



A partnership among Blue Star Families,
the National Endowment for the Arts, and
more than 1,000 museums across America

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Jack Hadley Black History Museum

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May 18, 2011

Media /Editor/Reporter

For Immediate Release

The Jack Hadley Black History Museum will PRESENT a grand opening of the museum
AS a new member of BLUE STAR MUSEUMS PROGRAM ACROSS THE COUNTRY

Here in Thomasville, Georgia on May 30, 2011, Memorial Day to September 5, Labor Day, the Jack Hadley Black History Museum will open its doors as a special opening, as part of Blue Star Museums, a program offering free admission to all active duty military personnel and their families from Memorial Day through Labor Day 2011.

Museum Special Event Theme:

“Honoring the Past, Celebrating the Present of African American Achievers and Pioneers”.

Thomasville’s First Black History Museum is established to educate individuals about the history and culture of African Americans locally and nationally. The museum preserves over 3000 pieces of African American artifacts with emphasis on Thomasville’s First Black Achievers, states and national achievers that commemorate their lives and accomplishments.

This pictorial Black History Museum you do not want to miss. See collectible African-American artifacts dated back to slavery, Jim Crow era, to include a new collection, Jim Crow’s Manny and Pickaninny Dolls Collection, the Buffalo Soldiers, exhibits on Lt. Henry O. Flipper, Dr. Martin L. King, Jr., Blacks in the Military from the Spanish American War to Afghanistan/Iraq War, General Lloyd J. Austin, III, an African American and Thomasville native son, Thomasville’s First Four Star General; a new exhibit military uniform worn by the Navy First African American pilot to Command the Navy Blue Angels Flight Demonstration Squadron, Blacks in Politics from the First Colored Senator and Representatives of the 41st & 42nd Congress of United State to our 44th President and First African American President, Barack Obama, the African-American Life on the Southern Hunting Plantations, Thomasville native son,

1993 Heisman Award Winner Charles Ward, Jr., Black Women, Douglass High School historical era and much much more.

A very special new exhibit; the grave marker of the late Lena Baker, donated to museum by her great nephew, Roosevelt Curry of Attapulgus, Ga. Lena Baker was the first and only woman ever to be legally executed in the state of Georgia's electric chair at the state prison at Reidsville, Ga., in 1945.

Special DVDs available to review: The Digital Oral History Projects, Phase I & II; Interviews of active duty military men and women stationed at Moody AFB, Valdosta, Ga. And interviews of Thomasville area veterans and military retirees from World War II to Desert Storm/Desert Shield.

These thousands of collectible artifacts, documents, books, prints, posters and photos chronicling Black History can be found on the former campus of Douglass High School in Thomasville, a black school that was segregated from 1902-1970 located in the Dewey City Historic District. The school facilities are now owned by the Douglass High School Alumni Association, Inc.

Blue Star Museums is a partnership among Blue Star Families, the National Endowment for the Arts, and more than 1,300 museums across America.

Blue Star Families is a national, nonpartisan, nonprofit network of military families from all ranks and services, including guard and reserve, with a mission to support, connect and empower military families. The National Endowment for the Arts was established by Congress in 1965 as an independent agency of the federal government. To date, the NEA has awarded more than \$4 billion to support artistic excellence, creativity, and innovation for the benefit of individuals and communities.

Blue Star Museums runs from Memorial Day, May 30, 2011 through to Labor Day, September 5, 2011. The free admission program is available to active-duty military and their immediate family members (military ID holder and five immediate family members). Active duty military include Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard, and active duty National Guard and active duty Reserve members. Some special or limited-time museum exhibits may not be included in this free admission program. For questions on particular exhibits or museums, please contact the museum directly. To find out which museum are participating, visit WWW.arts.gov/bluestarmuseums.

For more information on these events, please contact James "Jack" Hadley—229-226-5029. You can view a full calendar of Blue Star Museum events at the Jack Hadley Black History Museum's website: www.jackhadleyblackhistorymuseum.com. Click on Upcoming Events.

Hours of operation are: Tuesday thru Saturday, 10:00 A. M. to 5:00 P.M...Closed Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and New Year's Day. Admission Charge: Adult \$5.00, Students \$3.00, Group rates available. These rates are 12 or more in the group: \$4.00 adults and \$2.50 per student.

Museum is located at: 214 Alexander Street, Thomasville, Ga. 31792.

Please remember, All Blue Star Military Families visits the museums FREE, just show your military ID. The Jack Hadley Black History Museum is owned and operated by: The Jack Hadley Black History Memorabilia, Inc., 214 Alexander St. Thomasville, Ga., 31792, a non-profit 501 c03 tax exempt organization that was founded in 1994—Donations are always accepted!!

James "Jack" Hadley, President/CEO/Curator