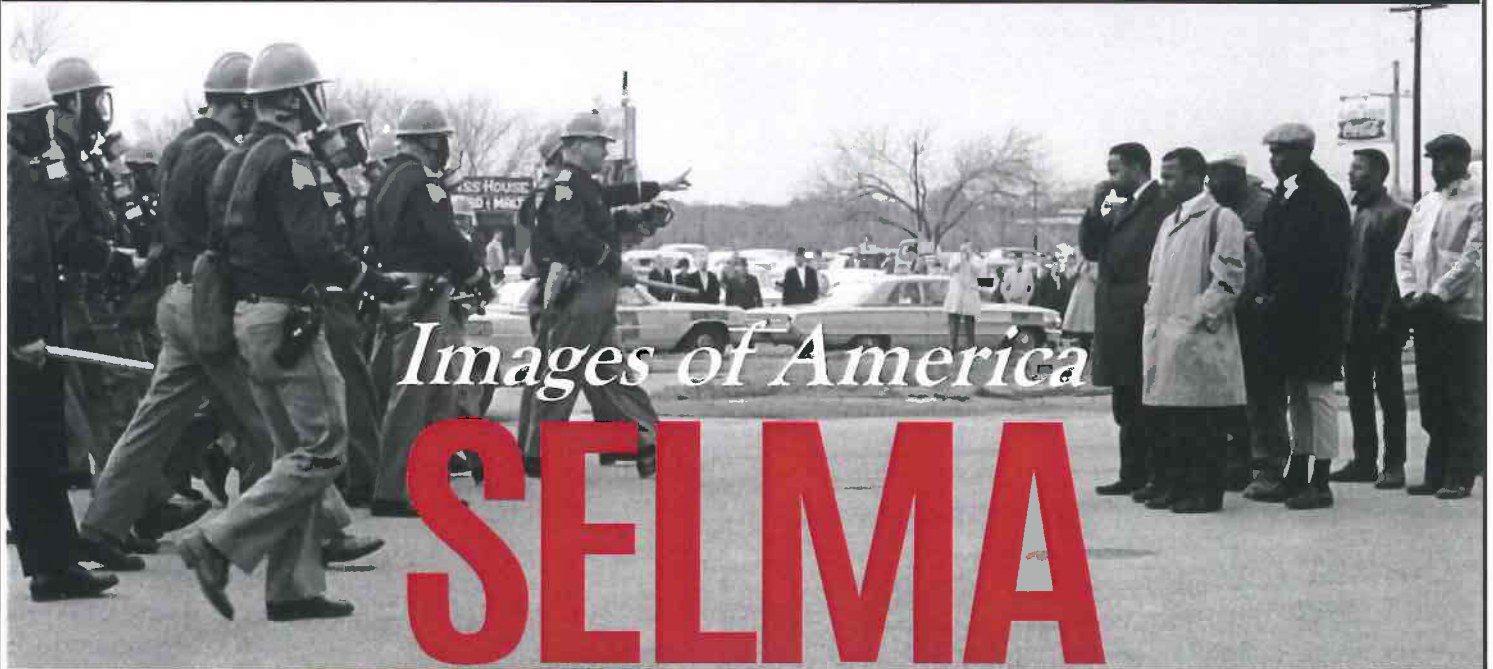
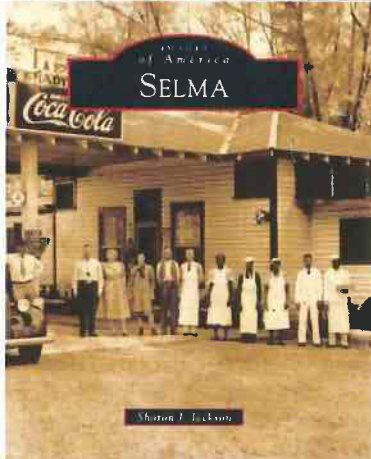


# Join Sharon Diggs-Jackson for a Book Presentation & Photo Exhibit



## Images of America **SELMA**



**Sunday, January 11, 2015**

**St. Mark Baptist Church**

**1703 Lemon Avenue**

**Long Beach, CA 90813**

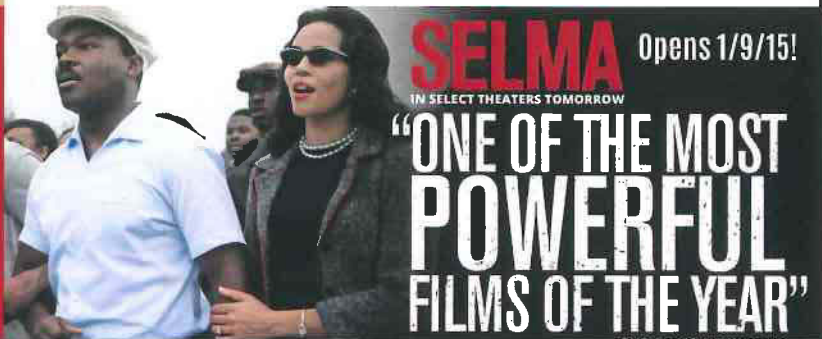
**Photo Exhibit Opens @ 2:00PM**

**Book Presentation @ 3:00PM**

*Author Book Signing Before & After*

The struggle for voting rights in Selma touched the very soul of America. Learn about the local heroes whose courage and commitment forever changed the political landscape.

Would you, or I, have had the courage to walk across the Edmund Pettus Bridge in 1965?

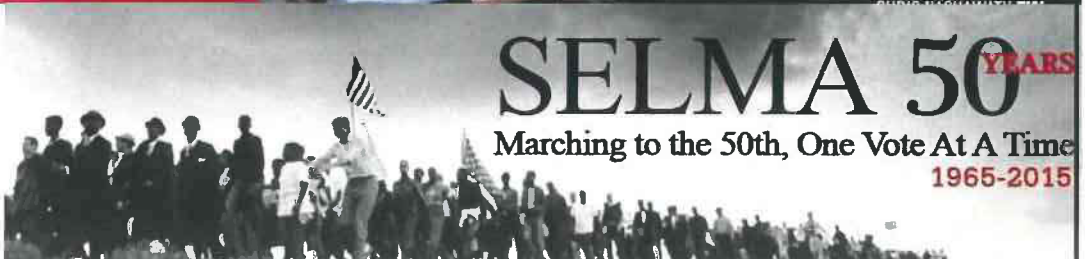


**Special Musical  
Presentation by**

**Jimmy Collier**

**An Original**

**Freedom Singer**



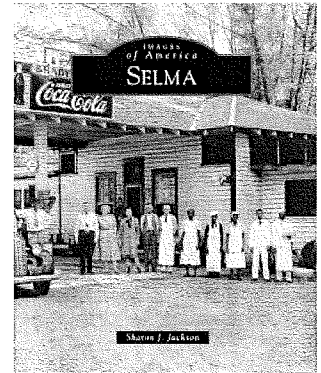


**PRESS RELEASE**  
**For Immediate Distribution**  
**SELMA Book Presentation and Photo Exhibit**

Contact: Sharon Diggs-Jackson  
562 244-9324 cell [shdiggs@hotmail.com](mailto:shdiggs@hotmail.com)

January 5, 2014

Following her retirement from the City of Long Beach in 2009, Long Beach native Sharon Diggs-Jackson, relocated to Selma, AL with her husband Dr. David Jackson. Over the past four years, she has worked with the City of Selma to prepare for the upcoming 50th Anniversary celebrations. In 2015, Selma and the nation will celebrate the anniversary of the Voting Rights Movement, the Selma-to-Montgomery March and the passage of the Voting Rights Act.



In November, Sharon released her book *Images of America: SELMA*, and a book presentation has been scheduled for Sunday, January 11, 2015. In more than 200 vintage images, *SELMA* showcases the cities storied history, and the significant role it played during the 1965 Voting Rights Movement. Through the presentation you will learn how the struggle for voting rights touched the very soul of America, and forever changed the political landscape. Would you, or I, have had the courage to walk across the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma in 1965?

Included in the day is an opportunity to view the amazing photo exhibit, "A 1965 Voting Rights Retrospective." The exhibit features moving images of the local heroes who showed courage, inspiration and commitment to the cause of voting rights, and the Selma-to-Montgomery March. Most of these photographs have never been exhibited in Southern California.

Finally, folk singer Jimmy Collier, who performed freedom and gospel songs along the 54 mile Selma-to-Montgomery march, will give a first-hand account of the march.

**Book Presentation & Photo Exhibit:**

**Free and Open to the Public**

**Date: Sunday, January 11, 2015**

**Location: St. Mark Baptist Church  
1703 Lemon Avenue, Long Beach, CA 90813**

**Time: Reception & Photo Exhibit Opens @ 2:00PM  
Book Presentation @ 3:00PM (Author Book Signing Before & After)  
Jimmy Collier, musical presentation of the Selma-to-Montgomery March**

This presentation coincides with the release of Oprah Winfrey's new film "Selma", opening nationwide on January 9th. Together the film, the book and the photo exhibit provide an educational opportunity that is so relevant to today's issues.

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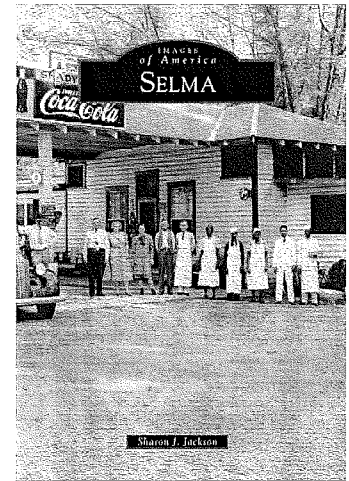
# *Images of America: SELMA*

## Book Presentation and Photo Exhibit

### *Images of America: SELMA*

In 2015, Selma will celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Voting Rights Movement, the Selma-to-Montgomery March and the passage of the Voting Rights Act. Preceding the celebrations of these historically and culturally significant events was the publication of *Images of America: Selma* by Sharon J. Jackson. "This book shows the beauty and uniqueness of Selma, and reminds us of the important role that Selma played in the development of our nation."

In more than 200 vintage images, many of which were donated by local residents and are previously unpublished, Selma showcases the city's earliest history, its famous residents and its role during the Civil War and Civil Rights Movement era.

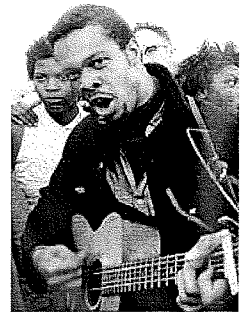


- Book Presentation

On January 11, 2015, Sharon will present a dynamic presentation of her book. Through stories, photos and songs you will learn how the struggle for voting rights touched the very soul of America, and forever changed the political landscape. Known as the 'people's movement', the Voting rights Movement shows how a small group of individuals nurtured and sustained the voting rights movement, which led to the passage of the 1965 Voting Rights Act.

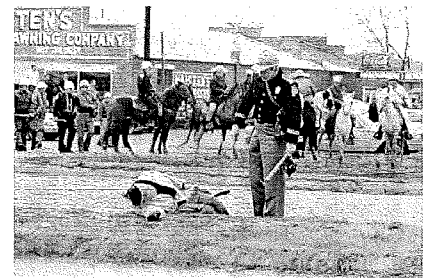
- Jimmy Collier Music Presentation

Folk-rock singer Jimmy Collier, who performed freedom and gospel songs along the 54 mile Selma-to-Montgomery march, will give us a first-hand account of the march. As a member of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, Collier was the opening act at rallies for Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. According to Jimmy, he never knew if he would be singing for 15 minutes or two hours. His job was to keep the crowds energized until Dr. King arrived. Collier has performed all over the world with artists such as Bob Dylan, Phil Ochs, Pete Seeger and Joan Baez.



- Photo Exhibit

Included in the day is an opportunity to view the amazing photo exhibit, "**A 1965 Voting Rights Retrospective.**" The exhibit features 50 moving images of the people who courageously marched for the right to vote, "Bloody Sunday", and the 54 mile Selma-to-Montgomery march. Most of these photographs have never been exhibited in Southern California. The event is free and open to the public.



Date: Sunday, January 11, 2015  
Time: 2:00PM Reception & Photo Exhibit Opening  
3:00PM Book Presentation & Music  
4:30PM Discussions, Author Book Signing  
Location: St. Mark Baptist Church  
1703 Lemon Avenue, Long Beach, CA 90813

This event is sponsored by Elite Skills Development, a non-profit 501 (c)(3) organization, and donations would be gladly accepted.