



LIBRARY OF VIRGINIA

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Library of Virginia to Honor 2010 African American Trailblazers

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For Immediate Release

In observance of African American History Month, the Library of Virginia, in partnership with Capital One Financial Corporation, is honoring eight distinguished Virginians as the 2010 American Trailblazers in Virginia History for their contributions to Virginia and the nation. Those being honored this year are:

- **Gowan Pamphlet** (ca. 1750–1807 or 1808), Williamsburg, Baptist Leader
- **Mary Smith Kelsey Peake** (1823–1862), Hampton, Educator
- **Sara Lucy Bagby Johnson** (ca. 1833–1906), Wheeling, Plaintiff in Cause Célèbre
- **Joseph Thomas Newsome** (1869–1942), Newport News, Lawyer and Editor
- **Dorothy Bigelow Hamm** (1919–2004), Caroline and Arlington counties, Civil Rights Advocate and Community Activist
- **Henry L. Marsh, III** (1933–), Richmond, Civil Right Attorney and Public Servant
- **Florence Saunders Farley**, (1928–), Roanoke and Petersburg, Psychologist, Educator, Elected Official, and Artist
- **Christopher Bernard Howard** (1969–), Hampden-Sydney, President of Hampden-Sydney College

The men and women featured as Trailblazers offer powerful examples of individuals who refused to be defined by their circumstances. Their biographies are a testament to the determination and perseverance displayed by extraordinary people during challenging times. Through education and advocacy, these individuals demonstrate how African Americans have actively campaigned for better lives for themselves and their people. It is these many contributions that the African American Trailblazers program seeks to share.

Biographies of the honorees will be featured in an exhibition on display at the Library in February; on a poster that has been sent to schools, libraries, and museums across Virginia; and on an educational Web site for teachers and students. To learn more about the individuals honored this year visit our Web site at www.lva.virginia.gov/trailblazers.

The 2010 honorees also will be celebrated at an awards ceremony hosted by the Library on February 25. Seating is limited, so please call 804-692-3900 by February 22 for reservations.

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