

The George Washington University (GWU) Jackie Robinson Project has planned special programs for Thursday, April 15, 2010, to commemorate the 63rd anniversary of Jackie Robinson's first major league game.

There will be an afternoon program from approximately 4:30 PM until 6:30 PM that will appeal to "children" of all ages (8 to 100+). Materials depicting Jackie Robinson's life and career (pre-baseball, baseball, and post-baseball) and other sports memorabilia will be on display. Small group discussions focusing on different aspects of Robinson's life and career will be held. Free baseball cards will be given out to youngsters under age 16. More valuable baseball cards and sports memorabilia also will be on sale, with a significant share of the proceeds going to support the GW Jackie Robinson Society and its future activities.

There also will be an evening program on from approximately 7:00 PM until 9:00 PM. While open to all, the evening program is better suited for those ages 13 and above. There will be a reception with free food and beverages preceding the more formal part of the evening program. The opportunity to view the Jackie Robinson items and other sports memorabilia and/or purchase a few mementos also will be available during the reception and for a brief period after the formal part of the evening activities.

During the more formal part of the evening proceedings, the Jackie Robinson Project traditionally honors individuals who played a significant role in the Jackie Robinson story and/or have contributed to the Jackie Robinson legacy. Past honorees have included Maureen Bunyan, JC Hayward, Michael Wilbon, Franklin Kameny, Bobby Mitchell, Joan Hodges (Mrs. Gil Hodges), and Frank Robinson. Featured speakers have included Rachel Robinson (Jack's widow), Sharon Robinson (Jack's daughter), Clem Labine, Carl Erskine, Peter Golenbock, and Roger Kahn. While this year's award recipients have not yet been selected and all speakers not yet identified, we do know that Jackie Robinson's biographer, Professor Arnold Rampersand (Stanford University), will be the featured speaker.

Professor Rampersand has written the definitive work about Jackie Robinson's life. He is an exceptional speaker and a widely respected academician.

THERE ARE A LIMITED NUMBER OF SEATS AVAILABLE FOR THE APRIL 15, 2010 PROGRAMS. Don't worry about homework -- DC Public Schools are closed the following day.

RSVP to Mr. Barry Zamoff at zradodgers@aol.com or via telephone at 202-244-6834 or 202-237-0023. Please indicate the number of seats you would like to reserve and specify which program you will attend.