



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO
MAYOR JERRY SANDERS

San Diego Public Library

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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San Diego Public Library Presents the 3rd Annual SAY IT LOUD Theatrical Production Benefit *Celebration of Black Music Honors Black Music Month*

SAN DIEGO – On Saturday, June 28, 2008 the Valencia Park/Malcolm X Branch Library's Performing Art Center hosts the 3rd Annual *Say It Loud* theatrical production to benefit the San Diego Public Library. The event starts at 7:00 p.m. and is a fundraiser for the Valencia Park/Malcolm X Library's Children's Book Fund. All money raised will be used to purchase children's books for the branch's collection. The suggested donation is \$5.00 to \$20.00, which is tax deductible. Light refreshments will also be served.

Say It Loud, which is being partially funded by the Jacobs Center for Neighborhood Innovation, takes the audience participant on a journey through the sights and sounds of Black Music history. Black music's rich history is told through the imaginary lens of Radio Station WBOOK. *Say It Loud* stars Bobby Hearn, Jimmy Lovett, Jr. and Maria Reed.

June is Black music Month. Black Music Month was created in the mid 70's by legendary radio pioneer Jack "The Rapper" Gibson, Kenny Gamble, Ed White and other members of the Black Music Association to highlight the contributions of black musicians, as well as the importance of black radio. In 1979, President Jimmy Carter signed a bill declaring June Black Music Month. Music is the most widely acknowledged African American contribution to American culture. Enslaved Africans blended their traditional musical styles with the influences and realities of

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their new environment to create even more innovative sounds. Recognized and cherished the world over, African American musical genres include blues, jazz, gospel, rhythm and blues, and hip-hop, as well as their many variations.

For more information, please call (619) 527-3405. The Valencia Park/Malcolm X Branch Library & Performing Arts Center is located at 5148 Market Street, corner of Euclid and Market. The Library's hours of operation are Monday and Wednesday 12:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Saturday 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and Sunday 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Learn about other events at the San Diego Public Library's Central Library and 35 branches, find links to numerous additional resources, or search for materials in the Library's online catalog at www.sandiegolibrary.org

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