THE BLACK FILM FESTIVAL

The Black Film Festival sponsored by the National Center for the Study of Civil Rights and African-American Culture at Alabama State University was launched in 2003 at Montgomery's Capri Theatre. The event was created by the Steering Committee for the National Center as a community outreach activity to celebrate and illuminate the history and culture of African Americans through film. Through compelling documentaries, commercial blockbusters, little-known independent films and other genres, the festival offers a balanced mixture of entertainment and education that routinely attracts a diverse audience united by a love of history and cinema. Post-film discussions about the issues presented on-screen are purposely designed to stimulate an ongoing dialogue long after the film festival ends. Dr. Tommie "Tonea" Stewart, Amos Kennedy and Rev. Robert Graetz are among the film industry leaders, artists, human rights activists and other subject specialists who have led discussions. Although the films presented at the Black Film Festival do not necessarily reflect the views of the National Center, the creative vision and voices of the individuals who produced the works are greatly encouraged and appreciated.

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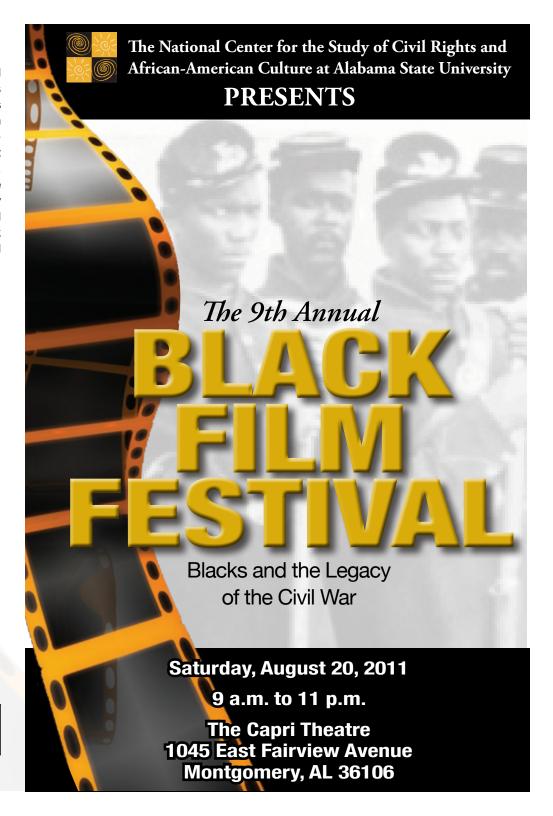
Steering Committee for the National Center with special thanks to Joseph D. Trimble

Tomatinos Pizza

Village Gallery

Winn Dixie Carter Hill Road





Blacks and the Legacy of the Civil War

9 a.m. Opening Remarks

Dr. Janice R. Franklin, Director and Joseph D. Trimble, Consultant The National Center for the Study of Civil Rights and African-American Culture at Alabama State University

9:15 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Gone with the Wind (G)

Vivien Leigh and Clark Gable star in a turbulent love affair in this American classic set during the Civil War and Reconstruction. In the role of "Mammy," Hattie McDaniel becomes the first African American to receive an Academy Award.

1 p.m. - 1:15 p.m. Post-film discussion led by Dr. Jacqueline Trimble, Chair, Department of Languages and Literatures, Alabama State University.

1:15 p.m. - 3:20 p.m.

Glory (R)

Fighting prejudices of his Union army and the Confederates, a white officer leads the all-black 54th Regiment of the Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry into the U.S. Civil War. Denzel Washington's outstanding performance is honored with an Academy Award.

3:20 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. Post-film discussion *led by Courtney Tarver, U.S. Army veteran, Chief Counsel for the Department of Mental Health, lay historian and ASU alumnus.*

3:30 p.m. - 5:15 p.m.

Sounder (G)

A family of black sharecroppers in Depression-era Louisiana face a crisis when the husband/father is convicted of a petty crime and sent to prison. Paul Winfield, Cicely Tyson and Kevin Hooks star in this screen adaptation of William Armstrong's tale of faith and perseverance.

5:20 p.m. - 6:20 p.m.

Silver Wings and Civil Rights: The Fight to Fly (Not rated)

The Tuskegee Airmen fought one enemy overseas, and at home in America, they fought for their own civil rights. Written and directed by Jon Timothy Anderson, this is their story.

6:20 p.m.-6:40 p.m. Post-film discussion *led by C.J. Bradford, researcher on the Tuskegee Airmen, and member, Georgia Chapter of the Tuskegee Airmen Association.*

6:45 p.m. - 7:20 p.m.

The Witness from the Balcony of Room 306 (Not rated)

The Reverend Samuel "Billy" Kyles stood beside Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on the balcony of the Lorraine Motel in Memphis, Tenn. when King was assassinated. This is Kyles' recollection of those fateful moments on April 4, 1968, and the days leading up to this tragedy.

7:25 p.m. - 8:45 p.m.

Independent Short Films (Not rated)

Consecutive film viewings; titles tba.

8:45 p.m. - 11 p.m.

Bamboozled (R)

An African-American television writer protests against the usual negative portrayals of Black characters by producing a minstrel show, which much to his horror becomes a huge hit. Damon Wayans, Savion Glover and Jada Pinkett Smith star in Spike Lee's satirical look at racism in American television.