



ASALH

ASSOCIATION for the STUDY of AFRICAN AMERICAN LIFE and HISTORY



Jan. 24, 2018

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Premier Black History Month Event of 2018 is Rapidly Approaching

92nd Annual Black History Month Luncheon Feb. 24th

Hosted by the Founders of Black History Month

WASHINGTON — Only a few weeks away from the 92nd annual Black History Month luncheon hosted by the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH), the founders of Black History Month. This year's luncheon will be held Feb. 24th at the Washington Renaissance Hotel, 999 Ninth Street, NW, Washington, D.C. Doors open at noon.

This year's theme is ***"African Americans in Times of War."***

"Times of war inevitably provide the framework for many stories related to African American soldiers, veterans and civilians," said ASALH's National President Dr. Evelyn Brooks Higginbotham. "This year's Black History Month theme is filled with paradoxes of valor and defeat, of civil rights opportunities and setbacks, of struggles abroad and at home, and of catastrophic loss of life and the righteous hope for peace.

"Black History Month is our time to focus national attention on the significant events and achievements of African Americans who advanced freedom and democracy," said Higginbotham.

"God bless America, the land made great from servitude to service, as we stand on the shoulders of past generations to brighten the path for future generations with ASALH at the helm," said Dr. James A. Dula, Maj. U.S. Air Force (Ret.) and CEO of James Dula Consulting.



Other confirmed
(Ret.) William "Kip"

Corporation; and Maj. Jaspen "Jas" Boothe, U.S. Army Reserves and founder/president, Final Salute Inc. The luncheon emcee is WUSA9 EMMY and GRACIE award winning anchor Andrea Roane.



Prior to the luncheon, a featured authors' event which is free and open to the public will allow individuals to interact with authors from across the nation who have written on a variety of issues related to African Americans and other topics. A variety of book types will also be represented, ranging from children's books to scholarly works.

In keeping with custom and tradition for the past several years, the Deputy Postmaster General of the United States Ronald Stroman will reveal the 2018 Black Heritage Forever stamp, which honors legendary Hollywood performer and civil rights activist Lena Horne. During World War II, Horne



entertained at camps for black servicemen, and after the war worked on behalf of Japanese Americans who were facing discriminatory housing policies. She worked with Eleanor Roosevelt in pressing for anti-lynching legislation. In the 1960s, Horne continued her high-profile work for civil rights, performing at rallies in the South, supporting the work of the National Council for Negro Women, and participating in the 1963 March on Washington.

Special award presentations will be made at the luncheon. Dr. Bettie Collier-Thomas, professor of History at Temple University and first African American to receive a PhD in History from George Washington University, will receive ASALH's Living Legacy Award, which was initiated in partnership with Farmers Insurance. The award honors African American women and men who have engaged in extraordinary work to improve communities, institutions, organizations and family life.

In addition, Edgar Brookins, general/circulation manager for the Washington Afro American newspaper in Washington, D.C., will receive the Council Award of Special Recognition. ASALH established this award to acknowledge the contributions of individuals, institutions and corporations that make a substantial contribution to the success of ASALH in pursuing the mission of its founder Dr. Carter G. Woodson.

This year's corporate sponsors for the luncheon include, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.; National Museum of African American History and Culture; Comcast NBCUniversal, TVOne, Wells Fargo; National Park Service; the Links Inc.; Blacks in Government; Fort Myer Construction and the American Historical Association.

To make ticket purchases click [here](#) or visit asalh.org for more information.

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Established on Sept. 9, 1915 by Dr. Carter G. Woodson, we are the Founders of Black History Month and carry forth the work of our founder, the Father of Black History. We continue his legacy of speaking a fundamental truth to the world — that Africans and peoples of African descent are makers of history and co-workers in what W. E. B. Du Bois called "The Kingdom of Culture." ASALH's mission is to create and disseminate knowledge about Black History, to be, in short, the nexus between the Ivory Tower and the global public. We labor in the service of Blacks and all humanity. In 1926, ASALH's founder Dr. Carter G. Woodson created the annual Black History celebration, which highlights a theme of historical and current importance.

