



Fort Scott Community College News Release ***Gordon Parks Center for Culture and Diversity***

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Cast chosen for "I Rise" reader's theatre production for 4th annual Gordon Parks Celebration

Fort Scott— The reader's theatre production entitled "I Rise" will be a feature of the 4th annual Gordon Parks Celebration, slated for October 3-6, 2007. The production will be directed by Patty LaRoche, Speech and Theatre instructor at Ft. Scott High School. Sponsorship of the production is from the Bourbon County Arts Council's E.C. Gordon Fine Arts Series.

Tryouts for reading parts were held in August and Director LaRoche cast 15 in the various roles. The cast includes Robert Nelson, Arnold Schofield, Brian Weilert, Marion Stepps, Leesa DaSilva-Moore, LaTisha Kelley, Brittany Watkins, Tasha Guffin, Katheryn Guffin, Kirk Sharp, Jim Barrows, LeRoy Nelson, Nick Magee, Rasheed Weekley and Marcus Barner. John Bennett will provide guitar music for the play.

The play, which was compiled and edited by Professor Richard Emanuel of Alabama State University, documents the pivotal people, places and events that make up the civil rights movement. The production is a tapestry of historical facts, poetic expressions, songs and personal testimonies that would help illustrate the commitment and sacrifice many have made for civil rights. "The script for I Rise is wonderful and our actors rise to the occasion with their expressive interpretation of the different events and people who made up the

Civil Rights Movement," said LaRoche.

According to Gordon Parks Center Director Jill Warford, the play will be performed during the 4th annual Celebration on Thursday evening, Oct. 4th at 7:30 p.m. at the Fort Scott Middle School, 1105 E. 12th St. Prior to the play, the winners of the 5th grade poetry contest and the high school poetry and essay contest will read their selections for the public at 6:45 p.m.

Tickets for the play are \$7 each which includes a dessert bar reception afterwards. Tickets may be purchased at the Country Cupboard in downtown Fort Scott or at the Gordon Parks Center on the FSCC campus, or by calling 223-2700, ext. 515 or email at jillw@fortscott.edu.
