FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CELEBRATE AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH WITH THE LIBRARY

Kickoff the celebration at the 23rd annual Unveiling of the Jacksonville Black History Calendar

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., Jan. 17, 2012 – The Jacksonville Public Library will begin its celebration of African-American History Month a few weeks early with an event that has become a much-anticipated annual community tradition: the Unveiling of the Jacksonville Black History Calendar.

WHEN: Thursday, Jan. 19
4 p.m.

WHERE: Main Library Downtown (Conference level)
Multipurpose Room 1
303 Laura St. N. – 32202

Since 1989, the Jacksonville Black History Calendar has been an integral part of the African-American History Month celebrations in Jacksonville. Partners who have contributed to this year’s calendar are Burger King Corporation, Florida State College, the Jacksonville Public Library, Blue Cross and Blue Shield, and Dr. Pepper. The 2012 calendar marks the sixth year the staff of the library’s African-American Collection has researched and contributed information to the calendar.

Free copies of the calendar will be available at area Burger King restaurants, Jacksonville Public Library branches and Florida State College at Jacksonville on Feb. 1. An electronic version of the calendar will be available on the library’s website after Feb. 1.

For Library program information in celebration of African-American History Month, go to jaxpubliclibrary.org, call 630-BOOK (2665) or visit a neighborhood library.

About the Jacksonville Black History Calendar

The concept of the Jacksonville Black History Calendar for Florida’s First Coast was initially conceived by Dr. Brenda R. Simmons, Florida State College at Jacksonville and Vice Chair of the Library Board of Trustees, and Mrs. Clovia Russell, AT&T, formerly Southern Bell. Their idea was to present biographical sketches of African-American citizens who had contributed to the growth and development of Jacksonville. The idea was presented with the first calendar “Weaving of the Fabric of Freedom: A Reflection of the Black Legacy of Florida’s First Coast” in 1989.
The Jacksonville Public Library is committed to making its exhibitions and programs accessible to all persons. If you need special accommodations, please call 630-2401 (TTY 630-1999) at least 72 hours prior to the visit or program.

**About the Jacksonville Public Library**

The Jacksonville Public Library provided more than 10,000 programs and services last year to Duval County residents at the Main Library and 20 branch locations. More than 5 million people visited Jacksonville Public Libraries and checked out more than 9 million items. For more information about the Jacksonville Public Library, call 630-BOOK (2665) or visit [jaxpubliclibrary.org](http://jaxpubliclibrary.org).

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