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University of Mississippi

**Winter Institute to Host Third Annual Summit
to Promote Teaching Civil Rights History Statewide**

John Hope Franklin delivers keynote, public invited to all
events June 27-29

OXFORD, Miss. - The third annual Civil Rights Education Summit is scheduled June 27-29 at the University of Mississippi hosted by the William Winter Institute for Racial Reconciliation.

The event, which promotes teaching the civil rights movement across the curriculum in schools statewide, features innovative speakers, panels and workshops. The public is invited to attend and there is no registration fee. To register or for more information, visit

<http://www.olemiss.edu/winterinstitute/documents/crsummit07.htm>.

Noted historian John Hope Franklin, who served on President Bill Clinton's Initiative on Race, is slated to deliver the keynote address at 1 p.m. June 27 in Nutt Auditorium of Scruggs Hall. Franklin is the James B. Duke Professor Emeritus of History and former professor of legal history in the law school at Duke University.

"The Winter Institute is engaged in an important endeavor by trying to introduce teachers to the most up-to-date curriculum on civil rights history. Last year representatives from major organizations all over the country, including the New York Historical Society, attended and presented their materials," said Nan Woodruff, professor of African-American and 20th century U.S. history at Pennsylvania State University. Woodruff presented at last year's summit and is on the program again this year.

"This year's summit promises to be our biggest, having grown significantly since the initial one held in Philadelphia and last year's, which was in McComb," said April Grayson, the institute's documentary educator. "It's also exciting that we will be commemorating the 10th anniversary of 'One America,' Bill Clinton's President's Initiative on Race."

At 10 a.m. June 28 in Nutt Auditorium, Franklin joins former Gov. William Winter and attorney, teacher and lecturer Angela Oh, who served on President Bill Clinton's Initiative on Race, in the panel discussion "Reflection on 'One American.'"

Grayson said that members of the former president's staff have said that the community forum held at UM during that initiative was the most successful of any the entire year across the United States. From those meetings the Winter Institute was also born, she added. Other presenters this year include Jennifer

Stollman, chair of the Department of History and Political Science at Salem College in Winston-Salem, N.C.; and Lecia Brooks, director at the Civil Rights Memorial Center-Southern Poverty Law Center in Montgomery, Ala.

"I had the pleasure of attending the first two summits; I left knowing in my spirit that others would engage in truth-telling and storytelling," Brooks said. "More importantly, the folks who lived the experiences we teach about, surrounding the modern American Civil Rights Movement, would be the storytellers and we would listen."

Another highlight of the summit is a plenary session at 1:30 p.m. June 28 in Nutt Auditorium featuring James Loewen, co-author of the American history textbook "Mississippi: Conflict and Change." The book won the Lillian Smith Award for Best Southern Nonfiction, but was not approved for use in the Mississippi school system. This led to the lawsuit *Loewen v. Turnipseed*, in which Judge Orma R. Smith of the U.S. District Court ruled that the rejection of the textbook was not based on "justifiable grounds" and that the authors were denied their right to free speech and press.

Grayson noted that civil rights education in Mississippi has continued to make great strides since the passage of Senate Bill 2718 in 2006. The measure established the Mississippi Civil Rights Education Commission, a 15-member group charged with providing or assisting education officials and other organizations with information, coordination and modification of courses or programs that include the civil rights movement.

For more information about the summit or assistance related to a disability, call 662-915-6734.
(edwin smith)

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