

Gordon Parks (b. 1912) wrote about his hometown of Fort Scott, Kansas, in his autobiographical novel and subsequent film, *The Learning Tree*, which was among the 25 films placed on the National Film Registry of the Library of Congress in 1989. He went on to direct other films, to author several books, and to write original musical compositions, film scores, and a ballet.

He established his reputation as a world-renowned photojournalist for *Life* magazine. A major retrospective exhibit of Parks's work, *Half Past Autumn: The Art of Gordon Parks* opened at the Corcoran Gallery of Art in Washington D.C. in 1998 and toured the United States.

Parks received the National Medal of Arts in 1988 and has received over fifty honorary doctorates. He lives in New York City and continues to create--his fifth autobiography and a new book of poetry will be published soon.

The Gordon Parks Celebration, a component of the Gordon Parks Center for Culture and Diversity, was created in 2004 by Fort Scott Community College to honor Parks.

At the culmination of the first year's events, the *Choice of Weapons Award* was established in Parks's honor and named after his autobiography of the same name. Avery Brooks will be the first recipient of the *Gordon Parks Choice of Weapons Award* at the second annual Gordon Parks Celebration.

Avery Brooks is an accomplished actor, director, musician and teacher. He is best know for his television roles as Hawk on *Spenser: For Hire* and *A Man Called Hawk*, and as Captain Benjamin Sisko in the *Star Trek* series, *Deep Space Nine*. Mr. Brooks portrayed the title role in the film, *Solomon Northup's Odyssey*, directed by Gordon Parks for the PBS American Playhouse series.

Poster photo: *Gordon Parks Climbing Hill*
Konza Prairie, Kansas, July 1979 © Patricia DuBose Duncan

REGISTRATION for Gordon Parks Celebration Events
Tickets will go on sale starting September 14

1. I wish to register for the events checked below, paying a total of \$ _____.
 (For Trolley Tour Ticket please add \$5.00 and check time below)
3. _____ I wish to attend free daytime events only. I will register below.

Thursday, October 6	# Tickets	Amount
Lunch at the Fort	_____	_____
Play: <i>Call Me Out My Name</i>	_____	_____
Friday, October 7		
Kick-Off Luncheon	_____	_____
"Blues & BBQ" w/ Kelley Hunt	_____	_____
Kelley Hunt- <i>Concert Only</i>	_____	_____
Saturday, October 8		
A Tribute to Avery Brooks & Gordon Parks	_____	_____

Trolley Tour of Gordon Parks's Fort Scott-\$5.00

Thurs., Oct. 6
11:00 a.m. _____

Fri., Oct. 7
4:00 p.m. _____

Sat., Oct. 8
3:00 p.m. _____

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone # _____

Method of payment: (Circle One) Check Visa Mastercard

Visa or Mastercard # _____

Exp. Date: _____ Signature _____

Make checks payable and mail to: The Gordon Parks Celebration, 2108 S. Horton,
 Ft. Scott, KS 66701 (Questions? Call 1-800-874-3722, ext. 515) or check on updates at
www.gordonparkscenter.org. PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU HAVE SPECIAL NEEDS.

Lodging in Fort Scott:

Heritage Inn	Best Western	1st Interstate	Lyons Mansion B/B	Courtland B/B
620-768-7000	620-223-0100	620-223-5330	620-223-3644	620-223-0098