Jackie Robinson Symposium: Civic, Legal, and Political Legacy
Offered at Negro Leagues Baseball Museum

On Monday, April 1, from 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., the National Archives at Kansas City in partnership with the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum will host a public symposium The Jackie Robinson Symposium: Civic, Legal, and Political Legacy. This event will be held at the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum, 1616 East 18th Street, Kansas City, MO, and will include lunch.

The Jackie Robinson Symposium is held in collaboration with the University of Missouri - Kansas City Law School and Park University. The event also serves as a Continuing Legal Education (CLE) program for regional lawyers, judges, and legal professionals. Participants can register to receive the CLE credit ($150) or as a Non-CLE ($50) participant. Registration is required. This symposium is ideal for legal history, military history, African American history, and sports history scholars and enthusiasts.

**Symposium Schedule:**

8:00 a.m. - Registration/Coffee followed by Welcome and Introductions by Dr. Raymond Doswell, Vice President, Negro Leagues Baseball Museum

8:45 a.m. - Opening Remarks with Frank White, Jr., Jackson County Executive, Kansas City Royals Hall of Fame Member

9:00 a.m. - Black Soldiers and American Military Justice, 1917 to 1948-50 with Dr. Jonathan Lurie, Rutgers University; and Truman’s Executive Order to Desegregate the Military with Mark Adams, Harry S. Truman Presidential Library and Museum

10:20 a.m. - The Court Martial of Jackie Robinson Revisited with John Vernon, National Archives (retired)

11:30 a.m. - Out of Left Field: Politics and the Campaign to End Baseball’s Color Line with Dr. Chris Lamb, Indian University-Purdue University Indianapolis; and It Wasn’t for Lack of Trying: Jackie Robinson and the Eisenhower Administration with Tim Rives, Dwight D. Eisenhower Presidential Library.

12:30 p.m. - Luncheon and adjourn
2018-2019 Film Series Concludes with American Jazz Museum and Greater KC Black History Study Group

On **Monday, April 8 at 6:00 p.m.**, the National Archives in partnership with the America Jazz Museum and Greater KC Black History Study Group, will host an evening film screening of *Wylie Avenue Days*. This film is the last in this year's series focused on Black Migration. **Reservations** are requested for this free program.

*Wylie Avenue Days* focuses on the Great Migration in Pittsburgh, primarily the Hill District section. The film depicts the heyday of Pittsburgh’s Hill District that lasted from the 1930s through the 1950s, when many African Americans migrated to the North for jobs in factories and mills. This film captures the experiences that attracted African Americans to Pittsburgh including the music clubs, the Negro League baseball teams, church picnics, and family businesses that comprised the essence of life in this vibrant neighborhood. Post-film discussion will follow the screening.

**Upcoming Facility Reminders**

- **Tuesday, April 2 - Election Day** - the National Archives at Kansas City is a polling site. Increased foot traffic and limited parking is expected.
- **Wednesday, April 10 -** Research Rooms will be closed for a staff in-service/training day. Regular research hours will resume on April 11.
- **Monday, May 27 - Memorial Day Holiday** - facility closed.

**Panel Discussion - American Indians 101:**

**What We Know, What We Don’t Know, and What We Need to Know**

On **Thursday, April 18 at 6:00 p.m.**, the National Archives in partnership with the United Nations Association of Greater Kansas City will host a panel discussion titled *American Indians 101: What We Know, What We Don’t Know, and What We Need to Know*. **Reservations** are requested for this free program.

A distinguished panel of Native community members will speak of contemporary Indian life while connecting the history of the United States government’s policies and historical events to those experiences and future implications. Topics to be discussed include suicide rates, missing/abducted women, drug addiction, education, and health. Program panelists include: **Shelley Bointy**, WRAP specialist with Lawrence Public School District, is Ihanktonwan Dakota Winyan and an enrolled member of Fort Peck Assiniboine and Sioux of Montana; **Dr. Sean Daley**, professor of anthropology at Johnson County Community College; **Jordyn Gunville**, research assistant with American Indian Health Research and Education Alliance, is an enrolled member of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe, Mnicoujou Lakota; **Jason Hale**, assistant director for community engagement and education at the Center for American Indian Community Health at the University of Kansas Medical Center, is an enrolled member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation; and **Charley Lewis**, research instructor of family medicine at the Center for American Indian Community Health at the University of Kansas Medical Center, is Navajo and an enrolled member of the Utu-Utu Gwaitu Paiute tribe of California.

This program is presented in collaboration with the United Nations Association of Greater Kansas City and supported by The Center for American Indian Studies at Johnson County Community College and the American Indian Health Research and Education Alliance.
Hidden Treasures from the Stack
Movie Night at the Boarding School

“I am interested in movie films to be played during the school year for the benefit of the young Indian pupils ranging in age from six to seventeen years,” wrote R. C. Craige, Superintendent of the Cheyenne River Indian Agency, to the United Artists Corporation, film distributors, in a letter dated June 17, 1926.

The Cheyenne River Agency was established in 1869 near Fort Sully, SD, to oversee the Miniconjou, Sihasapa, Oohenunpa, and Itazipco bands of the Lakota, and the Cheyenne River Indian Reservation was created in 1889, covering most of Dewey and Ziebach counties, with the agency headquarters at Eagle Butte, SD. Indian day schools were created across the reservation for children living with their families. A reservation boarding school was also established, and parents were encouraged to send their children there to live and study in an immersive experience. Speaking, reading, and writing English were high in the curriculum, as well as rudimentary arithmetic, science, U.S. history, Christianity, and vocational training, all aimed at assimilating the Indian children into American society.

What kind of movies was the Cheyenne River Superintendent interested in showing to his boarding school students? From our perspective nearly a century later, we might expect him to seek educational films based on the curriculum, travelogues, historical re-enactments, or documentaries.

We would be mistaken.

“The features supplied by you a year ago this winter, such as Dorothy Vernon at Haddon Hall, Way Down East, Tailor Made Man, etc. were quite satisfactory, and something on that order is desired,” he added in a postscript to the letter. His examples include an Elizabethan historical romance starring Mary Pickford; a D. W. Griffith-directed romantic drama featuring Lillian Gish’s rescue from an icy waterfall; and a tale of an impostor proving himself a worthy hero!

United Artists responded with a list of films available for rental, all popular silent films making the rounds of local theaters. The stars included Mary and Jack Pickford, D. W. Griffith, Douglas Fairbanks, Samuel Goldwyn, and other movie idols.

Cheyenne River Agency records from the mid-1920s include interesting correspondence between the Superintendent and film distributors, discussing film selections, bookings, and rental fees, as well as related contracts. Many of the proffered titles suggested the exotic, such as Thief of Bagdad; Mark of Zorro; One Exciting Night; Orphans of the Storm; The Vulgar Yachtsman; and The Ruling Passion. Others underwrote the American ideal of Manifest Destiny, such as His Majesty the American and Wild Justice, or portrayed some idealized portrayal of U.S. history, including Tumbleweeds, The Iron Trail, and The Hill Billy. Literary classics like The Three Musketeers, Pollyanna, and Little Lord Fauntleroy were offered, as well as pure excitement and adventure—Fighting Blood, and Swords and the Woman.

The film distributors enclosed sensational leaflets pushing specific films. Promo material for If Marriage Fails laid out the moral dilemma, “My wife is drifting way from me! . . . She is never home—her life is one continuous round of jazz parties and cabarets—and there are other men!!”

Another film’s flyer aroused heightened expectations: “With the breathless thrill of a run-away train! With the breath-taking poignancy that only Laura Jean Libbey can give, A Poor Girl’s Romance brings to the screen an evening of suspense and delight such as you have never before experienced! See it! See it! See it!” The leaflet continues, “Heart throbs and soul tingles surge madly through this pounding, thrilling love drama! A story that will fascinate and delight every flesh and blood human in the world!”

The exact correlation of these swashbuckling marquee titles to boarding school curriculum and culture is perhaps cloudy. The isolation of life on the South Dakota plains might have been a factor to which the Superintendent tips his hand in that 1926 letter to United Artists: “As stated before the pictures are intended for the school children, yet it will be necessary to procure a picture that will be suitable to attract the attendance of employees and a few outside people who are charged a small admission fee, in order that the show will be self-supporting as the government funds are not applicable.” After all, the Hollywood film industry was booming in the mid-1920s, and the Agency staff wanted a bit of the broader culture, too.

(Continued on page 7)
Cheyenne River Indian Agency,
Cheyenne Agency, S. D.

June 17, 1926.

United Artists Corporation,
508 Loeb Arcade,
Minneapolis, Minn.

Gentlemen:

In response to your letter of the 7th.,
I am interested in the idea of having movies played during the
school year for the benefit of the young Indian pupils ranging in age from six to seventeen years. The next
school year begins in September and will close early in
June, 1927, and plan on showing pictures every other
week.

As stated before the pictures are intended
for the school children, yet it will be necessary to pro-
cure a picture that will not be suitable to attract the attend-
ance of employees and a few outside people who are charged
a small admission fee, in order that the show will be self-
supporting as the government funds are not applicable.

Suggest that you mail me a list of the features,
with a short synopsis for each picture which will aid us in
determining which ones are the best adapted for our use.
In furnishing this information you might also furnish
us the prices and other terms under which they are furnished.

Very truly yours,

R. G. Craige
Superintendent.

P.S. The features supplied by you a year ago this
winter, such as Dorothy Vernon at Haddon Hall,
Way Down East, Tailor Made Man, etc. were quite
satisfactory, and something on that order is
desired.

ROC.
## Booking dates for Moving Pictures


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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Feature</th>
<th>Reels</th>
<th>Star</th>
<th>Rental</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9/10</td>
<td>Tumbleweeds</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>W. S. Hart</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/24</td>
<td>The Iron Trail (story)</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Rex Beach (author)</td>
<td>7.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/8</td>
<td>Polyanna</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Mary Pickford</td>
<td>10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/22</td>
<td>Wild Justice</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Peter the Great</td>
<td>10.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>11/6</td>
<td>His Majesty the American</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>D. W. Griffith</td>
<td>10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/19</td>
<td>Partners Again</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Samuel Goldwyn</td>
<td>15.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>12/3</td>
<td>Waking Up the Town</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Jack Pickford</td>
<td>7.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>12/17</td>
<td>Rosita</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Mary Pickford</td>
<td>15.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/31</td>
<td>America</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>D. W. Griffith</td>
<td>15.00</td>
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1927.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>1/28</td>
<td>The Only Way</td>
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<td>Martin Harvey</td>
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<td>Orphans of the Storm</td>
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<td>Douglas Fairbanks</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/11</td>
<td>The Hill Billy</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Jack Pickford</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/25</td>
<td>Don Q. son of Zorro</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Douglas Fairbanks</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/8</td>
<td>Little Annie Rooney</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/22</td>
<td>One Exciting Night</td>
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<td>D. W. Griffith</td>
<td>10.00</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Mary Pickford</td>
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<tr>
<td>6/2</td>
<td>Thief of Bagdad</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Douglas Fairbanks</td>
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</tbody>
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Dear Harry,

I am desperately in need of advice! You and I have been close for years and I feel I can talk to you about a matter I would not hesitate to anyone else.

My wife is drifting away from me.

You know how I worshipped her — you know how I have worked and striven to give her everything her heart desired, and now I am wondering whether I have given her too much.

Whether I have subjected her with things to seek an admittance that she is looking for other things — other things that I cannot give her.

She is never home — her life is one continuous round of gay parties and exercise — and there are others now — I want to be fair to her — but I also want to be fair to myself.

I'll admit to you — that in my loneliness, I have found a wonderful friendship with another woman. I know this woman loves me, but if she is a possibility of bringing back my former happiness, I will then allow her for the woman to enter my mind.

Is my wife molesting me? Am I perfectly as I am supposed to act? Am I keeping my name from my wife and am I a clean, clear man? These are the questions I am trying to decide — the questions that must determine my action.

I am in a greatly, Harry! I don't know which way to turn! What would you do if you were in my place?

Yours, Joe 10.

You will learn the answer to this absorbing question when you see.

Heart throbs and soul tingles surge madly throughout this pounding, thrilling love drama! A story that will fascinate and delight every eye and blood human in the world!

With the breathless thrill of a runaway train! With the breath-taking pagentry that only

Laura Jean Libbey can give

“A POOR GIRL’S ROMANCE”

brings to the screen an evening of suspense and delight such as you have never before experienced!

See it! See it! See it!

Laura Jean Libbey


So what films were finally booked for the Cheyenne River Boarding School students to see during the 1926-1927 school year? After some haggling over rental fees, twenty titles were contracted: Tumbleweeds; Pollyanna; His Majesty the American; Waking Up the Town; Garrison’s Finish; Mark of Zorro; The Mollycoddle; The Iron Trail; Wild Justice; Partners Again; Rosita; The Only Way; The Hill Billy; One Exciting Night; Thru the Back Door; Little Annie Rooney; The Thief of Bagdad; Don Q., Son of Zorro; and America. A lively education!

The National Archives at Kansas City has thousands of documents relating to the Cheyenne River Agency, as well as many other Bureau of Indian Affairs agencies and reservations. For more information, email kansascity.archives@nara.gov or visit the National Archives Catalog.

### Upcoming Free Professional Development Opportunities for Educators

**Teaching with the Records of Congress**  
**Thursday, April 18 at 7:00 p.m. - Eastern Daylight Time**  
Join the Center for Legislative Archives for a special webinar highlighting resources for teaching about Congress. Explore DocsTeach activities, lesson plans, eBooks, and more featuring historical documents that can be used to teach about representative democracy, how Congress works, and the important role Congress has played throughout American history. This webinar is designed for middle and high school educators. [Registration](#) is required.

**The Making of Indian Treaties**  
**Wednesday, April 24 at 7:00 p.m. - Eastern Daylight Time**  
Join us for an overview of the new treaties digitization project, including related educational materials and resources, and classroom application related to these important documents and their history. This webinar is part of our Native American professional development series. Each program features new resources for locating and using Federal records related to American Indians and Alaska Natives. [Registration](#) is required.

**America and the World: Foreign Affairs in Political Cartoons, 1898–1940**  
**Thursday, May 30, at 7:00 p.m. - Eastern Daylight Time**  
Explore political cartoons for engaging students in a discussion of American foreign policy from the Spanish American War to the eve of World War II. The Clifford K. Berryman cartoon collection at the Center for Legislative Archives provides insights into the institutions, issues, and events that shaped a critical period of American history. Learn about additional resources for bringing these cartoons into your classroom. This webinar is designed for high school educators. [Registration](#) is required.

**Beyond the Bureau of Indian Affairs: Accessing American Indian Records from the National Archives**  
**Wednesday, June 5, at 7:00 p.m. - Eastern Daylight Time**  
Explore different types of American Indian documents across multiple record groups and discover different ways of incorporating these important primary sources into your classroom. This webinar is part of our Native American professional development series. Each program features new resources for locating and using Federal records related to American Indians and Alaska Natives. [Registration](#) is required.