Schomburg Center Launches *In Motion* Web site, Book, and Exhibition

Celebration Marks First Day of Black History Month 2005

The Schomburg Center marked this year’s Black History Month with the unveiling of *In Motion: The African-American Migration Experience*, a comprehensive, four-component study of the migratory patterns of people of African descent. More than three years in the making, the *In Motion* project features a Web site, book, exhibition, and educational kit.

The Web site component, the foundation of the undertaking, covers thirteen migration topics, makes available more than 16,500 pages of essays, books, articles, and manuscripts, and includes 8,300 illustrations, 100 lesson plans, and sixty maps. The historic project is distinguished by the depth and breadth of its scholarship, as well as by its recognition that the migration story is central to understanding the African Diaspora.

At a morning press conference in the Schomburg Center’s Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Reading Room, Howard Dodson, the Center’s Chief and *In Motion’s* Project Director, formally presented the project to dozens of invited guests, reporters, and staff. “*In Motion* offers a new interpretation of African-American history focusing on the self-motivated activities of people of African descent to remake themselves and their worlds. The project documents the centrality of migration in the making of African-American history

Continued on page 10

Schomburg Center to Open *Malcolm X: A Search for Truth*

Exhibition in Observance of 80th Anniversary for Malcolm X and the Center

In May 2005, the Schomburg Center will present *Malcolm X: A Search for Truth*, a comprehensive, decade by decade look at the leader’s life, in his voice, from his early years to his assassination in 1965. Compiling of primary materials that have never been seen by the general public, *Malcolm X: A Search for Truth* will open on May 19, 2005, Malcolm X’s 80th birthday. The exhibition will also launch the Center’s 80th anniversary.

Three words immediately come to mind whenever the name Malcolm X (El Hajj Malik el Shabazz) is mentioned: Martyr, mystery, and majesty. Martyr, because his assassination on February 21, 1965, was widely interpreted as his sacrifice on behalf of the black struggle for freedom and human dignity. Mystery, because he was often misunderstood in his day. Majesty, because today he is revered throughout the black world as what Ossie Davis called “our shining Black prince who didn’t hesitate to die because he loved us so.” One of the most prominent and revered icons of the twentieth century, Malcolm X the man has remained a mystery to most of the world.

Continued on page 4

**PULL-OUT PROGRAM CALENDAR INSIDE**

Because of enduring budget cuts, the monthly program calendar is printed quarterly and incorporated into the newsletter (see pull-out calendar between pages six and seven).
May marks the beginning of the Center’s yearlong celebration of its 80th birthday. Founded in May 1925 with the establishment of the Division of Negro History, Literature and Prints in The New York Public Library’s 135th Street Branch in Harlem, the Center took on its Schomburg identity a year later when the library acquired the Arturo Alfonso Schomberg Collection of books, manuscripts, photographs, artworks, and memorabilia on the global African experience. We will be celebrating our 80th anniversary from May 2005 to May 2006 with exhibitions, programs, and special events. A major renovation of the Center’s facilities during the 80th anniversary year will allow us to start our ninth decade in new and refurbished edifices.

We will launch our celebration with an exhibition commemorating the 80th birthday of Malcolm X. Malcolm X was born on May 19, 1925, twelve years after the founding of the Division of Negro History, Literature and Prints. The 80th Birthday Malcolm X Tribute exhibition, based largely on the recently acquired Malcolm X Collection, will also draw on other Center collections that document his life and times. Entitled Malcolm X: A

We will launch our 80th Anniversary Year celebration with an exhibition commemorating the 80th birthday of Malcolm X.

– Howard Dodson, Schomburg Chief

Search for Truth, the exhibition will, in Malcolm X’s own words, document his quest for the truth about himself, African-American people, American society, and ultimately humankind. Photographs, documents, memorabilia, and audio and audiovisual media will be used to present new perspectives on Malcolm X. Special members’ previews will anticipate the official public opening of the exhibition on May 19, Malcolm’s 80th birthday. Look for your invitation!

If you were not counted among the 14 million hits on our new Web site, In Motion: The African-American Migration Experience, during Black History Month, you should check it out! Launched on February 1, In Motion garnered more than 3 million hits in a single day, premiered to rave reviews, and has attracted visitors from around the globe. Selected by Voice of America’s science and technology show, “Our World,” as its Web site of the week, it has been chosen by educational and Internet networks as a model for integrating current scholarship, in-depth research resources, and digital technology into a user friendly yet intellectually rich on-line resource.

The Web site is part of a larger project of the same name that also launched on February 1. An exhibition in the Center’s main gallery, which focuses on the twentieth-century migrations of people of African descent to and within the United States, constitutes the second element of the project. A companion book of the same title published by National Geographic Press is in bookstores nationally and is a perfect introduction to the more than 25,000 pages of content contained on the Web. Finally, an educational kit, which can be used by teachers to introduce In Motion’s content in classrooms, was also made available to the public. More than 300 teachers in New York City attended pre-release workshops at the Center and received kits free of charge thanks to the support of New York’s Con Edison. All elements of the In Motion project are being used to help scholars, teachers, students, and the public begin to rethink traditional notions about the nature of African Americans and African-American and American historical and cultural development.

Two major auctions of African-American materials took place in New York City during Black History Month. A special auction of jazz collectibles was held in the new Jazz @ Lincoln Center facilities under the auspices of the Guernsey’s Auction House on February 20. It featured the instruments, music scores, correspondence, photographs, and memorabilia of some of America’s leading jazz artists of the twentieth century, including John Coltrane, Miles Davis, Charlie Parker, Billie Holiday, and Louie Armstrong. The Center participated in the auction and acquired a few representative items from the offerings, including a John Coltrane manuscript score and a manuscript score of composer/arranger Tadd Dameron.

The Swann Gallery sponsors and hosts an annual public auction of printed and manuscript “African Americana,” including paintings, graphics, and folk art. This year’s sale took place on February 28, and the Center, as has become its custom, played a very active role in the auction. Unlike many black memorabilia collectors, who are principally interested in the artificial value of the items being sold, the Schomburg Center is primarily interested in the research value of the objects. Focusing on manuscript, printed materials, and photographs of research value, Center curators successfully bid for items ranging from slavery documents from Peru and Cuba and a small archive of Marcus Garvey-related materials to vintage panoramic photographs of the Harlem Hell Fighters and the Buffalo Soldiers.

The Center’s ability to com pete in these auctions and more generally for materials of research value that are increasing in price ending up in the commercial marketplace has been made possible by our decade-long quest to raise special funds and build endowments to help us continue to strengthen our world-class collections. One such effort, which has been in progress for the last three years, is the $1 million on Andrew W. Mellon Challenge Grant to establish a collections endowment for the Center. To date, $740,000 in matching funds has been raised, but we only have until June 30 to raise the remaining $260,000 and complete the $1 million match. Please send whatever you can between now and June 30 so that we can establish a fully-funded $2 million collections endowment for the Center—a war chest that will be used to ensure that you and the public have access to significant pieces of our collective history and heritage.
SCHOMBURG CENTER MELLON
CHALLENGE GRANT

Help Us Meet Our Goal
(We’re Almost There!)

In 2001, the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation awarded the Schomburg Center a $1 million challenge grant to help support its collection development activities. The grant is structured to create a $2 million endowment fund and will match on a dollar-for-dollar basis all qualifying gifts made to the Schomburg Center. An extraordinary opportunity for the Center, the grant will enable us to continue our essential mission to collect, preserve, and understand the materials that document the rich culture and history of the African Diaspora. Participation in this program means your gift will be matched, dollar for dollar. A gift of $1,000 will mean $2,000 for the Schomburg Center. A gift of $5,000 will mean $10,000. A gift of any size will be matched, and the impact will be twofold.

While we have almost received the donations needed to qualify for these matching funds, we still need your help to reach our goal. For eighty years, the Center has pioneered the study and understanding of peoples of African descent. We have chronicled the accomplishments of men and women—great leaders, thinkers, writers, scholars, and artists, as well as everyday folks—who have helped shape, often without credit, our world. With more than 5 million items in its collections—books, manuscripts, personal papers, organizational records, art, film, and photographs, the Schomburg Center is committed to being the leading research and reference resource on the global black experience in the twenty-first century. Help secure the Schomburg Center’s future. Call our Donor Coordinator at (212) 491-2250 to learn more about how your special gift, to be matched by the Mellon Collections Endowment Challenge Grant, will enable the Schomburg Center to continue its mission.

Schomburg Center to Undergo Construction

General Research & Reference, Lobby, and Gallery Spaces to Be Renovated

In mid-May, the Schomburg Center will begin a two-phase construction project designed to renovate the Center’s General Research and Reference Division, Latimer/Edison Gallery, and lobby. The renovation will also include a new, glass façade, an expanded lobby, and a Scholars-in-Residence Center.

Among the features of the updated space will be state-of-the-art Reading Room facilities; new heating, ventilating, and air conditioning (HVAC) and security systems; and the transfer of the Latimer/Edison Gallery from the area along the front of the building to a larger gallery space on the entry level floor.

Until the renovations are completed, visitors will be asked to enter the Center’s landmark building (the original 135th Street Branch Library) on the north side of 135th Street. While all the Center’s Divisions will remain open during construction, the Reading Room of the General Research and Reference Division will be temporarily moved to the Center’s American Negro Theatre and the Main Gallery will accommodate exhibitions until the new Latimer/Edison Gallery is completed. We look forward to seeing you in our new and improved Schomburg Center complex!
Continued from page 1

The Schomburg Center recently acquired an extensive collection of materials documenting the life and times of Malcolm X. Stored for years in the family residence, the collection was shipped to Florida where it eventually ended up on the auction block. Through a series of legal negotiations, the collection, which was a part of the Malcolm X/Betty Shabazz Estate, was eventually returned to the Shabazz family. The family in turn deposited it at the Schomburg Center for a period of seventy-five years.

The Malcolm X Collection is unique in that it contains a wide range of speeches, sermons, radio broadcasts, diaries, correspondence, and other documents handwritten by Malcolm X or typed and edited at his direction. As such, it is the most comprehensive body of written and printed text by Malcolm X known to exist. Those documents are accompanied by an extensive collection of photographs documenting his life and work, as well as memorabilia and films of speeches, rallies, and other events. Among the highlights of the collection are letters to his brother while he was in prison in 1949-50, which document his conversion to Islam; copies of his personal Holy Koran; his briefcase and tape recorder; and diaries from his visits to Mecca and Africa after his break with the Nation of Islam.

Malcolm X: A Search for Truth will provide the first opportunity for the general public to examine these materials. More significantly, it will offer fresh insights into the nature of his thoughts and development, as well as clarity on his multi-faceted and at times seemingly contradictory persona and personality. Malcolm X the man will be brought to life in new and profound ways based on his own voice, thoughts, and vision.

In addition to the Malcolm X Collection, the Center will draw on its own related collections to round out the telling of this story. The Center’s Nation of Islam Collection will complement materials on the Nation found in the Malcolm X Collection. Photographic collections by award-winning photographers Richard Saunders, Robert L. Haggins, and Laurence Henry document Malcolm X’s family life and political activities in and after his Nation and after his death. Most of these materials from the Schomburg Center’s collections have never been exhibited. The Center’s collection of more than 100 hours of speeches, radio broadcasts, and sermons also complement those found in the Malcolm X Collection. They will be used to voice the leader’s thoughts and ideas.

The exhibition will be organized into five sections—a prologue, three chronological periods of his life, and an epilogue. The prologue will present images of Malcolm X with textual commentary by people who embraced and supported him. Different facets of his life and times will be presented in each section—family life; social and political activities; and Malcolm X as leader, organizer, speaker, and minister, among others. Photographs and documents relating to major aspects of his life and work will be selected for presentation in the exhibition, as will significant quotes reflecting his evolving philosophy and thought. Audio and audio-visual installations will allow visitors to hear and see Malcolm X and his legacy in the contemporary world. Photographs of places named for him; posters, paintings, sculptures, and other memorabilia bearing his likeness; and other con tem po-
Ossie Davis
In Memoriam
1917—2005

I want to be remembered by the fact that I was knee deep in the struggle to free not only my own people but all the peoples of the world. To free them from…racism, free them from hunger, free them from poverty, free them from fear. It's a great struggle. It will not be completed in my lifetime, but if ever anybody thinks of me, I want them to say, yeah, that man participated in the struggle to the best of his ability up until the day he died, and may be a few days after.

Ossie Davis
New York Life/ Schomburg Center Junior Scholars interview
June 2, 2002

In addition to being a pioneer on behalf of social justice, activist, actor, writer, director, and producer Ossie Davis was a long-time Schomburg Center friend and supporter. A co-chair with Toni Morrison of the Schomburg Center Commission, Davis's endorsement in support of the Center's mission to identify, collect, preserve, and study the history and culture of peoples of African descent worldwide was one of the many ways he contributed to this institution. From hosting the Schomburg Center's 75th birthday day to celebrating Langston Hughes's centennial, from saluting Billy Taylor to working with the Center's Junior Scholars, Davis was always front and center in our struggle with his singular wit, humility, charm, and grace. As recently as last fall, Davis lent his distinctive voice and talent to the African Burial Ground commemorative celebration in Lower Manhattan, reading with his wife, Ruby Dee, at the Burial Ground memorial site. (In 1994, with Ruby Dee, Davis narrated "The African Burial Ground: An American Discovery," a two-hour documentary on the landmark's history.) For us, the depth of his generosity has been as immeasurable as his contribution to the struggle. We will miss him dearly.

COMING!
The Schomburg Center’s 80th Anniversary
May 2005 — May 2006

In 1925, The New York Public Library established the Division of Negro History, Literature and Prints. A year later, it acquired the personal collection of Arturo Alfonso Schomburg. These two events mark the origins of today's Schomburg Center, which will begin celebrating its 80th anniversary in May 2005 with the historic exhibition Malcom X: A Search for Truth. The festivities will continue through May 2006. For updates on 80th anniversary programs, exhibitions, publications, and collections, visit the Center on-line at www.schomburgcenter.org.

Ballots or Bullets by Malcolm X, recorded in 1963 at King Solomon Baptist Church, Detroit, Michigan. First Amendment Records.

Handwritten details of journey to Mecca, including entry dated April 18, 1964, in which Malcolm X writes, “It was strange to be referred to now as Malcolm X, so boldly and openly, after several days going only as Malik El Shabazz.”

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Malcolm X: A Search for Truth promises to illuminate Malcolm X's wisdom, contributions, and impact in his anniversery year. It includes the conversation about his vision and legacy beyond it. We hope that you will join us for this important exhibition. Malcolm X: A Search for Truth will be on view at the Schomburg Center through October 2005. Look for your members preview invitation in the mail.

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On the occasion of Human Rights Day, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the Schomburg Center held an opening ceremony at the United Nations for Lest We Forget: The Triumph Over Slavery, a traveling exhibition to mark 2004 as the International Year to Commemorate the Struggle Against Slavery and Its Abolition. More than 35,000 attended the exhibition, which was on view from December 10 through January 14.

Comedian Paul Mooney entertained audiences at two sold-out performances in the Schomburg Center’s Langston Hughes Auditorium in December.


Schomburg Center Director Howard Dodson and the New York Life/Schomburg Center Junior Scholars joined Thirteen/WNET New York in kicking off UMOJA!, Thirteen’s annual on-air celebration of African-American heritage, which was launched at the Center on February 3.
Macy's department store featured *In Motion: The African-American Migration Experience* at an in-store book signing and presentation on February 16. Sylviane Diof and Howard Dodson presented the *In Motion* project, which includes a book, Web site, exhibition, and educational kit, to crowds at Macy's.

Left, Warner Brothers celebrated the reissue of *Malcolm X* on DVD with Spike Lee, the director, and Denzel Washington, who portrayed Malcolm X in the film. Right, Malcolm X's daughters Malaak, Gamilah, and Ilyasah addressed the audience before the evening screening and panel discussion in the Schomburg Center auditorium. The event also featured a tribute to the late Ossie Davis, who appeared in four of Lee's films.

In February, the Schomburg Center celebrated black soldiers in World War II with the Center's research coordinator, Christopher Paul Moore. Moore's book, *Fighting for America: Black Soldiers—The Unsung Heroes of World War II*, marked the sixtieth anniversary of the war's end. Special guests Dr. Roscoe C. Brown (Tuskegee Airmen), Dr. Thomas R. Leach (1329 Engineer General Services Regiment), and Ms. Elsie Gibbs, volunteer coordinator for the Center, shared their war experiences at a panel discussion. Among other never-before-published findings, Moore presented the story of two WWII pilots, white and black, who did not know of a common bond they shared until long after the war.
COMING SPRING/SUMMER 2005
Schomburg Studies on the Black Experience, a Proquest Company database
Howard Dodson, Series Director, and Colin Palmer, Managing Editor
This comprehensive database, designed and built by the Proquest Company under the direction of Howard Dodson and Colin Palmer, was created to become the preeminent on-line resource on black scholarship. Consisting of essays, articles, book chapters, and primary sources on history, religion, sociology, political science, economics, art, literature, and psychology, this collection includes materials culled from the best scholarly work on the African-American, African, and black Caribbean experiences.
Featuring essays, timelines, bibliographies, glossaries, and a video and image library, Schomburg Studies on the Black Experience provides groundbreaking work from the foremost experts in the field.

The In Motion Educational Kit
The Schomburg Center, $24.95
By boat, on foot, by train, car, and plane, Africans and their descendants have crossed oceans and land, sailed up and down rivers, and put down roots and pulled them up again. Like Maya Angelou, Harry Belafonte, Wyclef Jean, Barack Obama, Edwidge Danticat, Ossie Davis, Colin Powell, and 35 million African Americans, we all have a migration story. You too are part of America’s migration tradition. Bring these stories to your classroom with The Schomburg Center educational kit on the African-American migration experience, a special tool for students, teachers, scholars, and the general public. The kit features dozens of photographs, full-color maps, a comprehensive bibliography, a poster, a study guide, and more. To order the In Motion educational kit, call The Schomburg Shop at (212) 491-2206.

In Motion: The African-American Migration Experience
A publication by the Schomburg Center and National Geographic
Hardcover, 224 pp., 170 illustrations and four maps, $35
From the Schomburg Center comes this extraordinary chronicle of a people whose movements over the last 500 years, both coerced and willing, inspired a culture and shaped a nation. Follow-up to the critically acclaimed Jubilee, this landmark work covers four major periods of migration—with twelve individual migrations coming up to contemporary times—that define the African-American experience and shaped the cultural, religious, economic, and political life of the communities in which they settled.

NEW TRAVELING EXHIBITION
In Motion: The African-American Migration Experience
African Americans, perhaps more than any other populations in the Americas, have been shaped by migration. Their culture and history are the products of black peoples’ various movements, coerced and voluntary, that started in the Western Hemisphere five hundred years ago. Everywhere their thirst for freedom, education, and opportunities brought them, African Americans have recreated themselves and transformed the land, the cities, the culture, and ultimately the nation. With seventy-five framed photographs, panel text introducing each of the thirteen migrations, documents and artifacts, and a companion website, In Motion: The African-American Migration Experience examines how African Americans, constantly in motion, have formed and transformed themselves and their landscape through migration.
NOW AVAILABLE FOR TRAVEL OR PURCHASE

Lest We Forget: The Triumph Over Slavery

Drawing on the rich and diverse collections of the Schomburg Center, Lest We Forget: The Triumph Over Slavery examines 400 years of slavery. Utilizing recent scholarship, this four-color, thirty-two panel exhibition recognizes the oppression, exploitation, and victimization that characterized the transatlantic slave trade but emphasizes the way in which African peoples throughout the Western Hemisphere invented themselves and created social, political, economic, and cultural organizations in the face of overwhelming obstacles. From the abolitionist Frederick Douglass and the much-revered Jamaican guerrilla fighter Nanny to the self-educated Ignatius Sancho, whose letters provide insights into the mind of enslaved Africans, to the Afro-Brazilian martial art capoeira, Lest We Forget: The Triumph Over Slavery illuminates the ways in which enslaved Africans developed their own unique culture in the midst of slavery.

EXHIBITION

May 19, 2005–October 30, 2005

Malcolm X: A Search for Truth

Malcolm X: A Search for Truth will provide the first opportunity for the general public to examine materials from the Malcolm X Collection. The Malcolm X Collection is unique in that it contains a wide range of speeches, sermons, radio broadcasts, diaries, correspondence, and other documents handwritten by Malcolm X or typed and edited at his direction. Most significantly, Malcolm X: A Search for Truth will offer the public fresh new insights into the nature of his thoughts and development, as well as his multifaceted, at times seemingly contradictory, persona and personality.

Yes, it’s true…

Unless you leave your IRA or pension plan to a spouse, it can be taxed heavily in your estate. If your estate is over $1 million, these funds can be subject to both estate and income tax, which may total over 80 percent. This leaves your family or other heirs a mere 20 percent of a lifetime of savings.

If you are not leaving your IRA or pension plan to a spouse, it may make sense to name the Schomburg Center as beneficiary of your plan. You can avoid completely income and estate taxes on these funds, thus enabling you to leave more of your other assets to your heirs. And you can make a meaningful gift to the Schomburg Center as part of your legacy. For more information, please contact John Bacon, Manager of Planned Giving, (212) 930-0568. E-mail: plannedgifts@nypl.org.

Schomburg Center programs and exhibitions are supported in part by the City of New York, the State of New York, the Office of the Borough President of Manhattan, the New York State Black, Puerto Rican and Hispanic Legislative Caucus, the Rockefeller Foundation Endowment for the Performing Arts, The Coca-Cola Foundation, New York Life Foundation, Annie E. and Sarah L. Delaney Charitable Trusts, J.P. Morgan Chase & Co., and the Edler Hawkins Foundation.

The Schomburg Center is a member of the Harlem Strategic Cultural Collaborative (HSCC).
and culture and in the total American experience,” said Dodson.

In addition to Sylviane Diouf, Content Manager for *In Motion*, the project’s contributors and staff, and other Schomburg Center staff, Dodson celebrated the unveiling with Paul LeClerc, President and CEO of The New York Public Library; David Ferrero, Andrew W. Mellon Director and Chief Executive of The New York Public Library’s Research Libraries; Representative Charles Rangel, N.Y.; Mamie Bittner, Director of Public and Legislative Affairs, Institute of Museum and Library Services; and special guest Harry Belafonte. An heir to the rich legacy of Caribbean migration to the United States, Belafonte lauded the Web site’s “recognition of the broad diversity of cultural experiences that African Americans bring to the American experience.”

In addition to the Web site, *In Motion* is comprised of a companion book published by National Geographic, an educational kit for schools and institutions, and an exhibition, which is on view at the Center through April 2005. After the press conference, participants toured the exhibition, which utilizes images, artifacts, maps, narratives, and music to present, chronicle, and interpret the migratory movements that have formed and transformed the African-American community and the nation in the last century. The celebration continued with previews for donors, contributors, members, and other special guests on February 1 and 2. The exhibition opened to the public on February 3.

Since the Center launched *In Motion*, hundreds of visitors have toured the exhibition and millions of Web users have accessed the site, which will be available for at least ten years. In addition to serving as a resource for scholars and students, the site allows individuals to consider their own personal family stories within the context of millions who share their experiences. A Senegalese immigrant to New York City, for example, may see a snapshot of her daily life reflected in a photograph of Harlem’s Little Senegal, where African immigrants from Senegal, Mali, Ivory Coast, and Guinea have built a community and businesses around 116th Street. A college graduate who chose to migrate to the South upon graduation may see his decision to return to his family’s state of Georgia after decades in Detroit in “Coming Home Again: African-American Return Migration to the South,” an essay in the Return South section. And a genealogist researching her free black ancestors’ resettlement from North Carolina to Ohio in the mid-nineteenth century may gain some insight into the motivations for their journey from the resources in the Northern Migration.

An extraordinary educational tool, the *In Motion* Web site is accessible from the Schomburg Center home page (www.schomburgcenter.org) or directly at www.inmotionaame.org. In *Motion* was created by the Schomburg Center and is supported, in part, by a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services in accordance with P.L. 107-116, with special thanks to the Congressional Black Caucus. Schomburg Center Chief Howard Dodson is the project’s director and Sylviane Diouf is the project’s content manager and curator of the exhibition.

**SCHOMBURG SOCIETY CONSERVATORS**

The Schomburg Center is pleased to acknowledge the following donors of membership gifts of $1,000 or more from December 1, 2004 – March 7, 2005

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Junior Scholars Launch Exhibition at Lincoln Center

On January 29, 2005, the New York Life/Schomburg Center Junior Scholars program unveiled its art exhibition *Claimed Space* at The Cork Gallery at Avery Fisher Hall. The exhibition was presented in conjunction with Lincoln Center’s Audience Development Initiative as the first in a series of Lincoln Center Salutes Black History Month 2005 events. Under the direction of visual artist M. Scott Johnson, the Junior Scholars Visual Arts Team created a unique language of symbols that was assembled to tell poignant visual stories and transmit soulful messages. As stated in the exhibition guide, “*Claimed Space* is a platform, a mountain top, a page, a window for these young spirits to air their genius.”

The exhibition curator, Leyden Nyobe Lewis, wrote, “The symbols created by the Visual Arts Team are simple in form yet rooted in a poetic complexity that evokes many emotional readings. At first gaze, to the viewer, these symbols are recognizable—even traditional forms. The spiral, the pyramid, the star, and the crescent are all familiar shapes from our earliest collective memories.”


Aspects of the *Claimed Space* exhibition will be featured at the Junior Scholars Youth Summit 2005 on May 7 at the Schomburg Center.

**Junior Scholar artists, parents, and staff celebrated the opening of Claimed Space, an exhibition of work by the scholars at the Cork Gallery at Lincoln Center.**

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**E-mail Announcements**

The Schomburg Center would like to send our members e-mail announcements about upcoming program events. To join our e-mailing list, please fill out this coupon and return it to Membership, Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, 515 Malcolm X Boulevard, New York, NY 10037.

Name__________________________________________
E-mail address____________________________________
Phone number____________________________________
Member ID____________________________________

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**Rental Service Available**

In addition to our collections, the Schomburg Center has an active rental service. The beautifully facilities are professionally equipped and can accommodate a wide range of special events from concerts, music, theater, and receptions to educational seminars and conferences at competitive market based rental rates. Call (212) 491-2257 for rates and information.

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2005 Volume 5, Number 2

*Afri*can*ana Her*itage is a quarterly publication of the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture for members who contribute $35 or more annually. The Schomburg Center is one of the Research Libraries of The New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations.

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Contributor Roberta Yancey, Deirdre Hollman, Carlyle G. Leach  
Kenneth McFarlin Graphic Designer  
Photography E. Lee White, Kate Weiman, Manu Sissoomian

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515 Malcolm X Boulevard
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