

“A life is not important except in the impact it has on other lives.”  
— Jackie Robinson



# The Dallas Post Tribune

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President Biden Amplifies Importance of the Black Press of America

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SERVING THE BLACK COMMUNITY WITHOUT FEAR OR FAVOR SINCE 1947

July 6 - 12, 2023

## NNPA Convention - 2023

# President Biden Amplifies Importance of the Black Press of America

By **Stacy M. Brown**, NNPA Newswire Senior National Correspondent

@StacyBrownMedia

*This week, during the NNPA's Annual Convention, which celebrated 196 years of the Black Press of America, Biden appeared via video to salute the NNPA and its member publishers on the occasion.*

“Congratulations to the Black Press of America for celebrating 196 years of serving communities across our nation,” Biden stated in the address which aired on July 1.

“Ida B. Wells once said, the way to right wrongs is to turn the light of truth upon the wrong. That’s the sacred charge of a free press. That’s the charge African American publishers have pursued for nearly two centuries,” Biden continued.

“With every story you publish, you make our democracy stronger. Thank you for what you do to turn the light of truth wherever your work leads you. Thank you.”

President Joe Biden has always maintained that the

Black vote pushed him over the top in his 2020 election victory over Donald Trump.

And it’s never been lost on the president that the pivotal day in his campaign occurred in Charleston, South Carolina, on Feb. 26, when he sat down for a live roundtable interview with Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis Jr., the president and CEO of the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA), the trade association of the more than 200 African American-owned newspapers and media companies.

Joining Chavis at that campaign-turning event were dozens of Black Press publishers and media company

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President Joe Biden  
(Photo: @whitehouse on Instagram)

## SUPREME COURT RULING

# After Anticipated Affirmative Action Ruling, Black Leaders Speak Out

By **Lauren Victoria Burke**, NNPA Newswire Contributor

*After the U.S. Supreme Court did what many have long expected, strike-down race-based admissions to colleges, Black leaders held emergency press conferences and strategy calls. One convened by Marc Morial on June 29 hours after the Supreme Court’s decision yielded sharp commentary.*



Photo Credit: NNPA Files

Affirmative action refers to a set of policies and practices aimed at promoting equal opportunities for historically disadvantaged groups, particularly in relation to employment or education. The purpose of affirmative action is to address the historical and ongoing systemic discrimination and underrepresentation that has been faced throughout history. Women, racial and ethnic minorities, and individuals with disabilities have been beneficiaries. Typically, affirmative action involves taking proactive steps to increase the representation of these underrepresented groups in areas where they have been historically excluded or marginalized.

The 6-3 ruling by the U.S. Supreme Court will alter college admissions policies. Chief Justice John G. Roberts Jr., writing the opinion for the majority, said the programs “unavoidably employ race in a negative manner” and “involve racial stereotyping,” in violation of the Constitution. The ruling affirmed that race-conscious admissions programs at

Continue **Action** Page 4



# Man Arrested with Weapons in Obama’s Neighborhood Streamed Live After Sharing Trump’s Post

*According to the memo, Taranto began live-streaming in the area shortly after resharing a social media post from Donald Trump, the Republican presidential candidate claimed to share Obama’s address.*

By **Stacy M. Brown**, NNPA Newswire Senior National Correspondent

@StacyBrownMedia

Federal prosecutors revealed alarming details in a detention memo filed on Wednesday, July 5, regarding the arrest of Taylor Taranto, a man apprehended last week in former President Barack Obama’s Washington, D.C., neighborhood.

According to the memo, Taranto began live-streaming in the area shortly after resharing a social media post from Donald Trump, the Republican presidential candidate claimed

to share Obama’s address.

The prosecutors urged a federal magistrate judge in the D.C. District Court to keep Taranto detained pending his trial for charges related to the January 6, 2021, U.S. Capitol attack.

In the filing, prosecutors noted that Taranto not only possessed weapons but also made threats against House Speaker Kevin McCarthy and Maryland Democratic Rep. Jamie Raskin.

In June, Taranto and several others entered an elementary school near Raskin’s home.

The disturbing incident was live streamed by Taranto, who documented the group’s actions, such as wandering around the school, entering the gymnasium, and projecting a film related to the events of January 6.

The court filing revealed

Continue **Obama** Page 3



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The Black Press believes that America can best lead the world away from racial and national antagonisms when it accords to every person, regardless of race, color or creed, full human and legal rights. Hating no person, fearing no person, the Black Press strives to help every person in the firm belief that all are hurt as long as anyone is held back.

# EDITORIAL PAGE

## African Americans In Louisiana And Alabama May Get An Additional Voting District

By James B. Ewers Jr. Ed.D.



Dr. James Ewers

“We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed, by their Creator, with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness”. That set of words is taken from the Declaration of Independence.

The year it was written, 1776 and 2023 are centuries apart. Of course, this document is fundamental to our country’s way of life. Most would say our democracy is the gold standard.

As we move along this year, some are taking the Declaration of Independence and the Founding Fathers to task. This is my opinion.

Voting rights is implied in the all men are created equal part of this document. It also means that the act of voting

should not be problematic in any way. This is my opinion.

Some parts of the country have been unfriendly when it comes to African Americans like me and voting. Because of legislation and new laws, it has gotten better.

Louisiana and Alabama may get a majority Black voting district according to recent rulings by the United States Supreme Court. Voting maps must be redrawn for this to happen.

People of good will in both states saw the injustice and decided to do something about it. The late and beloved Congressman, John Lewis said, “When you see something that is not right, not fair, not just, you have to speak up. You have to say something; you have to do something”.

Ashley Shelton, head of the Louisiana-based Power Coalition for Equity and Justice, one of the groups challenging the maps said, “What this does is it puts us back on track to realize a second majority-minority district”. Currently, Louisiana has only one majority Black seat out of its six districts.

State Attorney General,

Jeff Landry led the effort in Louisiana to keep the status quo. His flawed leadership in the Bayou State is a big part of the problem. Words like diversity and equity don’t resonate with him. This is my opinion.

He is now campaigning to be governor of the state of Louisiana. In my eyes and the eyes of many, this will be a challenging election as our votes will be important votes.

If you aren’t a registered voter, please register and exercise your right to go to the polls and cast your ballot. Some might try to convince you that your vote doesn’t count. They are simply trying to hoodwink and bamboozle you. Don’t listen to them as your vote does count.

African Americans in Alabama have also had problems in having their voting rights realized. Citizens there have been engaged in a lengthy battle to get an additional majority Black voting district.

Perseverance and never giving up have always been our battle cry in gaining equal voting rights. In the Alabama case, the US

Supreme Court ruled that the state’s current Congressional maps violated Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act.

Elected officials in Alabama and Louisiana wanted to marginalize the impact of the Black vote. The power and prowess of our vote cannot be overlooked. Now, the rest of America sees the shame that denying us voting rights can cause.

If you asked a member of any organization or elected official of the status quo about the influence race had, they would probably give you some non-sensical answer.

Our march to fairness is never-ending in our America. Hurdles we move over and detours we move around as we steer the pendulum of justice in our favor.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. said, “Without persistent effort, time itself becomes an ally of the insurgent and primitive forces of irrational emotionalism and social destruction”.

Injustice is cloaked in ignorance and fairness is clothed in equal opportunity.

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### Quinn Minute

# The truth

By Rix Quinn

Do you believe everyone should tell the truth? Well, I believe everyone else should...but occasionally I need to lie.

I lie mostly for domestic tranquility. For instance, here are three questions from a spouse that could require an untruthful response:

1. “Do you think this haircut looks too young for

me?”

2. “Where would our son find a magazine like this?”

3. “I’m sure I had a \$20 bill at the top of my purse. Have you seen it?”

I didn’t start out as a liar. But faced with a situation where I can get yelled at, I find fibs an attractive alternative.

Lies are as old as humankind. But we don’t

know how old humankind is, because so many of them lied about their ages.

Stone Age storytellers also invented tales that taught important lessons. Today we call them “fables.” Back then they were called “lying around the campfire.”

Some people lie for money. These stories could be called fiction, fabrica-

tion, or -- in some cases -- resumes.

Truth-telling, however, builds trust. People buy from trustworthy people, who can use the money to start trust funds. I trust my funds to make money, so eventually I can just lie around.

Yep, in the long run it’s better to tell the truth. I plan to do it myself...pretty soon.

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# RELIGIOUS/NEWS

## PAUL'S EPISTLE TO THE GALATIANS

### JUSTIFICATION BY FAITH – THE POSITION OF SONSHIP AS BELIEVERS

GALATIANS 4:1-31 (PART 2 OF 3)



By Rev. Johnny Calvin Smith

These believers were “known of God” (v. 9), in that, He had chosen them and graciously acted to bring them to faith and salvation. The sad thing is that these believers, who had been delivered from the terrible bondage to pagan gods, were now being influenced by false teachers to enslave them to weak and useless principles. These elements were weak (unable to give power to rescue man from condemnation) and beggarly (impoverished and unable to provide the spiritual wealth that only Christ can give). These elements that the Galatians were turning to consist in observing “days, months, times and years.” These were Jewish celebrations established by

the Law of Moses. From verse 11, Paul feared that all his labor among the Galatians would be in vain if they (the Galatians) followed the legalistic teaching of the Judaizers.

II. Paul’s Discussion from Personal Testimony – Galatians 4:12-20

In verse 12, Paul appeals to the Galatians on the basis of his past experience with them. He urged them, “Be as I am; for I am as ye are” (v. 12). In fact, when Paul had preached the gospel in Galatia, he had done so while experiencing an “infirmity of the flesh” (v. 13). However, the Galatians had welcomed him. The Galatians had not yielded to the temptation to despise or reject Paul but had received

him “as an angel of God” (v. 14).

The infirmity Paul referred to may have been a physical weakness such as malaria, a serious eye problem. Whatever the problem, the Galatians were not put off by Paul’s appearance. Paul reminded the Galatians in verse 15 that they loved him and rejoiced in the message he brought them so much that they would have plucked out their own eyes if they could have given them to Paul to help him. The joy of salvation through faith in Christ had caused them to fully accept Paul and made them willing to do anything for him. But that joy now was fading away, as false teaching was bringing them again into sorrowful

bondage.

In verse 16, Paul said: “Am I therefore become your enemy, because I tell you the truth?” The false teachers who were pushing their doctrines in Galatia had attacked Paul’s integrity. The false teachers suggested that Paul was insincere and had not taught the truth. However, Paul had spoken the truth to the Galatians in verse 17, but sadly, they were now listening to those who told them lies. To “zealously affect” means “to eagerly desire or seek.” The false teachers were eagerly seeking “to curry favor” with the Galatians, with a desire to deceive them.

In verse 18, Paul was quick to acknowledge that it

is good to be eagerly sought out for a good purpose. Paul had sought the best interests of the Galatians by preaching the gospel. He wished only that their loyalty to the gospel of grace had continued when he was no longer in their presence. In verse 19, Paul addresses the Galatians as his “little children.” Paul was their spiritual father, but Paul adopted maternal language in saying he had experienced the pains of their birth into God’s family as he preached the gospel. Paul also experienced pain in seeing them falter in their faith and turn from the truth. That pain would continue as he sought to correct them and until Christ was “formed” in them. Paul experienced his

desire to be present with the Galatian Christians again. He acknowledged his doubts about them, for he did not know how much of the Judaizing heresy they really had embraced.

III. Discussion from an Allegory – Galatians 4:21-31

Beginning in verse 21, Paul instructed the Galatians to “Listen to the Law.” The Galatians had not even heard the Law.” The giving of the Law was not a beautiful sight to experience, but a terrifying one (Exodus 19:16-21; 20:18-19). The Galatians wanted to be under the Law, so Paul was going to let them hear it.

*May God Bless!*

## Continued Black Page 1

owners, and the livestream of that event, followed later in the day by an endorsement from Democratic South Carolina Rep. James Clyburn, catapulted the once slumbering candidacy all the way to the White House.

Dr. Chavis and outgoing NNPA Chair Karen Carter Richards, praised the President for recognizing the importance of the Black Press of America.

"The NNPA is especially honored to hear directly from President Joe Biden for his continued support and advocacy of the importance of the Black Press of America," Chavis stated. "As we celebrate 196 years of the Black Press, it's

always gratifying and encouraging to have the support of the President of the United States. In the wake of the recent U.S. Supreme Court decisions on civil rights, the Black Press rededicates our journalism to be a clarion voice for freedom, justice, equality, and equity."

Richards who is the publisher of the Houston Forward Times, also thanked the President.

"To have the President of the United States take the time out to be a part of our convention is of course special," Richards said. "But, it's also a testament to just how vital the Black Press remains. Collectively, as

Black publishers and Black business owners, we are stronger than ever and the President's message reinforces that."

Newly elected board chair Bobby Henry, publisher of the Westside Gazette in Florida, added, "That message from President Biden to the association was one that signifies that he remains true to his pledge to value the role African Americans play and have played in this country. Further, acknowledging the role that the Black press plays in reaching our people and those sympathetic to our plight remains a critical component of the 2024 electoral strategy."

## Continued OBAMA Page 1

Taranto’s motive behind targeting the elementary school, stating that its proximity to Raskin’s residence influenced his choice.

Taranto expressed his intention to send a “shockwave” to Raskin, whom he perceived as harboring animosity towards supporters of former President Trump.

The memo quoted Taranto, who stated, “he’s one of the guys that hates January 6 people, or more like Trump supporters, and it’s kind of like sending a shockwave through him because I did nothing wrong, and he’s probably freaking out and saying s\*\*\* like, ‘Well he’s stalking me.’”

Moreover, Taranto explicitly mentioned the location of the school, Piney Branch Elementary School in Maryland, which is adjacent to Raskin’s residence.

Prosecutors emphasized the immediate and severe threat Taranto posed to the public.

They argued that his words and actions demonstrated his potential danger to multiple political figures and the general public.

Further, they urged the judge to consider the high-risk Taranto would pose if released, warning of potentially catastrophic consequences.

Taranto, already subject to an open warrant related to the January 6 riot charges, was apprehended last week in Obama’s neighborhood while possessing firearms.

The day before his arrest, Taranto claimed on a livestream that he possessed a detonator.

On June 28, prosecutors stated that Taranto made “ominous comments” on video targeting McCarthy,

proclaiming, “Coming at you, McCarthy. Can’t stop what’s coming. Nothing can stop what’s coming.”

After witnessing these threatening remarks, law enforcement authorities attempted to locate Taranto but were unsuccessful.

The following day, on June 29, Trump allegedly shared what he claimed to be Obama’s address on the social media platform Truth Social.

Taranto, using his own Truth Social account, reposted the address.

Taranto further declared, “We got these losers surrounded! See you in hell, Podesta’s and Obama’s.”

Shortly after, Taranto resumed live streaming from his YouTube channel while driving through Washington D.C.’s Kalorama neighborhood.

According to the govern-

ment’s filing, Taranto parked his van and walked around the residential area.

Due to the restricted nature of the neighborhood, United States Secret Service officers began monitoring Taranto almost immediately upon his arrival and initiation of filming.

Prosecutors highlighted Taranto’s repeated claims that his actions were protected by free speech as if uttering the words “First Amendment” absolved him of trespassing.

The detention memo quoted Taranto’s remarks captured in his recording: “So yeah, more than likely, these guys also all hang for treason. See how I said that? You gotta be very safe and careful. Someone warned me.”

As Secret Service agents approached Taranto while veering off the street into a



wooded area, he attempted to flee but was swiftly apprehended and arrested.

In their filing, prosecutors disclosed that two firearms, a “Smith and Wesson M&P Shield” and a “Ceska 9mm C.Z. Scorpion E3,” were discovered in Taranto’s van during his arrest.

Additionally, they found

numerous rounds of nine-millimeter ammunition, a steering wheel lock, a machete, signs, a mattress, and other items indicating that Taranto had been residing in the van.

While over a dozen other firearms are registered to Taranto, authorities said they have yet to locate them.



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# CLASSIFIEDS/NEWS



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## Continued ACTION Page 1



Harvard and the University of North Carolina are unconstitutional.

Associate Justice Sonia Sotomayor spoke in person her dissent from the bench which signaled strong disagreement saying the court's ruling "further entrenching racial inequality in education" will have a devastating impact."

The decision would seem to be a slap in the face of history as well as real world reality. Currently, a move is on to ban books in many school districts across America with many Republicans calling rudimentary discussion on race "divisive." Statistics on college enrollment for

African Americans demonstrate there is more work to be done to increase enrollment at a time when college costs have skyrocketed.

"I find it interesting to say we're beyond race in this country when we know that 48 percent of white students admitted to Harvard between 2009 and 2014 either were legacy admissions or they were athletes," said Maya Wiley, President of the Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights.

"This is the first time that we are facing a court that misinterpreted the equal protection clause and our seminal case Brown vs.

Board of Education after a predecessor court made very clear what the principals were in the Constitution and in the Brown case," said Janai Nelson, President of the NAACP Legal Defense Fund during a mid-day press event held by the National Urban League.

The NAACP Legal Defense Fund has been involved in every case involving affirmative action that has gone to the U.S. Supreme Court.

"Unfortunately, this Supreme Court is trying to have a reality that is more reflective of 1950," said NAACP President Derrick Johnson.

"Today's case, let's be very clear, does not end Affirmative Action but it makes it much more difficult. It narrows the ability of higher education institutions to use their own power to decide who should be in a classroom... we are not abandoning the fight," Nelson concluded.

"Friends today the

Supreme Court got it wrong. I think this day will live in infamy. Because it was one of the most tortured opinions any of us have ever seen because it's twisted in terms of its logic on the law," Damon Hewitt, President of the Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights Under Law.

"Nothing in the opinion stops universities from asking about their race," Hewitt pointed out. "Our advice to students is to continue to talk about your experiences with race and racism," he concluded.

"This Supreme Court ruling will close the door to educational opportunity for many Black students and students of color who want to attend non-HBCUs. With this new ruling, UNCF knows that more students will turn to HBCUs for their college educations. We also know that our HBCUs will do everything they can to meet increased student demand," stated a press release from the United Negro College Fund.

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55 H - 91° L - 78°	H - 95° L - 79°	H - 95° L - 80°	H - 94° L - 80°	H - 94° L - 80°	H - 95° L - 80°	H - 97° L - 80°

# Sam Pollard's Documentary Shines Light on the Rich Legacy of the Negro Baseball Leagues

*The film illuminates that the sport was integrated in its earliest days, albeit with Black players forming only a minority of team members.*

By **Stacy M. Brown**  
NNPA Newswire Senior National Correspondent  
@StacyBrownMedia



On the Black Press of America's "Let It Be Known" show, renowned filmmaker Sam Pollard took center stage in an exclusive interview about his new film that shines a spotlight on the fabled Negro Leagues.

Pollard's latest documentary, "The League," will make its world premiere at the Tribeca Festival before a theatrical release in July.

Based on the book "The Negro Baseball Leagues" by Bob Motley and Byron Motley, the film counts as another triumph for Pollard, whose past directorial works include the critically acclaimed "Mr. Soul!",

"Sammy Davis, Jr. I've Got to Be Me," and "MLK/FBI." The documentary also boasts Ahmir "Questlove" Thompson, the executive producer responsible for the Oscar-winning "Summer of Soul."

The film illuminates that the sport was integrated in its earliest days, albeit with Black players forming only a minority of team members.

That changed in the late 1800s, as racist white players like Pop Anson of the Chicago White Stockings, who infamously refused to take the field with Black athletes, sparked a shift.

However, as Jim Crow

laws engulfed the nation, Black players were banned from the game.

In 1920, Rube Foster, a trailblazing Black baseball pioneer who excelled as a pitcher, manager, and owner, founded the Negro National League.

Inspired by Frederick Douglass' words, the league adopted the motto "We Are the Ship, All Else the Sea."

Three years later, the Eastern Colored League emerged as a competitor, culminating in the inaugural Colored World Series in 1924.

Foster, hailed as the "father of black baseball,"

serves as one of the documentary's most compelling subjects.

Noteworthy for pitching seven no-hitters and inventing the screwball, Foster even taught the pitch to white player Christy Mathewson of the New York Giants, who popularized it.

Tragically, Foster met a grim fate, succumbing to the effects of a gas leak in a hotel room.

He suffered from delusions and spent several years institutionalized in an asylum before passing away at 51 in 1930.

Although the Negro National League eventually

succumbed to the economic pressures of the Great Depression, other leagues emerged, serving as a springboard for numerous Black players who would later achieve legendary status.

Several of these players, including Ernie Banks, Hank Aaron, Willie Mays, and Satchel Paige, would eventually join Major League Baseball (MLB).

The documentary features captivating archival interviews with these players and more.

The film poignantly chronicles the immense challenges faced by Black players as they traversed the country, often denied accommodation in hotels and meals in restaurants.

Additionally, the Negro Leagues provided a home for many talented Latino players from Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico, and other parts of Latin America.

Following World War II, with many Black service members having bravely fought for their country, pressure began mounting for the integration of MLB.

Notably, Paul Robeson became a prominent advocate for this cause. Despite years of resistance from MLB Commissioner Kenesaw Mountain Landis, who evoked comparisons to a character from "Birth of a Nation," progress emerged.

Landis died in 1944, and three years later, Branch Rickey recruited Jackie Robinson as the first Black

player to join the Brooklyn Dodgers. Robinson's entry opened the door for other Black players such as Roy Campanella, Don Newcombe, and Jim Gilliam, all of whom had roots in the Negro leagues.

Effa Manley, a formidable businesswoman, also features prominently in the documentary.

Known as the "First Lady of Negro Baseball," she co-owned the Newark Eagles and became the only woman inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame.

Manley fiercely advocated for fair compensation for Negro league teams when MLB began recruiting their players.

The integration of baseball eventually led to the decline of the Negro Leagues, which ceased operations by the late 1940s.

Through masterful use of vintage footage, interviews, oral histories, and contributions from modern-day historians and scholars, the documentary makes a case for the enduring significance of the Negro Baseball Leagues.

Reflecting on his connection to the project, Pollard said, "I grew up in the 1960s being a huge baseball fan... But what I did not know much about... was that [Jackie] Robinson had come out of the Negro Leagues and that the Negro Leagues had been home to Black and Latino ballplayers who had to play segregated baseball during the height of the Jim Crow era."

## New Parkland program helps amputees regain their independence

*Private donations get underserved patients back on two feet*

DALLAS – It's a celebration of personal independence this July 4th for the first patient of Parkland Health's newly launched prosthetics program.

When Victor Velazquez Espinoza of Dallas lost his lower left leg due to diabetes complications, he was forced to use a wheelchair. But now he has a new prosthesis, has completed his physical therapy and is now walking without an assistive device for the first time in more than a year.

"He must have asked at least three or four times, 'Who can I thank? Do you have a card for where this money came from? I'd like to reach

out to them,'" remembers Sahil Shah, Parkland Certified Prosthetist Orthotist. "It was very touching to see that. He was very, very grateful."

Since Shah witnessed Velazquez's gratitude up close during the 58-year-old Dallas man's fitting this year, three additional Parkland patients have also received a below-the-knee prosthesis and are now in physical therapy learning to walk on two feet again. Two more patients have also been approved for the program.

The answer to Velazquez's question of whom to thank is rather simple. The Junior Charity League of Dallas has

contributed nearly \$3 million to support Parkland patients with physical rehabilitation needs over the last 50 years and is making the new prosthetics program possible.

The path to the program's creation, however, is much more complicated and began in the historic Texas ice storm of 2021. When Texas froze over, Parkland providers saw more than two dozen people experiencing homelessness who had frostbite injuries. Most of them, however, would decline treatment and accept the risk of infection and further serious injury in order to keep their mobility: their leg.

With this healthcare inequity uncovered and knowing that many low-income patients could not afford prosthetics, Parkland leadership got to work.

"One of the things I love about Parkland is that we have a 'can do' attitude," said Roberto de la Cruz, MD, Parkland Executive Vice President and Chief Clinical Officer. "So, we decided to try to find an opportunity to be able to manufacture prosthetics for some of our Parkland patients."

When the Parkland Health Foundation described the need to the Junior Charity League of Dallas, JCL

stepped up with contributions allowing low-income amputees to walk again. The funding allows Parkland to manufacture below-the-knee prostheses on-site and pays for the patient's necessary physical rehabilitation after fitting.

Previously, Parkland patients who needed a prosthesis but had no funding had no other option unless they were selected by various charity programs in the community for support. These programs require a lengthy application process that can be difficult for many patients to navigate.

"For us to be able to have

this program here at Parkland and for our patients to be able to have access to this program is tremendous," said Shah. "When a patient receives a prosthetic, their face lights up, they look at themselves in the mirror and they're standing again. They have a sense of confidence, a sense of pride that this is the beginning of the rest of their life."

For more information on services available at Parkland, please visit [www.parklandhealth.org](http://www.parklandhealth.org). To support Parkland Recreational Therapy, please visit <https://parklandhealthfoundation.org/ways-to-give/donate>.

# UNT provides free virtual music lessons for students

BY THE HUB



Photo Credit/THE HUD

When the University of North Texas began offering free virtual music classes to Dallas ISD, schools like James Madison High School, was one of the schools who saw immediate results.

"I saw leaps and bound with the students," said Andrea Diggs, choral director at Madison.

The Virtual Private Music Lessons program began last fall, offering a one-on-one 30-minute session per week to each participating student. The lessons, taught by UNT graduate students and faculty members, are offered via an online platform and an iPad supplied by the district.

In Madison High School's case, the school hadn't had a choral program in 10 years, and most of the students were new to choir,

with the exception of those who had some choir experience in middle school. During the virtual lessons, students either worked on a song assigned by their teacher or on their repertoire.

Being able to have the private lessons added to the foundation Diggs was laying—having a good singing technique, and teaching the students how to read music, and how to blend within a choir.

Diggs attributes part of their successful year to the lessons, as they received superior and excellent ratings in both concert and sight reading during UIL competitions. Four of the nine students who competed advanced to the state level.

"The voice lessons played an important role in making that happen," said

Diggs. According to Casey Goldman, associate director for Community Outreach and Collaboration at the College of Music at UNT, over 10,000 free lessons have been collaboratively provided through the Virtual Private Music Lessons program with Dallas ISD.

"It aligns with the clarion call of educating all students for success while helping to fulfill the UNT College of Music's mission by serving our diverse musical culture with excellence, integrity, and imagination," said Goldman.

Goldman also says that it's fitting the program supports the ongoing successes of Dallas ISD music students as the district realizes its vision of becoming the best school district in the United States.

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# Now that the Supreme Court Has Acted...

By: Dr. John E. Warren, Publisher  
San Diego Voice & Viewpoint Newspaper



Dr. John E. Warren

African Americans in particular and people of color in general have a history of Supreme Court decisions against their interest. When the Plessy vs Ferguson decision was handed down in 1896, the Court said "separate but equal" was the rule. We survived the "Jim Crow" era that followed. When the Court said in the Dred Scott decision that "A Black man has no rights that a White man is bound to respect, we survived the indignity of being called everything except "Mister". As Maya Angelo

said: "And still we rise." We have experienced the works of racist White Justices before. Today, we are better educated and equipped than we have ever been with full knowledge of options and alternatives. The only question is: Do we have the collective will to fight back?

Consider that while the Supreme Court has acted and has an embedded conservative majority for years to come. The Constitution does give us a way out of all the decisions handed down against our interest.

Years ago when the Court ruled against flag burning, the Congress passed a law which said while such activity was offensive to many, there existed a First Amendment right under Freedom of Speech to burn the flag if one decided to do so. Today, just as the President is proposing legislation to overcome Student Loan Forgiveness, and the reversal of Roe v. Wade, the Congress can legislate the reversal of these Supreme

Court decisions.

The problem is that we the people must change out those Right-leaning Conservative Members of Congress for people who support our points of view and will vote to make the desired legislative changes. We must run candidates in each of the 435 congressional districts that will commit to and support our goals and we must finance them as well as register to vote in such extreme numbers that we overcome the opposition.

We must remember that there are more people in America that share our views among young Whites and people of color than the conservative element that appears interested in returning Donald Trump to the Presidency.

Let us not forget that all the Republicans now running against Trump appear to be afraid to speak out against him. Let us not forget that the very basis of the overwhelming support for

Trump is racism. The racism is based in a fear that America is changing to whites becoming a minority rather than the majority they have always been. While this idea might be too much for some of us to think about, let's focus on the fact that if we register to vote, then we have a ticket in the American lottery of Democracy.

We must then use that vote for people who support our cause, no matter what their race. We can not engage in reverse racism, but rather winning for all of us who have a shared interest in the challenges before us. If the vote was important enough to try and keep it from us through Voter Suppression, then it's important enough for us to fight for.

Let us remember that our fight is for the collective and not just for each of us individually.

The Struggle really does continue. Will you be a part of it?



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