Black Heritage

LOUISIANA'S BLACK HERITAGE:
A BLACK HISTORY MONTH INTERVIEW

ARCHIVES

Exhibit
I am very pleased to welcome you to the most extensive collection of works of black Louisianians whose accomplishments have had impact in the fields of art, business, literature, history and politics. This exhibition salutes Black History Month and the Louisianians who continue to make significant contributions.

Previous observances of Black History Month have focused attention on individuals whose deeds and works had earned them nationwide recognition and roles in public affairs. With this collection, we are concentrating attention not only on those who have achieved national recognition, but also on those whose works affect us most personally and who have been influential in shaping our society.

This exhibit is one step of a program to gather information and make it available through a Black History and Genealogical Research Center in the Secretary of State's new State Archives building. As with our other programs, we will do more than passively collect and hold such records. We intend to bring the archives of the state to the people of Louisiana, actively publicizing and popularizing this information so that every citizen will have a better knowledge of the accomplishments of the persons and groups who shaped Louisiana history.

We feel that this display of paintings, sculptures, books, letters, memorabilia, and photographs will paint a vivid portrait of the contributions made by the Black community throughout Louisiana's history. We hope that viewing this exhibit will encourage more and deeper research into the richness of this heritage.

With best wishes,

James H. "Jim" Brown
Secretary of State