

•Mark Duane Anderson, 1968-2009. He was a graduate of Muncie Central High School and attended Anderson and Ball State Universities where he studied drama and received an Actor of the Year Award. He lived in Washington D.C. and traveled widely in the U.S. and abroad, bringing theatre workshops to youth. Anderson's acting credits included stage plays, major motion pictures and HBO productions. His work inspired young actors and young audiences alike

•The Reverend Ivan Paul Broaddus, 1918-1995. He had an early calling to serve as a minister and delivered his first sermon at age 7. He became known throughout the Midwest as "The Boy Preacher." He was a long time Pastor of Antioch Missionary Baptist Church, chaired Muncie's Human Rights Commission in the mid 1970's, and helped lead the local chapter of the NAACP. He was best known as a peacekeeper and helped encourage unity and understanding in times of racial strife.

•Mary H. Artis 1825-1887. In 1868, twelve Black residents met at the home of Mary H. Artis on the corner of Adams and Plum (now Pershing Drive) to organize the first Black church in Muncie, the Bethel A.M.E. Church.

In September 1880, the Garfield and Porter Colored Republican Clubs brought prominent orator Frederick Douglass to Muncie. Douglass spoke to a crowd of 3,000 in the Wysor Grand Opera House at the corner of Jackson and Mulberry.

•Walter Ebert, 1910-1990. The desegregation of Ball Memorial Hospital occurred in the early 1950's under the administration of Walter Ebert. Prior to Ebert's leadership, hospital policy reserved only a few rooms for Black patients, and when those were full, Blacks were treated in the hallways. Ebert changed this policy, insisting that all rooms be available for patients regardless of race. He served as the hospital's administrator from 1952 until 1972.

•Geraldine Evans Findley, 1917-2000. She graduated from Ball State Teachers College in 1937. At the time Black teachers were not allowed to teach in the Muncie school system. In 1954, when Longfellow School was built, pressure from the Black community resulted in Findley becoming the first Black teacher to be hired by the city school system, where she taught for fourteen years.

*For more information regarding this project including the historical archives and documents used, please visit Carnegie Library at 301 E. Jackson St., Muncie, Indiana. Ask for the Walk of Fame archives.*

## *The Martin Luther King, Jr. Dream Team*

At the heart of Dr. King's philosophy was the concept of service. He sought to forge the common ground on which people from all walks of life could join together as equals to address important community issues.

The MLK Dream Team is the coming together of a diverse group of volunteers to promote the ideologies of Dr. King.

The purpose of the MLK Dream Team is to stimulate, promote and foster harmonious relationships among all people; to provide a venue for candid dialogue; to develop and sponsor community activities and educational programs for youth and adults; to promote and facilitate services for those in need through a network of organizations; to dispel racial stereotypes and intolerance; and to be an activist for non-violent social change.

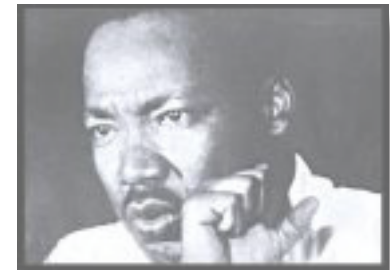
[www.mlkdreamteam.org](http://www.mlkdreamteam.org)



*In loving memory of MLK Dream Team founder  
Bea Moten-Foster,  
who passed away April 10, 2011.*

# Welcome to the Walk of Fame

## Heekin Park Muncie, Indiana



*Dedicated and officially opened on Saturday,  
July 23, 2011. The Walk of Fame is a historical project  
undertaken by the Martin Luther King, Jr. Dream Team,  
the City of Muncie and Muncie Public Library.*



***The Dedication Ceremony Program***

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Al Rent</b><br>Emcee &<br>Dream Team<br>Member                             | Welcome & Moment of Silence<br>What is The Walk of Fame?<br><br>Recognition of MLK Dream Team<br>Members<br><br>Recognition of Friends & Family<br>of Those Honored |
| <b>Ed McNeary</b><br>Chair,<br>Walk of Fame                                   | Recognition of Committee Members<br>History of the Project  |
| <b>Virginia (Ginny)</b><br><b>Nilles</b> , Director,<br>Muncie Public Library | Muncie Public Library's Role &<br>Recognition of Archives Used  |
| <b>Sharon McShurley</b> ,<br>Mayor,<br>City of Muncie                         | Comments<br>Recognition of City Officials   |
| <b>Al Rent</b>  | Ribbon-Tearing Ceremony<br>Countdown  |
| <b>All</b>  | Celebrate! The Walk of Fame<br>is Now Officially Open!<br><br>Adjournment   |

***The Martin Luther King, Jr. Dream Team wishes to thank everyone involved in this project and this ceremony. Please take a few minutes to enjoy the Walk of Fame.***

***The Walk of Fame and its Welcome Plaque are located directly across from the Vietnam War Memorial in Heekin Park. The plaques follow the oval walkway and are in the following order walking clockwise from the Welcome Plaque.***

•Welcome...  
The Muncie Delaware County Walk of Fame is a historical project undertaken by the Martin Luther King, Jr. Dream Team, Muncie Public Library and the City of Muncie.

In the mid 1800's, newly freed slaves moved from southern states to Indiana. Many settled in Muncie. Their journey from slave to citizenship required bravery and perseverance. They faced much discrimination.

This project is a tribute to their courage and their suffering and to those who followed in their footsteps. This project cannot include all events and all people, the list would be too long, yet this Walk of Fame is dedicated to all those who rose above and persevered, making our community a better place for everyone.

•William "W.T." Stokes, birth 1858-year of death unknown. He was a blacksmith who became the first Black police officer for the City of Muncie in November of 1899. His was assigned a beat in the Industry Neighborhood area.

William "Wick" Adams, 1874-1948. Adams was a well-known horseman around Muncie. In 1896 or 1897, he was named one of the first Black firemen in Muncie.

•Cornilius (Conny) Connell, 1913-1998. A talented musician, he attended Juilliard School of Music and toured with the USO during WWII. After the war, he toured with Billie Holiday, John Coltrane and Charlie Parker. He later moved to Muncie and taught music to Black students, lectured at local high schools and wrote and arranged music performed by the Ball State University Jazz Ensemble.

James Edwards, 1918-1970. Born in Muncie and later raised in Anderson, Indiana. Edwards was a pioneering actor who is remembered as a groundbreaker who paved the way for other Black actors. The roles he chose challenged Hollywood stereotypes. Movie credits include: *The Set-Up*, *Home of the Brave*, and *Patton*.

•When a fire destroyed the Ball Brothers Glass Manufacturing Factory in Buffalo, New York in 1887, the firm relocated to Muncie to take advantage of the natural gas boom in the Midwest. The company provided jobs for many Muncie citizens regardless of color. Muncie has benefited in many ways from the philanthropy of the Ball family, which includes the funding of Ball State University and Ball Memorial Hospital.

•Many of Muncie's barbers were Blacks in the 1880's and 1890's. Because of this, Black barbers formed their own union in 1890.

In 1938 Blacks were first admitted to an organized labor union which was Local 489 at Delco Remy Battery Division.

In 1971, the Poor People's Party of Muncie was formed as the first Black political party in Muncie. This group put forth a nominee for a mayoral election. Their candidate was defeated, but this political party and their actions gave Muncie's Black community a new and powerful voice in local politics.

•Roy Buley, 1915-1980. He was a star football player at Muncie Central High School and went on to play football at Wilberforce University in Ohio. After college and serving in the Army, he became the Executive Director of the Madison Street Colored YMCA. Buley served as one of the first Boy Scout leaders in the Black community. In 1956, Buley challenged the city policy of not allowing Blacks at Tuhey Pool. A confrontation followed and the pool was closed. One week later, the pool was reopened for use by all citizens of Muncie. Buley retired in 1974. Soon after he became blind and turned to poetry to express his thoughts and dreams of unity.

•Vivian Conley, 1922-1993. She left school in eleventh grade to marry and raise a family. At 43, she went back for her high school diploma. Not content to stop there, she enrolled at Ball State University in 1982 at the age of 61. She went on to earn a bachelor's degree and master's degree. She inspired others to seek education. She was a champion of educational achievement for minorities and non-traditional students, and was the founder of the Non-Traditional Student Association at BSU. She was an activist and a motivator hailed by many as "Muncie's Own Mother Teresa."