

# LITTLE BLACK PEARL ART & DESIGN HS

2022 Freshman Class Publication



Artwork by Student,  
Rashid Sales



## BLACK HISTORY MONTH

"Celebrating History through  
the Eyes of Students"

The students and staff at Little Black Pearl are proud to celebrate their heritage and the many sacrifices that have been made by Legends and Pioneers to ensure that **Freedom is Free**. In celebration of Black History, the LBPA Freshman class has done their research, created inspirational works of art in song, visual arts, and creative writings that we are sharing and hope you will take time to read and enjoy the creativity of our students.

This is one of three publications that will be shared this month. We are hopeful you will be inspired on learn something new from the information shared.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 2/21 President's Day - **School Closed**
- Attendance in school is required for all students
- Afterschool Programs, including tutoring and Internships are now in session, **Monday - Thursday from 3:30 pm - 5:30 pm**
- **SAT Prep sessions are after school, Monday - Thursday. Juniors and Seniors who did not take the test last year are encouraged to attend. TESTING DATE: March 23rd (GRADUATION REQUIREMENT)**



Original artwork by  
Gabrielle Brown, 9th grade

# Black History: Students Research

**"Let America Be America Again"**

**Langston Hughes - 1901-1967**

**1st Stanza**

**Reference: website at <https://poets.org/poem/let-america-be-america-again>**

Let America be America again.

Let it be the dream it used to be.

Let it be the pioneer on the plain

Seeking a home where he himself is free.

(America never was America to me.)

Let America be the dream the dreamers  
dreamed—

Let it be that great strong land of love

Where never kings connive nor tyrants scheme

That any man be crushed by one above.

(It never was America to me.)

O, let my land be a land where Liberty

Is crowned with no false patriotic wreath,

But opportunity is real, and life is free,

Equality is in the air we breathe.

(There's never been equality for me,

Nor freedom in this "homeland of the free.")

Say, who are you that mumbles in the dark?

And who are you that draws your veil across the stars?

I am the poor white, fooled and pushed apart,

I am the Negro bearing slavery's scars.

***Student Researcher: Taniyah Johnson***



*Photo submitted by Imani Jones*

*Facts provided by students: Pharaoh Avery & Maritza Martinez*

## **Facts About our 44th President**

**"Barack Hussein Obama"**

**Born: August 6, 1961**

- Barack means 'one who is blessed' in Swahili.
- Community organizer, lawyer, Lecturer and Senior Lecturer of Constitutional Law at the University of Chicago Law School
- The first president born in the 50th state and outside the continental U.S.
- He gets his regular haircut from Zarif, his barber from Hyde Park Hair Salon. The procedure costs \$21.
- The Obama couple's first date was seeing "Do the Right Thing" by Spike Lee.
- Transformed the White House tennis court into a basketball court.
- The first African American elected in the Presidential position of the Harvard Law Review.
- Favorite television series are Homeland and The Wire.
- Barack's father is Kenyan while his mother is American.
- Obama's codename was 'Renegade' to the Secret Service Agents who guarded him.
- In Maryland 2005 Barack Obama won the chairman award
- Practiced as a Civil Rights Lawyer with the firm of Miner, Barnhill & Galland

# Original Works by LBPA Students

## THE COLORS I SEE

Written by: Jillian Ali, 9th Grade

As I explore the colors I see, I see a history that  
looks like me.

The sculpture I see defines the history of the hands  
that get me to see what I see.

Beautiful colors, beautiful souls all becoming one.  
Sounds like fun doesn't it? Blissful in fact to be exact.

Then I see and remember the work that's been  
done and work left to do.

What can I do; how about you?

Inspired by Art Work by various artists at Gallery  
Guichard including the Great Migration Exhibit,  
Art has flown through history, developing in  
many different ways.

Through the culture and light we see how it's  
always been with us in so many ways,  
So many meanings have pass through art,  
From different point of views that can both be  
light or dark

Art comes from creativity,

Whether that be through writing, music,  
performances, culture.

It all leads back to this wonderful thing of  
displaying the emotions in one's mind or body.  
Art is one of the main things that helps tell a story.

Black people have expressed more through words and  
hardships they have been through,  
How they can express more of raw emotion through  
a single brush, paper, pen, movement, or vocal.  
We are so different but the same inside the hearts,  
We celebrate this month for we are beautiful.

We are powerful and were made to be heard and free,  
to be treated as equal people.

We are artists.....

We are People.....

We are BEAUTIFUL!!!!!!

## Black Health and Wellness

Written by: Ny'Asia Jennings, 9th Grade

What is black health and wellness?

Is it when we are healthy?

Is it when our people aren't suffering from diseases?  
Or is it when we can rise up out of bed in the morning,  
with the courageous mind of only a prosperous being.

Is it being confident in our skin?

Making ourselves known; or

Is it when we make a change in the world?

Black health and wellness... Notice how it says  
**BLACK!?**

We ARE health and wellness!

We ARE the change of the nation,

We ARE the refreshing air of our people in the  
morning, the rise of the sun, the setting of the moon, the  
dew droplets on the surface of the land.

We ARE...Black Health and wellness!



### Who Is Robert Smalls?

Born April 5, 1839, Robert Smalls was an enslaved African American who became a politician, serving in both the South Carolina legislature and the U.S. House of Representatives.

To learn more about Mr. Smalls, visit  
<https://www.biography.com/political-figure/robert-smalls>

Drawing by Terry White, 9th grade student,  
"SPECIAL RECOGNITION"

# Black And Proud

Listen here because I have a story to tell  
Just because I'm a young black man doesn't mean I belong in jail  
Or have to be the reason that we protest  
Because the police still have not chosen to care yet.

You can either stand with me or take a seat  
cause there's no waiting till the police get profit (see)  
You might think me a young teen doesn't know what that mean  
But as I watch the news and as I look around  
I see that the police think that they wear a crown

They look at my skin as a weapon but when I look I actually love my complexion  
This weapon that you see actually shows the true power in me

Working hard for my price  
Because I know my skin use to have a price

Whites do what's wrong but are told its right  
We sung songs to make it alright

Most might say protest is not the way  
But i know if they hear us they might understand our place

Come on know - Scream it loud - **"I'M BLACK AND I'M PROUD"**

Original Poem written by~ Kamarion Sample  
Original Artwork by: Danielle Williams

## Betty Reid Soskin

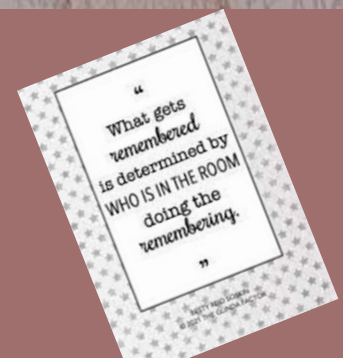
*"First Black Park Ranger"*

*Betty R. Soskin* grew up in Oakland in the 1920s and '30s, and well before she became the country's oldest park ranger, she found ways to contribute to her community.

*Betty Soskin* was a black civil rights activist, musician, and pioneering businesswoman. In 1945, Soskin founded one of the first Black-owned record stores in the California Bay Area.

For more information:

<https://www.nps.gov/articles/000/betty-reid-soskin.htm>

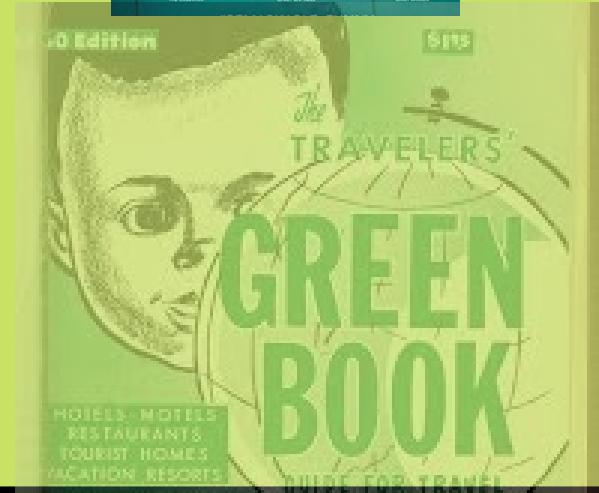


*Student Researcher: Kierra Aguire  
9th Grader*

# ***The "Green Book"***

***Student Researchers: Mia Berry & Jamar Watts***

The movie "Green Book" was based off an actual book called "The Negro Motorist Green Book" by Victor H. Green. This book is an international travel guide for the black community to have safe travels during the period of racial segregation and it wasn't safe for people like us to travel. This green book was very helpful and very informative about where to and where not to travel. It helped black travelers to find lodgings, businesses, and gas stations that would serve them along the road.



Reference: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GWiQBgeKV\\_w](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GWiQBgeKV_w)

## **Hattie McDaniel**

### **First African-American Oscar Winner**

A beautiful black woman who was born on June 10, 1893, She was the youngest of 13 children. She was born to enslaved parents in Wichita, Kansas. Hattie McDaniel had many talents, she was a comedian, American actress, and singer-songwriter. She won the "Academy Award for Best Supporting Actress". Which lead her to become the first African American to win an Oscar. During Hattie McDaniel's career, she experienced a lot of racism and racial segregation. She couldn't attend the premiere of "Gone with the Wind" in Atlanta because it was presented at a whites-only theater. During the Oscar ceremony in Los Angeles, she had to sit at the segregated table on the other side of the room. When she had sadly passed away due to breast cancer her final wish was to be buried at Hollywood Cemetery, but it was denied because it was for whites only.



***Student Researcher:  
Melanie Marshall, 9th Grade***

# Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

## ACTIVIST

*Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.*

During the less than 13 years of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. 's leadership of the modern American Civil Rights Movement, from December 1955 until April 4, 1968, African Americans achieved more genuine progress toward racial equality in America than the previous 350 years had produced. Dr. King is widely regarded as America's preeminent advocate of nonviolence and one of the greatest nonviolent leaders in world history.

While others were advocating for freedom by "any means necessary," including violence, Martin Luther King, Jr. used the power of words and acts of nonviolent resistance, such as protests, grassroots organizing, and civil disobedience to achieve seemingly-impossible goals.

Dr. King's "I Have a Dream" speech, Nobel Peace Prize lecture and "Letter from a Birmingham Jail" are among the most revered orations and writings in the English language. His accomplishments are now taught to American children of all races, and his teachings are studied by scholars and students worldwide. He is the only non-president to have a national holiday dedicated in his honor and is the only non-president memorialized on the Great Mall in the nation's capital.

*Student Researcher: Lamarcus Walker,  
9th Grade Student*

## DANCER

**ALVIN AILEY, JR.**

**(January 5, 1931 – December 1, 1989)**

*Student Researcher: Jamarion Shavers*

**Alvin Ailey Jr. was an American dancer, director, choreographer, and activist who founded the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater. He created AAADT and its affiliated Ailey School as havens for nurturing Black artists and expressing the universality of the African-American experience through dance. In 1941 He had his first experience at a Dance concert.**

**There are 32 dancers in The Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater**



**Fannie Lou Townsend Hamer**

**Born: October 6, 1917**

*Student Researcher: James Shavers*

**Was one of the most powerful voices of the civil war and voting rights movements**

**A leader in the efforts for greater economic opportunities for African Americans.**

**Born in Montgomery County, Mississippi.**

**Born in poverty and at the age of 6 years old, Hamer joined her family picking cotton.**

**By the age of 12 she left school to work.**

**Because Hammer was the only one who knew how to read and write, she served as plantation timekeeper.**

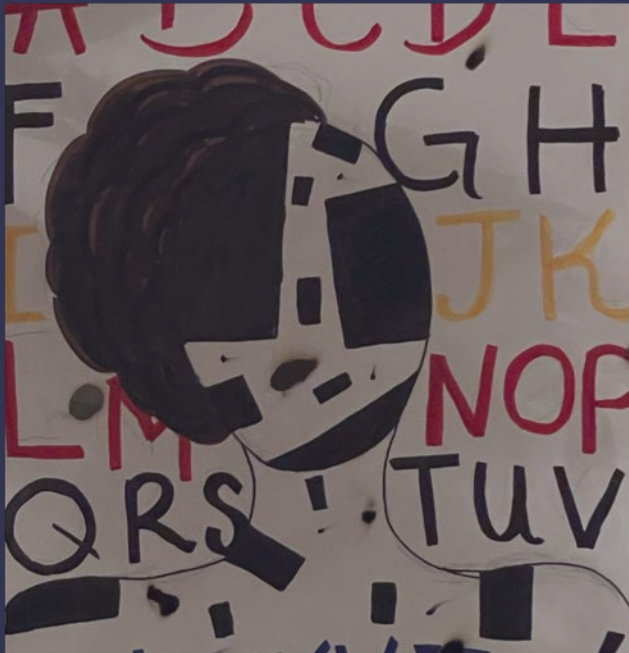
**on August 31, 1962 led 17 volunteers to register to vote at the Indianola, Mississippi Courthouse.**

# FAMOUS QUOTES

by Famous Authors, Writers, & Legends

Researched by Donovan Holmes

- "I'm not concerned with your liking or disliking me... all I ask is that you respect me as a human being."- *Jackie Robinson*
- "I can accept failure; everyone fails at something. But I can't accept not trying"- *Michael Jordan*
- "Change will not come if we wait for some other person, or if we wait for some other time." - *Barack Obama*
- "Do not judge me by my successes, judge me by how many times I fell down and got back up again."-*Nelson Mandela*
- "I had reasoned this out in my mind; there was one of two things I had a right to, liberty or death; if I could not have one, I would have the other; for no man should take me alive. of freedom, keep going."- *Harriet Tubman*



*Artwork created by  
Sanyi Jones, 9th Grade*

- "Never be limited by other people's limited imaginations."- *Dr. Mae Jemison*
- "Hate is too great a burden to bear. It injures the hater more than it injures the hated."- *Coretta Scott King*
- "Hold fast to dreams, for if dreams die, life is a broken winged bird that cannot fly."- *Langston Hughes*
- "Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter."-*MLK*
- "I believe there is only one race – the human race."- *Rosa Parks*

# An Original Song Written by Students, Krystal Killingsworth & Asanti Tate

Click on the Link to hear their song

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1GTICEQHvAcRCwrNbzYmOUhIYO\\_jgSby1/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1GTICEQHvAcRCwrNbzYmOUhIYO_jgSby1/view?usp=sharing)

## LYRICS



## Book References

Researched by: Tyneeka Brisco

*Kingdom Animalia* by Aracelis Girmay

"& isn't the heart an ampersand, writes Aracelis Girmay, my favorite living poet, imploring us to think of love as a task in embracing, always, more. This book is a manual, a meditation, an investigation into kindness & loss & mortality. In that same ode to the ampersand, Girmay writes, "you remind us of the heart & how the heart would rather die than keep its two dark arms all to himself."

*Magic City & Dien Cai Dau* by Yusef Komunyakaa

"Poetry," Yusef Komunyakaa has said, "is a kind of distilled insinuation." Indeed Komunyakaa's poems are distilled, essential, sharply in focus, often haunting. *Magic City* captures his growing up in Bogalusa, Louisiana, and *Dien Cai Dau* chronicles his experiences during the Vietnam War.



# Birthday Shout Outs

## January

Jeremiah Hammond Price, 1/1  
Onni Lomax, 1/11  
Kyra Broadwater, 1/12  
Damon Payton, 1/14  
Antoni Scott, 1/15  
Shamauri Hoy, 1/17  
India Johnson, 1/17  
Khamani Dean, 1/23  
Danielle Williams, 1/26  
Rashid Sales, 1/29

## February

Romero Boyd, 2/3  
David Edwards, 2/10  
Arion Mhoon, 2/13  
Marlon Harris, 2/16  
D'Maia Royster, 2/25  
Keairra Marzette, 2/26  
Asanti Tate, 2/27  
Dava Williams, 2/27  
  
Staff Birthdays  
Mr. Little, Music 2/20  
Ms. Norris, Counselor, 2/24

## *Acknowledgements*

*Congratulations to the 9th Grade Class for a "JOB WELL DONE"!*

*Congratulations*

