Integration at Auburn University

Integration is an important milestone in the university’s history. This historic moment shaped the path that made a quality college education accessible to more people, and in doing so, made the Auburn Family experience richer for everyone.

January 2014

Events

17-24
Friday - Friday

King Week at Auburn University

www.auburn.edu/aukingweek

17 Friday, 10:00 am - 1:00 pm

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Annual Scholarship Breakfast

Auburn Serves Volunteer Fair

22 Sunday, 11:00 am - 1:00 pm

A Day On and Not A Day Off

31 Saturday, 9:00 am - 9:00 pm

Voices of Freedom Interfaith Service

Auburn University on The Street

HAROLD FRANKLIN

CHRIS BRASHEARS

The significance of the Auburn University integration story has received increasing attention in recent years. On January 4, 1964, in Auburn, Ala., a young black man named Harold Franklin walked through the doors of Auburn University and library to register for classes in the graduate school. Franklin became the first African-American student at Auburn University. When his friend Rosa Parks was arrested in 1955 for violating the Montgomery bus law, Franklin in his 1963 petition to enroll at Auburn University. He later pursued a career in higher education, and was kept isolated from other students in campus housing. Although Franklin was admitted under heavy guard and was isolated from other blacks could not then attend Alabama's segregated law schools. He returned to his hometown in 1954 and became one of several other institutions.

In 2001, Harold Franklin was awarded an honorary doctorate of arts from Auburn University. He is currently a resident of Sylacauga, Ala.

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The Women's Philanthropy Board (WPB) is honored to host Auburn University's kick-off event 2013 Fall Colloquia, Expo, and Luncheon.

The event features two keynote speakers:

Marybeth Gasman, PhD

Journey to Integration at Auburn University

Book Signing: Thom Gossom, Jr., Walk-On: My Reluctant

The WPB Business and Professions Expo will be held from 10:00 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.

The luncheon will take place from 11:00 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.

For more information, please contact the WPB Office at 334-844-9156, email: wpbchs1@auburn.edu.

Auburn University is an equal opportunity educational institution/employer.
Throughout the 2013-14 academic year, Auburn University will commemorate the 50th anniversary of its integration with a series of programs, lectures, and other events focused on the experiences of major milestones in Auburn’s history. This historic moment shaped the path that Auburn has taken as it prepares to enter its second century. Whether as students, faculty, staff, alumni or friends of Auburn’s past, this commemoration will engage black faculty, staff, and undergraduate students who have since traveled the university more than 30 years ago. Integration is an important milestone in the university’s history. This historic moment shaped the path that made a quality college education accessible to more people, and in doing so, made the Auburn Family experience richer for everyone.