

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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***Afternoon With The Elders Celebrates African American History***  
*Special Event on Sunday, May 19 at the Arizona Heritage Center in Tempe*

**TEMPE, AZ (April 30, 2019)** — The public is invited to celebrate local African American history with the Arizona Historical Society's program, *Afternoon With The Elders*. Listen to African American community members recount their experiences here in Arizona on Sunday, May 19th from 2:00-4:00 p.m. at the Arizona Heritage Center in Tempe.

Hear from Dudley Dickey talk about fighting for school integration in Arizona and attending Mesa High School, Charlesetta Lee's experience as a businesswoman and entrepreneur, and Joyce Bailey sharing her experiences raising a family in a Mesa Neighborhood. The program will be moderated by Teresa Toney.

Moderator and *Community Voices* advisory group participant Teresa Toney shared, "As a native Arizonan, I celebrate the tradition of storytelling in the African American community as a way of learning and preserving our history and culture. Through this program presented by the Arizona Heritage Center, we will share parts of Arizona's unique history directly from community members who became change agents throughout the Valley of the Sun."

***Afternoon With The Elders***

Sunday, May 19th

2:00pm – 4:00pm

Arizona Heritage Center (1300 N. College Ave. Tempe, AZ 85281)

Cost – \$5 General Public/\$4 AHS members

Light refreshments included.

Please RSVP to [azheritagecenter@azhs.gov](mailto:azheritagecenter@azhs.gov) or call 480-929-0292

*Afternoon With The Elders* is in conjunction with the current exhibit, *A Place For All People*. This exhibition explores the African American experience, evoking the power of oration and freedom stories, the brilliance of artistic achievement, and the soaring heights of cultural expression, philosophy, sports, and politics through a series of posters from the Smithsonian Institution National Museum of African American History and Culture. The posters serve as the backdrop for displays telling the story of African Americans in Arizona. From the churches and schools to the boardroom; to the battlefields and to the neighborhood barbershops and beauty shops where important news of the day was discussed - the stories weave a rich tapestry of African American heritage. *A Place For All People* is open through December 31, 2019.

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### **About Arizona Historical Society**

***Mission: Connecting people through the power of Arizona's history.***

Founded in 1864, the Arizona Historical Society (AHS) is the state's oldest and most prestigious historical organization, dedicated to collecting, preserving and sharing Arizona's rich history. The stories of the people, places and events that have shaped Arizona – are told through museum exhibits, programs, events and outreach. The Arizona Historical Society is proud to serve as the steward of Arizona's history. Our collections, housed in AHS museum facilities throughout the state, number in excess of three million objects. Our artifact and manuscript holdings offer opportunities for public programming, educational outreach, and exhibitions, as well as academic and community-based research. AHS is a proud sponsor of National History Day in Arizona, a year-long academic program focused on historical research, interpretation and creative expression for middle school and high school students.

For additional information, visit [www.arizonahistoricalociety.org](http://www.arizonahistoricalociety.org)