



BROWARD COUNTY COMMISSION NEWS RELEASE

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IndiVisible Exhibition, Closing Program, March 27, 2010

BROWARD COUNTY, FL — Everett Oseola will present the Culture and History of the Seminoles at Broward County Library's African American Research Library and Cultural Center located at 2650 NW Sistrunk Blvd., Fort Lauderdale on Saturday, March 27th at 2 p.m. He will share some of his



stories of tradition and customs and what it feels like "to be Seminole." His presentation is part of the closing program for the Smithsonian Exhibition, IndiVisible: African-Native Lives in the Americas, a 20-panel traveling exhibit that focuses on the seldom-viewed history and complex lives of people of dual African-American and native ancestry that has been on display at the library since January 28. Through the themes of policy, community, creative resistance and life ways, the exhibition tells stories of cultural integration and diffusion as well as the struggle to define and preserve identity.

Accompanying the exhibition is a display on loan from the Florida Black Research Project, that tells the story of famous Black Seminoles, their impact on the State of Florida and their involvement in the Seminole War of 1838 for which a recent commemoration was held in Loxahatchee, Florida.

Additional activities include viewing of the ten minute IndiVisible Exhibition video that highlights interviews with African-Native Americans from across North America who shared their perspectives; oral history presentations by

members of the African- American community telling family histories about their Native ancestry; and, an African-American Folklore storytelling session presented by Sista Idya, well-known folklorist to the South Florida community whose interactive and dynamic approach to storytelling captivates audiences, young and old.

Support for the program is from the Broward Public Library Foundation through the Community History grant. Support for the exhibition was provided by the Akloa Resource Foundation and the Latino Initiatives Pool, administered by the Smithsonian Latino Center.

An on-line version of the exhibition and full national tour schedule are available at www.americanindian.si.edu/exhibitions/indivisible.

The accompanying exhibition book, "Indivisible: African-Native American Lives in the Americas," edited by Garielle Tayac, features 27 essays from authors across the hemisphere sharing first-person accounts of struggle, adaptation and survival and examines such diverse subjects as contemporary art, the Cherokee Freedmen issue and the evolution of jazz and blues. The richly illustrated 256 page book is available on line at www.AmericanIndian.si.edu/bookshop or at the African American Research Library on March 27th.

The award-winning Broward County Libraries Division, founded in 1974, provides essential quality-of-life community service as well as outstanding customer service throughout Broward County. The Library consists of 37 branches that provide three million items and more than 2,000 computers for public use, and after-school literacy, youth, and teen programs. Its website, www.broward.org/library, includes free online reference and information databases in addition to access about library services, locations, and events that customers access on average 300,000 times a month. The Broward County Library is the ninth-largest library system in the United States, serving over nine million walk-in customers annually.

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