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Library Displays Feature Life and Career of Dr. Benjamin Hooks

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During December and January, the U of M's Ned R. McWherter Library is featuring three displays related to the Presidential Medal of Freedom recently awarded to Dr. Benjamin L. Hooks, longtime civil rights leader, attorney, minister, and educator.

In the elevator area on the first floor is "Benjamin Hooks," a display of material from the Government Publications area about the Medal of Freedom, hearings in which Hooks testified, Federal Communications Commission-related information, and other documents.

On level two a display of framed art, "Benjamin Lawson Hooks: Scenes from a Lifetime of Service," features unique scenes depicting his friendship with Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and his involvement with anti-apartheid activities, among others.

In the Special Collections area on the fourth floor "The Life and Achievement of Benjamin L. Hooks: Photos, Documents and Memorabilia of His Many Services to the Community and Country" provides artifacts illustrating the scope and importance of Hooks' contributions and service.

The Benjamin L. Hooks Institute for Social Change, a public policy research center supporting the urban research mission of the University of Memphis, honors Hooks' many years of leadership in the Civil Rights movement. Dr. Hooks serves the University faculty as a distinguished adjunct professor of history and political science.

For more information on the displays, contact Elizabeth Eckert at 901-678-4455 or eeckert@memphis.edu; Edwin Frank at 901-678-2210 or efrank@memphis.edu; or Tom Mendina at 901-678-4310 or tmendina@memphis.edu.

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