

# **The Rev. T. J. Jemison and Rev. James Stovall Oral History Teacher Fellowship Program 1953 Baton Rouge Bus Boycott 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

## **APPLICATION FORM AND GUIDELINES**

### **I. PROGRAM OVERVIEW**

#### **SUMMARY**

In June 2003, Baton Rouge will host a special academic conference commemorating the 50th anniversary of the 1953 Baton Rouge bus boycott. Often overlooked in accounts of the civil rights struggle, the boycott is now recognized as an important prelude to the modern civil rights movement. In an effort to galvanize interest and understanding of this historic movement, the Organizing Committee of the 1953 Baton Rouge Bus Boycott 50th Anniversary conference is sponsoring the Rev. T. J. Jemison and Rev. James L. Stovall Oral History Teacher Fellowship Program for exemplary teachers in East Baton Rouge Parish schools. The program will recruit up to fifteen Fellows from local middle and high schools (Grades 7-12) to develop innovative oral history programming in their schools.

Selected Jemison-Stovall Fellows will attend the conference and receive special training in oral history techniques. Fellows will receive a \$1,000 honorarium, a video camera valued at \$400, and a \$100 materials stipend to implement their project.

Following the conference, Fellows will plan and lead projects at their schools in which students will conduct videotaped oral history interviews with community members who were active participants or witnesses to the 1953 protest. Fellows will then integrate these interviews into innovative learning projects in the English Language Arts, History, Social Studies, and the Performing and Visual Arts.

#### **PROGRAM OBJECTIVES**

The Jemison-Stovall Fellowship program seeks to sponsor innovative oral history school and public programming that will both enhance the teaching of Louisiana history and inspire a deeper understanding of the moral and ethical lessons embodied in the struggle against racial segregation and discrimination. Special emphasis will be placed on the important values of tolerance, nonviolence, respect of community and mutual-help.

The Fellowship program honors two prominent leaders in the civil rights and social justice movements: Rev. T. J. Jemison and Rev. James L. Stovall. In 1953, Rev. Jemison led the Baton Rouge bus boycott and later became the president of the National Baptist Convention. The late Rev. James L. Stovall of Baton Rouge dedicated his life to promoting tolerance and compassion in Louisiana and beyond. Both men have for decades been central figures and principal voices in the civil rights and social justice movement in Louisiana.

### **CONFERENCE BACKGROUND**

Long overshadowed by the Montgomery bus boycott, the Baton Rouge boycott was the first modern mass-movement to challenge the segregation practices of public transportation in the United States. Increasingly, scholars have recognized the Baton Rouge Bus Boycott as an important prelude to the modern civil rights movement. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. consulted with Rev. Jemison in creating a strategy for the Montgomery campaign.

The conference, to be held jointly at Louisiana State University and Southern University exactly 50 years after the 1953 protest, will bring together leading scholars from the United States and Great Britain to commemorate the event and present a wide range of scholarly and public programming.

### **JEMISON/STOVALL FELLOWS PROJECT ORGANIZERS**

The Jemison-Stovall Fellowship Oral History Program is being organized by the 50th Anniversary Organizing Committee, the Southern Institute for Education and Research at Tulane University, and the Academic Distinction Fund of Baton Rouge. The sponsoring organizations will provide the Fellows with needed technical assistance and training throughout the project period, which will run from May 2003 to May 2004.

### **ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS**

Full-time middle and high school teachers (Grades 7-12) in public, parochial, and private schools in East Baton Rouge Parish are invited to apply.

### **FELLOWSHIP AWARDS**

Each Jemison-Stovall Fellow will receive a \$1,000 honorarium, a video camera valued at \$400 (which, upon completion of the project, will remain the property of the teacher for school use), and a \$100 materials stipend. Up to 15 Fellows will be selected.

### **PROJECT PROPOSALS CONSIDERED**

Projects must use videotaped oral history interviews with participants or witnesses to the 1953 Bus Boycott. Interview subjects should be capable of recalling the events of the boycott and/or can address their experiences with segregation, discrimination, and the individual and collective efforts that African Americans engaged in to unite their community and resist segregation. Oral history subjects may be members of the students' families or community members.

Projects must integrate oral history testimony into innovative learning projects in the subject fields of English Language Arts, History, Social Studies, and the Performing and Visual Arts. Projects may include any one or combination of the following media: essays, poetry, fiction, journals, exhibits, printed works, theatrical and musical productions, visual arts, and Internet-based projects. Applicants are encouraged to consider interdisciplinary projects and programming that will reach a wide audience.

### **JUDGING PANEL AND CRITERIA**

A panel comprised of the conference sponsoring organizations and independent scholars will assess candidates. Candidates will be judged on:

- The proposed project's innovativeness and capacity to enhance teaching and learning
- Clarity in project goals, objectives, timelines, and evaluation
- The project's ability to reach a wide school and public audience
- Realistic plans for project implementation, programming and publicity
- A demonstrated record of outstanding teaching and successful completion of special projects

**REQUIREMENTS AFTER FUNDING**

Fellows will be expected to complete the following by May 1, 2004:

- (1) Conduct videotaped interviews as indicated in their final work plan
- (2) Design and successfully complete their project
- (3) Sponsor at least one program in which the public can view your project (public performances, screenings, traveling exhibits to community centers, etc.)
- (4) Submit a final project report with documentation of the project (copies of materials, cd-roms, slides, videos, etc.)

**TIMELINE**

Successful applicants must be able to attend the oral history workshop and the conference sessions, June 19-21.

April 15	Application postmark deadline
May 1	Fellowship Winners Announced
May 17	Fellows meet for pre-conference breakfast planning meeting
June 19	Fellows attend a one-day workshop on oral history, videography, and project planning
June 20-21	Fellows attend the conference and planning workshops
May 2004	Projects completed and final reports submitted

**II. APPLICATION PROCESS****HOW TO APPLY**

Please review the guidelines and application before beginning the application process. If you have any questions, please contact Dr. Lance Hill at the Southern Institute for Education and Research (504-862-8046 or [lhill@tulane.edu](mailto:lhill@tulane.edu)). Additional applications and guidelines may be obtained at [www.SouthernInstitute.info](http://www.SouthernInstitute.info) or from the Academic Distinction Fund in Baton Rouge (225-922-4560). The project application consists of four parts: the application form, an attached project description, a resume, and letters of recommendation. You will need to complete the following:

1. Fill out the application using a standard legible font or typewriter. We will not accept applications submitted electronically (e-mail or fax) or handwritten.
2. Attach a project description narrative not to exceed two pages, double-spaced on single-sided 8.5 x 11" paper. Number and label each page with your name. The description narrative must contain:
  - a. Introductory paragraph of no more than 150 words that briefly summarizes your project.
  - b. Who, What, When, Why, How? Describe the project clearly so that someone unfamiliar with your ideas can envision it in detail. Who will conduct and coordinate the interviews and the different aspects of project activities? What will be the activities and what will students' roles be? When will the project take place and what

are the key time-line dates? Where will the project take place? How will the project be implemented? Make sure that you indicate how the project will be used in public programming, e.g. public performances, publications, web pages, traveling exhibits.

- c. Project goals. What kind of innovative learning will your project accomplish and what will be the outcomes?
3. Attach a resume/c.v. of no more than two pages that demonstrates your ability to complete the project.
4. Attach at least one letter of recommendation, but no more than three, preferably from a school administrator familiar with your past project work. The letter should contain the reference's address.

### **JOINT APPLICATIONS**

Project applications from two teachers for an interdisciplinary or joint project are welcome. If you are submitting a joint application, submit only one application form and project description, but include separate resumes/biographies and letters of recommendations for each teacher. If a joint project is selected, each teacher will receive the full stipend; only one camera and materials stipend will be provided per project.

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

For more information, contact Dr. Lance Hill, Southern Institute for Education and Research at Tulane University, at (504) 862-8046 or email at [lhill@tulane.edu](mailto:lhill@tulane.edu).

### **MAIL APPLICATION PACKETS TO (application postmark deadline April 15, 2003):**

**Jemison-Stovall Fellowship Program  
Southern Institute for Education and Research  
Mail Room Box 1692  
31 McAlister Drive  
New Orleans, LA 70118**

Conference Sponsors: Academic Distinction Fund, Baton Rouge Bus Boycott 50th Anniversary Organizing Committee, Cambridge University, Louisiana State University, Southern University, and the Southern Institute for Education and Research at Tulane University. Funding for the conference and fellowships program generously provided by the McMains Family Foundation, Hans and Donna Sternberg, Bank One, Hibernia National Bank, Forum 35 of Baton Rouge. Special thanks to Mr. Frank McArthur for his generous support of the Jemison-Stovall Fellowship Program
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# The Rev. T. J. Jemison and Rev. James L. Stovall Oral History Teacher Fellowship Program Application Form

*Please type form (or cut/paste from a word processor). Fax copies, e-mail copies, and incomplete applications will not be accepted.*

NAME (LAST, FIRST, MIDDLE): \_\_\_\_\_

SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

HOME MAILING ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF SCHOOL: \_\_\_\_\_

SCHOOL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

SCHOOL PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ SCHOOL FAX: \_\_\_\_\_

SUBJECT AREA/ROLE AT SCHOOL: \_\_\_\_\_

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: IN THE SPACE BELOW, BRIEFLY SUMMARIZE YOUR PROPOSED PROJECT.

CERTIFICATION:

I CERTIFY THAT I WILL COMPLY WITH THE OBLIGATIONS INDICATED IN THE SECTION "REQUIREMENTS AFTER FUNDING" CONTAINED IN THE GUIDELINES.

SIGNATURE (IN INK): \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

MAKE SURE THAT YOU ATTACH YOUR PROJECT DESCRIPTION, RESUME/C.V., AND LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION. MAIL YOUR APPLICATION PACKET TO:

JEMISON-STOVALL FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM  
SOUTHERN INSTITUTE FOR EDUCATION AND RESEARCH  
MAIL ROOM BOX 1692, 31 MCALISTER DRIVE  
NEW ORLEANS, LA 70118

**APPLICATIONS MUST BE POSTMARKED BY APRIL 15, 2003.**