Exhibit of Expression pamphlet, 1979

University of Montana Black Student Union

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EXHIBIT OF EXPRESSION

Black History isn't just a thing of the past.

February
University of Montana

March
Southgate Mall

Black Student Union Activity
EXPRESSION OF OURSELVES

From all of us comes something which is its own and unique. What we learned from our past brings us to today which becomes the basis for tomorrow. Each reflects our accomplishments as well as our failures. Together they make up what we are as individuals, as people, and as a nation. This becomes a light that shines on all people and is to be shared by all. The more our different cultures are shared, the more we learn about one another and ourselves. Regardless of the person, there is a knowledge to be shared and heard.

All of what we are learning here is to be applied in everyday life. Sometimes we win, sometimes we lose, but mostly we try again until we get it right. When learning, many times effort is confused with accomplishments. The confusion doesn’t help when something is right. Once you are shown the way then you can do it for yourself. “Give me a fish and I will eat for a day. Teach me to fish and I will eat for a lifetime”. All of what we are and want to be, comes from what we have learned and how we will use it.

What you see is our history, a story of the good, the bad, and the beauty. A past of words, of actions, of people who worked and died for change and for those who dream of a brighter tomorrow when we all will see the mountain top. This past has brought us to our present where history’s ideas are evaluated and the goals in the dream may be altered in other directions for the survival of that dream. Always with change there comes opposition in response to anything which is different or not understood. The reason for the resistance to change may be because of ties and loyalties to past views and ideas. No matter what the reason, change happens and one must either begin the change or be part of what changes. Wherever you stand, on the right or on the left, experience will be expressed. Stokley Carmichael once said, “This is your debt, to pass on a better world”. Change as it was, as it is, and as it will be should be accepted. Our past sometimes moved fast, but most often it was a slow and painful experience which made us what we are today. We encourage you to share in our cultural identity in building an effective base for contributions of where we have been and where we are going.

We commemorate the past, the present, and the maintenance of a future filled with a growing dream. No one said it was going to be easy, but the strides of the past have brought us part of the way and we know there is still a long way to go. We know together we will make it, together we shall grow.

Bridges

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