

# LAABP Celebrates History Month

## ■ Black Personnel association hosts 10th annual African marketplace.

LAABP — Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa joined more than 1,500 City employees at the 10th annual African Marketplace Feb. 1-2 at Bowron Fletcher Square in downtown Los Angeles.

The event kicked off the African American Heritage Month activities sponsored by the Los Angeles Association of Black Personnel (LAABP) during February.

A wide range of vendors was on hand offering items including business wear, casual outfits, ethnic attire, designer jewelry, body oils, framed paintings and distinctive ties for men. As usual, the food vendors drew huge crowds attracted to the aroma of fried catfish, gourmet Polish sausages and fresh baked goods.

Highlighting the celebration was the fashion show featuring Mayor Villaraigosa modeling a brilliant white African robe and hat, and another model from Simply Couture Productions. Also, music was provided by disc jockey "Chipmunk" of 100.3 The Beat radio station and several local performers.

Adding to the occasion were the four raffles of beautiful baskets designed by LAABP Second Vice President Susan Huntley. Proceeds from the raffles go to the LAABP Scholarship Fund. Since 2000, LAABP has presented more than \$60,000 in scholarships to college-bound students.

"This was definitely an exciting event and we are pleased that so many people participated," said LAABP President Jeffery Whitmore. "The

committee did an outstanding job organizing this celebration, and laying the foundation for an even more successful affair next year." Cora Jackson-Fossett, LAABP First Vice President, served as Committee Chairperson, and Co-chairs were Linda Lanier, Third Vice President; and Terrance Montgomery, Director-at-Large.

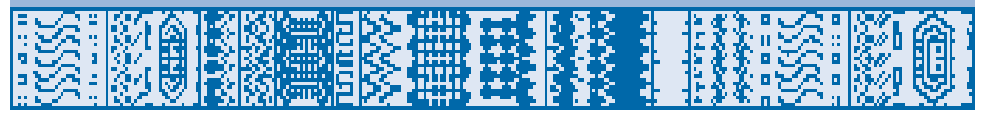
Also, the LAABP sponsored two additional activities to celebrate African American Heritage Month. On Feb. 15, the Trailblazers Reception was held in the Tom Bradley Room in City Hall. The reception recognized individuals who have contributed to the progress of African Americans in City government as well as achieved notable positions in their City careers. The honorees were Mayor Villaraigosa; Robert Allen, District Supervisor, DWP; D'lisa Davies, LAFD; Grace Harper, Building and Safety; Ronnie Cato, LAPD; and Art Newborn, Public Works Bureau of Street Lighting.

On Feb. 22, a Jazz By the Sea concert was held at Hyperion Treatment Plant. More than 300 employees heard music by local musicians and greetings from Rita Robinson, Sanitation Bureau Director, and Bob Blake, Associate Managing Agent of Colonial Insurance.

The LAABP is the official representative for City of Los Angeles employees of African American heritage. Incorporated in 1972, the LAABP advocates equal employment within the City's workforce and increased opportunities for "people of color" to attain management and executive positions. Among the services the organization provides are career development seminars, student scholarship program, mock interview programs and networking forums.



At the 10th annual African Marketplace.

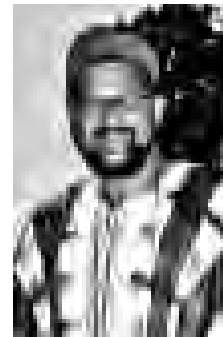


# Honoring With Scholarships

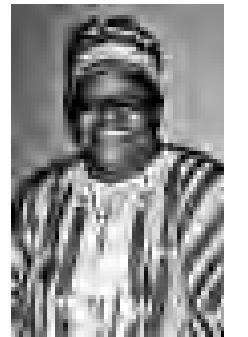
## ■ Street Services hosts scholarship luncheon for Black History Month.

Story and photos by Jessica Segura, Club Counselor

PUBLIC WORKS — The Bureau of Street Services Black History Committee held a luncheon Feb. 23 at the L.A. Mart in celebration of Black History Month and to award scholarships to three deserving young men. The theme of this year's luncheon was "Black Inventors." The afternoon was filled with great music, food and company.



Shaka, the drummer.



Phyllis Meyi, Public Works, 5 years of service, shows off her traditional African outfit.



The attendees partake in singing the Black National Anthem.



Jackie Robinson Post No. 252 Color Guards.



Host Cora Jackson-Fossett, Director, Bureau of Public Information, enthusiastically gives the welcome.



From left: Vernal Beal, Public Works, Bureau of Sanitation, 26 years of service; Sharon Redditt, Public Works, Contract Administration, 33 years of service; Lennis Jones, Street Services, 20 years of service; and Roberta Longino, Street Services, 5 years of service.



From left: Michael Carter, Street Services, 21 years; Carol Abele, Street Services, 5 years; and Marion Chapman, Street Services, 23 years of service.



From left: Mike Holmes, Street Services, 35 years; Shahidah Britt, Street Services, 5 months; and Billie Evans, Street Services, 9 years of service.



From left: Patricia Sweets, Street Services, 23 years of service; David Joiner, Street Services, 25 years of service; and Veronica Maxwell, Street Services, 16 years of service.



From left: Barbara Bank, Street Services 26 years of service; and Belinda Cristales and Club Member Tobias Cristales, Street Services, 16 years of service.



From left: Bertha Colbert, Street Services, 22 years; Troy Dolliole, Street Services, 22.5 years; Erin Jones, Street Services, 5 years; and Richard Lopez, Street Services, 22 years of service.



From left: Phil Bazan, Street Services, 6 years; Sherman Torres, Street Services, 19 years; and Amy Shimabukuro, Street Services, 4.5 years of service.

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