

News Release

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Durham Civil Rights Heritage Project Travels to Durham Station Transportation Center *City's Contributions Highlighted in Historic Display Through Mid-January*

DURHAM, N.C., Jan. 9, 2012 — The Durham Civil Rights Heritage Project, which includes public art pieces capturing the Civil Rights Era, is currently on display in the upper level of [Durham Station Transportation Center](#) through Jan. 16, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. The traveling art exhibit features 11 six-foot fabric banners displaying photographs, quotes from Durham and Triangle-area residents and commentary recalling the history and impact of the Civil Rights Movement on the African-American community in Durham.

The project began in 2003 and resulted in the collection of 16 personal stories and nearly 125 photographs from individuals and professional photographers. These accounts focus on 11 events that occurred during the Civil Rights Era.

“In time for the New Year and honoring heroic leaders of the Civil Rights Movement, including Dr. King, we consider it a privilege to share the stories of the brave men and women who became part of history,” said William V. “Bill” Bell, Mayor of the City of Durham and a Triangle Transit Board Member. “This public art project gives first-hand stories of how the Durham community was affected by events that were occurring through the South.”

The banners focus on key events, such as school desegregation, the Royal Ice Cream Sit Down and protests against Jim Crow laws. One banner serves as a tribute to Civil Rights leader Martin Luther King, Jr. and the public appearances he made in Durham during this era.

“Durham County has a rich history, and the contributions of the local community to the Civil Rights Movement are a significant and inspiring part of that history,” said Lynn Richardson, North Carolina Collection librarian, Durham County Library. “We invite the Triangle community to visit Durham Station to see these banners and pay tribute to the brave people who worked for justice for their fellow citizens.”

Durham Station is located at 515 W. Pettigrew St. The Project is free and open to the public.

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About Triangle Transit

Triangle Transit, a [GoTriangle](#) partner, improves the region's quality of life by connecting people and places with reliable, safe, and easy-to-use travel choices that reduce congestion and energy use, save money, and promote sustainability, healthier lifestyles, and a more environmentally responsible community.

About Durham Area Transit Authority (DATA)

DATA is managed by Triangle Transit for the City of Durham and aims to provide Durham with effective transit service – service that builds public support and increases awareness of how public transportation contributes to the quality of life.

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