

THIS MONTH AT THE

Cabrillo Marine Aquarium
A REC AND PARKS FACILITY

Walk Cabrillo

Saturday,
May 17
2 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Pack a snack and join a walk guided by CMA's education staff. Starting at the Aquarium courtyard, you'll visit the native garden, salt marsh, beaches and tidepools. Explore each habitat and discover signs of the season along the shore. Examine fossils, native plants and beach wrack.

Free and open to all!
Parking: \$2

Registration required for groups. Please call (310) 548-7562.

Support the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium!

Consider joining the Friends of Cabrillo Marine Aquarium (310) 548-7410
www.cabrillmarineaquarium.org/support.asp



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City Owned. City Run. City Proud.

LAABP

Story by Cora Jackson-Fossett, Retired, Public Works, and Victoria Orellana

Celebrating African American Heritage Month



Enjoying the marketplace are (from left) Carmen Steward, Fire and Police Pensions, Club Member and Lance Bailey, EWDD.

LAABP Trailblazers reception and African Marketplace attract hundreds.



Trailblazer participants (from left) are Councilman Bernard Parks, Shelia LeFridge, Dr. Gregory Burks, Patrice Lattimore, Fred Dowell Sr., Sharon Loudd, former Councilwoman Jan Perry and Controller Ron Galperin. Photo by Haywood Galbreath.

More than 125 people came out Feb. 12 for the eighth annual Trailblazers Reception in the Tom Bradley Room high atop City Hall. The program was sponsored by the Los Angeles Association of Black Personnel (LAABP).

"This event recognized individuals, who have contributed to the progress of African Americans in City government as well as achieved notable positions in their City careers," said LAABP President Terrence Montgomery.

"Also, I want to commend Chairperson Shelia Brooks-LeFridge and her committee for organizing an amazing Black History celebration."

The honorees were Dr. Gregory Burks, Fred Dowell Sr., Patrice Lattimore and Randy Gordon.

Dr. Gregory Burks is the Director of Adult Operations for the Economic and Workforce Development Department (EWDD). In this capacity, he manages 18 centers, 200 employees, and \$45 million budget that connect 140,000 job seekers with employers. Previously, Dr. Burks served as Regional Director for the Community Development Department, board member of the ABC Unified School District, and Chief Operating Officer for Los Angeles Opportunities Industrialization Center.

Fred Dowell Sr. is an Acting Senior Gardener, Rec and Parks. A 17-year employee, he is also active in the union and serves as president of ACESBA, the All City Employees Services Benefits Association.

Patrice Lattimore serves as a Legislative Assistant in the Office of the City Clerk. She also represents the City Clerk's office at most meetings of the City Council. Patrice advises people seeking career advancement to "trust that God will lead you along the right path and bring the right people and opportunities into your life."

Randy Gordon is a clerk in the Mail Services Division, General Services. His 25-year career includes 12 years of perfect attendance. Previously, Randy was employed by the U.S. Postal Service and as a result of that experience, he implemented many innovations and improvements in the processing of the City's mail.

Among the more-than 100 guests offering salutes to the honorees were Controller Ron Galperin; Council President Herb Wesson; Councilmen Tom LaBonge, Club Member, and Bernard Parks; former Councilwoman and current Economic and Workforce Development General Manager Jan Perry, Club Member; General Services General Manager Tony Royster, Club Member; Interim City Clerk Holly Wolcott; Transportation Interim General Manager Jon Kirk Mukri, Club Member; Rec and Parks General Manager Michael Shull; and City Executives Carmen Hawkins, Greg Irish, Capri Maddox, Joseph Rouzan and Jeffrey Whitmore.

The LAABP continued its tradition of celebrating African American Heritage Month by sponsoring the African Marketplace in conjunction with the City of Los Angeles. LAABP's theme was "Kuonja: Flavors of Soul African Marketplace." This year's Marketplace was held Feb. 19-20 at the Triforium. Attendees enjoyed shopping, food and entertainment.

With more than 21 vendors, the event was further enhanced by contests, employment recruiting, networking, personal services, poetry readings, and raffles. Performers included Alvin L. Hayes Jr. and Friends, Connie Williams and Amun Neteru El.



Tamara Brown created a beautiful treat for the bake-off contest.



Colette Wilburn entered a delicious cake in the bake-off contest.



Connie Williams delivers captivating rhymes at the African Marketplace.

Organizations that donated gift certificates or services were ACEBSA, Trimana, Café St. Michel, Elite Cleaners and Starbucks.

The LAABP, a 550-member organization, is the official representative for City of Los Angeles employees of African-American heritage. LAABP provides career development seminars, a mock interview program, networking forums and scholarships to college-bound students.

In addition to Montgomery, LAABP officers are Sharon Loudd, First Vice President; Henry Chisom, Second Vice President; David Jackson, Third Vice President; Mignon Washington, Corresponding Secretary; Directors-at-Large Carmen Steward, Club Member, Rashid Mfume, Shelia Brooks Le-Fridge, and Damien Jackson; and Cora Jackson-Fossett, Immediate Past President.



Marketplace visitors Leslie Wall, Bureau of Engineering and Capri Maddox, City Attorney's Office, greet two friends (at right) at the event.



More than 125 people attended the Trailblazer Reception. Photo by Haywood Galbreath.



Past and present LAABP Board Members include (standing, from left) Jeffrey Whitmore, Rashid Mfume, Terrence Montgomery, Henry Chisom, honoree Dr. Gregory Burks, and (seated) Cora Jackson-Fossett, Mignon Washington, Carmen Steward, Shelia LeFridge and Sharon Loudd. Photo by Haywood Galbreath.