Encore showing of 'Syracuse's 15th Ward and Beyond' planned for Nov. 30

Tuesday, November 9, 2010

By Kelly Homan Rodoski • (315) 443-3784

A fourth showing of "Syracuse's 15th Ward and Beyond," a documentary capturing the memories of former residents of Syracuse's 15th Ward and other Syracuse neighborhoods, will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 30, at 6 p.m. at McKinley Brighton Elementary Magnet School, 141 W. Newell St. in Syracuse. The screening is free and open to the public.

The documentary was premiered to a capacity audience on May 22 at Syracuse Stage's Storch Theatre. Two additional screenings were held in Syracuse after the premiere.

The documentary was born from a bus tour of old Syracuse last fall, sponsored by Syracuse University's South Side Initiative Office and the local Black History Preservation team. The tour went through the former 15th Ward and visited other historical sites, including the Ebony Market, Croton Elementary, Old Dunbar, The Glass Bottom and Open Door lounges, Ben's Kitchen, the Father Brady Center for Black Catholics and Washington Irving Elementary School.

Some 30 senior members of the community, who have lived in Syracuse for at least 40 years, participated. The tour and the participants' stories and recollections of Syracuse's past were captured by local filmmaker and SU alumna Courtney Rile.

The Black History Preservation Project is a direct response to the South Side community's interest in more fully representing Syracuse's rich history. The documentary is a project of SU's South Side Initiative Office and Black History Preservation Team, the Onondaga Historical Association, the Onondaga County Public Library, the City of Syracuse Multicultural Affairs Office and community residents.

For more information, contact the South Side Initiative Office at 443-1916.

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