Aldox, a local artist, explains his work to students as part of a Black History Month program.

**Black History Month Observed With Various Local Activities**

The Lafayette Parish School Board, Mayor Dud Lastrapes and Gov. Dave Treen have proclaimed February as "Black History Month," which is being observed with various activities in the community and schools in the parish.

Black History Week was first proclaimed by Carter G. Woodson, a historian, in 1909. It was changed to Black History Month in 1975.

On Sunday, the Lafayette NAACP will host its fifth annual Black History Month awards ceremony at 4 p.m. at the Southern Consumers Building, 1006 Surrey St.

Students at Alice Boucher Elementary celebrated Black History Month by learning about African art and viewing exhibits in the school's library and lobby.

Ted Hayes explained the purpose and function of his private collection of African art. During the day's activities, Aldox, a local black artist, explained methods and techniques he uses to achieve the finish that characterizes his artwork. Alfred Dugas and Donald Boudreaux also displayed their work.

Students viewed a doll display of famous black people and antique educational materials, presented by Mrs. Lalette H. Fowler of New Orleans.

Ed Harris Sr. and his son demonstrated the art of basket weaving. They use the bark of white oak trees for their baskets.

The celebration of Black History Month continued today when black community leaders and sports leaders visited schools.

The School Board and the City of Lafayette have issued a proclamation annually since 1978 for Black History Month.

Hosea M. Ned, Treen's executive assistant for minority affairs, stated that contributions of black Americans have helped enhance and shape the development of America and should never be forgotten.