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Subject: Message #120: Symposium on Black Political Engagement in Arkansas
Date: January 12, 2017
To: ccss@list.state.ar.us
From: Arkansas Department of Education Curriculum and Instruction Unit

Dear Arkansas Educators,

The Black History Commission of Arkansas and the Arkansas State Archives will be hosting a symposium on Sat., Feb. 4, at its sister agency, Mosaic Templars Cultural Center, from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m., Department of Arkansas Heritage Director Stacy Hurst has announced. The symposium's theme, "Black Political Engagement in Arkansas," will feature speakers Dr. John Graves, Dr. Cherisse Jones-Branch, Elmer Beard, and Dr. R.J. Hampton.

Topics include African American Women and the Arkansas Republican Party, 1960s-1970; John Gray Lucas: Pioneer Champion of Civil Rights; The Challengers: Untold Stories of African Americans who Changed the System in One Small Southern Municipality, and Dr. R.J. Hampton's career in Arkansas's political arena.

State Historian and Arkansas State Archives director Dr. Lisa Speer remarked, "In this post-election year as we reflect on the accomplishments of outgoing U.S. President Barack Obama, it seems particularly fitting to take a closer look at the struggles and triumphs of African Americans in the political arena in Arkansas."

The seminar is free to attend but registration is required. The deadline for registration will be Monday, January 30. Registration is limited. Check-in will begin at 9:00 a.m. on Feb. 4. Teachers can earn up to four professional development hours through attendance. Lunch will be provided.

For more information about the symposium or to register, email events.archives@arkansas.gov or call 501-682-6900.

Please share this information with others that might be interested. Thank you for serving the students of Arkansas.

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