

Women's History Month

Conversations with *Sheroes* of the 1963 March on Washington

Date: Saturday, March 18, 2023

Time: 12 Noon - 2:00 PM

Conversations with Sheroes

is a panel discussion convened to examine civil discontent and racial inequalities that caused youth to join forces with religious and civil rights groups to organize and attend the 1963 March on Washington. Questions will explore the influence of parents, religious leaders and the media on the youth's decision to attend the March. Questions will also look at backgrounds of the youth and explore how the March and Martin Luther's King, Jr., iconic "I Have a Dream" speech affected the lives and careers of the youth. Finally, questions will look at where America is today and the advice they would give to today's young social activists.

Who: A panel discussion of five - seven children and youth who attended the March in 1963, and a moderator.

Committed Panel Participants Include:

Sarah J. Davidson, researcher and panel convener, came to the March from North Little Rock, AR at age fifteen with a bus of civil rights workers from Arkansas and Memphis, Tennessee. Sarah was president of the North Little Rock NAACP Youth Council and led sit-in demonstration in her city. She was influenced by her parents, relatives and mentored by Civil Rights icon, Daisy Bates. In 2013, ABC Nightline featured her as one of the children who attended the 1963 March.

Brenda Cox, came to the March at age fifteen from Arlington, VA with her mother's coworker who did not have children and wanted to share that experience with young people. Brenda's church, Lomax AME Zion hosted a delegation from Selma, AL who were in town to attend the March and Dr. visit the church the day before the March and spoke.

Rev. Dr. Alethea Smith Withers, a ninth grader traveled by train from New York to attend the March. She currently resides in DC and is the founding pastor of Pavilion of God, a Baptist Church in D.C. Her father was a physician, and her mother was a registered nurse. The family faced major harassment and hostilities when they were the first black to move into an all-white NY neighborhood.

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Virginia Craft Lee, at age fifteen, traveled from Ellicott City, MD with her parents who were Delaware NAACP leaders. Virginia and Sarah met during the summer of 1965 at a national NAACP Conference in Denver, CO and learned that they would be attending Howard University in the fall.

Karin Marie Kendrick, Esq. was a thirteen year old eighth grader who came to the March from Baltimore, MD with her parents who were distinguished Maryland Civil Rights leaders. Ms. Kendrick attended Howard University and is a fifth generation family member.

Camille Simmons was a nine year old third grader who came to the March with her parents and older sister (now deceased). The family was involved in the Civil Rights Movement thorough her grandfather, who was pastor of Russell AME Zion Church in Alexander, VA.

Co-sponsored by

Shiloh Baptist Church

Zion Baptist Church, Lomax AME Zion Church

Pavilion Of God Baptist Church

Hosted by

The Circle Leaders Council of Shiloh Baptist Church
“Repairers of the Breach”, Isaiah 58:12 KJV