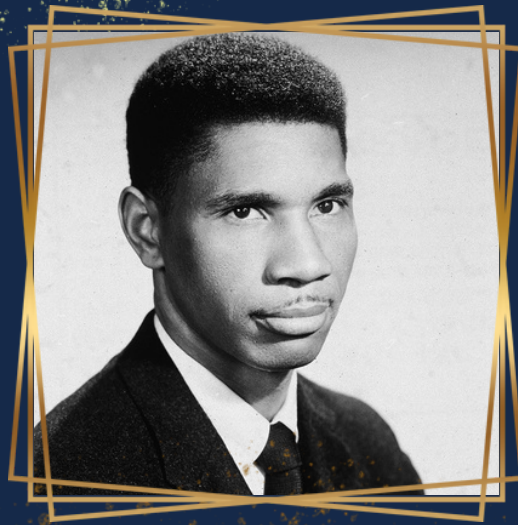


NAACP

Mississippi State Conference

PRESENTS

A Celebration of the Lives and Civil Rights Contributions of



Medgar Evers



Winson Hudson



Aaron Henry

HILTON HOTEL | 1001 EAST COUNTY LINE RD | JACKSON, MS, 39211

SATURDAY, MAY 18, 2024 | 11AM

PROGRAM

INTRODUCTION OF MISTRESS OF CEREMONIES

JOYCE ARCENEUX-MATHIS
CHAIRWOMAN

MISTRESS OF CEREMONIES

ANNER CUNNINGHAM
1ST VICE- PRESIDENT-MSNAACP

PRAYER

REVEREND ROBERT JAMES
PRESIDENT-MSNAACP

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

LOUIS D. BRIDGES
VETERAN COMMITTEE CHAIR

LIFT EVERY VOICE

BRUNCH

THE OCCASION

LINDA SPIGHT
WIN CHAIR

PERFORMANCE-LITURGICAL DANCE

SHYRIE MAZIQUE
ACT-SO STATE WINNER

TRIBUTE TO MEDGAR EVERS

MEDGAR & MYRLIE EVERS: A LEGACY OF COURAGE AND ACTIVISM

ORATORICAL PERFORMANCE

SHYRIE MAZIQUE

TRIBUTE TO ANGER WINSON HUDSON

INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKERS

ANNER CUNNINGHAM

TRIBUTE TO ANGER WINSON HUDSON

DONOVAN AND KEMPTON HORTON

GRANDSONS OF ANGER WINSON HUDSON

INSTRUMENTAL SELECTIONS

LE'AMYRIA CARTER

NATCHEZ YOUTH COUNCIL NAACP

TRIBUTE TO AARON HENRY

INTRODUCTION OF THE HONORABLE HILLMAN FRAZIER

MONICA MCINNIS

PRESIDENT CLINTON BRANCH NAACP

TRIBUTE TO AARON HENRY

SENATOR HILLMAN FRAZIER

CLOSING REMARKS

RECOGNITION OF CELEBRATION COMMITTEE

REVEREND ROBERT JAMES

CELEBRATION COMMITTEE

JOYCE ARCENEUX-MATHIS

REVEREND ROBERT JAMES

MONICA MCINNIS

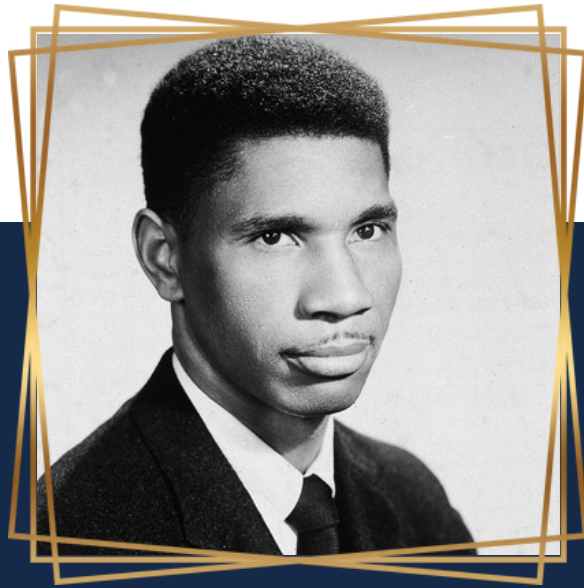
SHIRLEY MOCK

LINDA SPIGHT

“ABRAHAM, MARTIN AND JOHN” (ABRIDGED)

MORRIS MOCK JR.

SOLOIST



MEDGAR WILEY EVERS

Medgar Wiley Evers was born on July 2, 1925, in Decatur, Mississippi. Medgar was drafted into the U. S. Army in 1943 and fought in both France and Germany during World War II. He received an honorable discharge in 1946.

Evers went on to enroll at Alcorn College in Lorman, Mississippi, in 1948 where he met and married Myrlie Beasley before graduating in 1952. They moved to Mount Bayou, Mississippi where he initially worked as an insurance salesman. With his brother Charles, Evers also worked on behalf of the NAACP, organizing local affiliates. In 1954, Evers became the first field secretary for the NAACP in Mississippi and moved his family to Jackson. He also attempted to desegregate the University of Mississippi through applying to enroll in the Law School there. His application was rejected because of his race. As state field secretary, Evers traveled Mississippi recruiting new members for the NAACP, leading demonstrations, organizing voter-registration efforts and organizing economic boycotts of white-owned companies that practiced discrimination.

Evers' efforts made him a target for those who opposed racial equality and desegregation. He and his family were subjected to numerous threats and violent actions, including a firebombing of his house in May 1963. Medgar Evers was shot in the back in the driveway of his home in Jackson, Mississippi, shortly after midnight on June 12, 1963. He died less than an hour later at a nearby hospital. Medgar Evers was buried with full military honors in front of more than 3, 000 people at Arlington National Cemetery.



ANGER WINSON HUDSON

Winson Hudson was born Anger Winson Gates in Carthage, Mississippi, on November 17, 1916. She was one of fourteen children of John Wesley Gates and Emma Kirkland. Hudson was heavily influenced by the experiences and stories shared with her by her grandmother, Angeline Gates Turner. Hudson attended school up to the eleventh grade, when she married Leroy Cleo Hudson in 1936 and moved to Chicago for a brief period. Upon returning to Mississippi, Hudson taught school from 1949 to 1951.

Hudson was an important civil rights leader. She established the Leake County chapter of the NAACP in 1961. She testified before the U. S. Civil Rights Commission in 1965. She continued to attempt to register to vote from age twenty-one (in 1937), and was finally successful in 1962. As a community activist, Hudson began a community center in Leake County and a Head Start Program in 1965.

Hudson had been co-chairman of the Leake County Democratic Party for over twenty years. She was a delegate to the Democratic National Convention in 1976. She was awarded the NAACP's Freedom Award for Outstanding Community Service, the Governor's Distinguished Service award for Outstanding Community Service among others. Her autobiography, *Mississippi Harmony: Memoirs of a Freedom Fighter*, was published in 2002. Hudson died in 2004.



AARON HENRY

Aaron Henry, born in 1922 in Coahoma County, Mississippi, spent his early years toiling in the cotton fields of the Flowers Plantation near Clarksdale. Determined to succeed, he made sure to graduate from the all-Black Coahoma County Agricultural High School in 1941. Henry was drafted into the United States Army in 1943 and trained with the 281st Infantry Division at Fort McClellan in Alabama. He used his G.I. Bill to pay for Xavier College in New Orleans, graduating in 1950 with a pharmaceutical degree. He opened a drug store in Clarksdale with K. W. Walker, a white Mississippian. He married Noelle Michael. They had one child, Rebecca.

Henry actively participated in local and state activities, with a particular focus on African American voter registration. His dedication to the cause led him to work closely with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and accept a position on the Southern Christian Leadership Conference board. In 1959, he took the initiative to organize the local branch of the NAACP and was subsequently elected president of the Mississippi organization, and became friends with Medgar Evers.

Henry served as president of COFO in 1962 and helped organize the "freedom vote", a mock statewide general election to parallel the Mississippi gubernatorial election of 1963. He became involved in challenging the re-licensing of WLBT. As a result, more African American news anchors and employees came on board. Henry also helped create the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party (MFDP) to address concerns about civil rights in Mississippi. Henry was elected to the Mississippi House of Representatives in 1979 and served until 1996. In 1988, he introduced a bill to remove the Confederate battle flag from the canton of the Mississippi state flag. He died in May 1997.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

SPECIAL THANKS TO:

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SHYRIE MAZIQUE

MORRIS MOCK

CHRIS GOODWIN

SENATOR HILLMAN FRAZIER

MORRIS MOCK JR.

DONOVAN AND KEMPTON HORTON

LOUIS D. BRIDGES

ANNER CUNNINGHAM

MS STATE CONFERENCE NAACP STAFF

THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING

“You can kill a man, but you
can’t kill an idea.”

Medgar Evers

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