

March News Releases

Veteran Civil Rights Leader Will Teach Youngsters March 19-21 at The U of M

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Sixth graders from local schools will learn about civic involvement and the struggle for equality from veteran civil rights activist Dr. Benjamin L. Hooks March 19, 20 and 21 at The University of Memphis.

More than 300 students will see a multi-media presentation about the civil rights movement and hear a talk by Hooks as part of the fifth annual "Civil Rights in the Schools" program. The event will be from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. each day in the University Center Ballroom. Afterwards, the students will be treated to lunch and a tour of the U of M campus.

Hooks' message will focus on community responsibility, citizenship, respect for the law and the importance of education.

A minister and former executive director of the NAACP, Hooks was the first black person appointed to a judgeship in Tennessee and first black member of the Federal Communications Commission. He has long been a voice for the principles of political and civil rights.

The program is a joint effort of The U of M's Benjamin Hooks Institute for Social Change and the Memphis City Schools. The Institute pursues an agenda of research and outreach to build on Hooks' lifetime of work to achieve a just society.

For more information about the Hooks Institute, please visit <http://benhooks.memphis.edu>.

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