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## **The African American Cultural Center of Greater Pittsburgh Commemorates the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Brown vs. Board of Education**

**PITTSBURGH** (March 17, 2004) The African American Cultural Center of Greater Pittsburgh presents: "Reflections in Courage: A Commemoration of Brown vs. Board of Education." The event takes place on **March 25, 2004** to honor some of the first participants in the landmark Supreme Court decision that led to the desegregation of America's schools.

In partnership with Duquesne University Law School, this program and reception welcomes to Pittsburgh the honorees of *Brown v. Board: A 50-year Commemoration*: a symposium jointly sponsored by Duquesne University and the University of Pittsburgh and is part of a series of events taking place in Pittsburgh throughout the year.

The program includes a reception and dialogue with our guests who will share their experiences of the impact of the decision on their lives. We will also display an exhibition from the National Park Service Brown vs. Board Historic Site.

Our guests include:

- Minnijean Brown Trickey (one of the "Little Rock Nine")
- Vivian Malone Jones (a student barred from the school door in Alabama by Governor George Wallace)
- Willie Shepperson (involved in Prince Edward County, Virginia Case, where public schools were shut down for four years rather than to desegregate)
- Rutha Mae Harris (of the Freedom Singers)

The event begins with a reception at 5:30 and a brief program at 6:30. It will take place at 937 Liberty Avenue (downtown).

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*The African American Cultural Center of Greater Pittsburgh will celebrate the contributions of people of African descent to the art, culture and history of America. The ultimate focus of the AACC will be the contributions of western Pennsylvania's African American community, whose historical significance in the arts, business, industry and sports is second only to New York's Harlem Renaissance.*