

### On Exhibit

#### **Teenie Harris, Photographer: An American Story**

Exhibition at Heinz Galleries, Carnegie Museum of Art, Pittsburgh, through April 7 web.cmoa.org/?page\_id=327

As a main photographer from 1936 to 1975 for the *Pittsburgh Courier*, one of America's leading black newspapers during the Jim Crow and civil rights eras, Harris focused his sharp eye and cultural awareness on the pulsating life of large and diverse African-American communities. The dapper lensman shot high personages and the lowly without distinguishing between them: Lena Horne and Jackie

Robinson and Martin Luther King Jr. hang cheek by jowl with shopkeepers and residents doing their daily things, as a commissioned jazz soundtrack purls in the background. Distilled during 10 years of research into Harris' 80,000-item archive, this exhibit serves up a remarkable look into the Other America most white contemporaries never saw.

-Gene Santoro



Sabre "Mother" Washington, a former slave, visits with two young ladies, circa 1950.



The Pittsburgh Crawfords take the field in 1945, when Negro League baseball was on the wane.



The 372nd Infantry parades in Pittsburgh in July 1942, representing the segregated U.S. Army.

## **Black History** Month

# Freedom's Gardener: James F. Brown, Horticulture, and the Hudson Valley in Antebellum America

by Myra B. Young Armstead (NYU) At 34, Brown fled slavery in his native Maryland for New York's Hudson Valley, where he worked as a gardener for a wealthy family with Dutch roots. Using Brown's astute diary, the author reconstructs what freedom really meant in pre-Civil War America.

# Elizabeth and Hazel: Two Women of Little Rock

by David Margolick (Yale)
The 1957 photo that captured two
15-year-olds on school's opening day—
the white girl in the ominous white
crowd jeering at the black girl carrying
her books on her way to integrate
Little Rock's Central High—flashed
around the world. The aftermath—how
a few years later the white woman
apologized to the black one and began
a life of activism, much with the black
community, and how the two became
close friends—is well told here.

# Dreams and Nightmares: Martin Luther King Jr., Malcolm X, and the Struggle for Black Equality in America by Britta Waldschmidt-Nelson (Florida)

How two leaders usually pictured as antagonists found growing common ground—until assassination intervened.

### ■ After Freedom Summer: How Race Realigned Mississippi Politics, 1965-1986

by Chris Danielson (Florida)
One state's relentless rearguard action against the 1965 Voting Rights Act.

-Gene Santoro

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