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Evening Will Explore the Life of Sacramento's First African American Attorney

Sacramento, CA – February 15, 2012: On Thursday, March 22nd, the Center for Sacramento History, in association with the [Sacramento History Foundation](#), will debut an online exhibition and short film that explore the purposeful life of Sacramento's first African American attorney, Nathaniel Colley, a “giant among lawyers.” UC Berkeley Professor of History [Dr. Mark Brilliant](#) will also deliver a lecture entitled, “The Color of America Has Changed: How Racial Diversity Shaped Civil Rights Reform in California, 1941-1978.” The event, *The Time is Now: The Civic Life of Sacramento's Nathaniel Colley*, will be held at the Center (551 Sequoia Pacific Blvd, Sacramento); doors open at 6:30 p.m. and the presentation begins at 7:00 p.m.

ADVANCE TICKET SALES ONLY with LIMITED SEATING AVAILABLE! The event is open to the public; tickets are \$15.00 per person and can be purchased at the Center's website, www.centerforsacramentohistory.org. A Donor Package is also available for \$100.00.

“The recent acquisition of the Nathaniel S. and Jerlean Colley papers by the Center for Sacramento History allows us to showcase the remarkable legal career of a civil rights icon. The mark Nat Colley left on California – from his work with the NAACP in the fight for fair housing and the overturning of Proposition 14 to his advocacy of public education and civic engagement – is still felt today. This Speakers Series event imparts how one Sacramentan strove to break down

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barriers and change his community, state, and nation for the common good,” said City Historian Marcia Eymann.

Video producer [Chris Lango](#) stated, “By utilizing the Center’s vast collection of KCRA’s old news film, we were able to uncover rare footage of Colley – speaking in real time about issues such as fair housing and school desegregation. The video itself showcases the American civil rights movement through the remarkable life of this one Sacramentan, who was among the city’s most courageous and influential citizens during the last half of the 20th century.”

Dr. Brilliant will sign copies of his award-winning book, [The Color of America Has Changed](#), at the conclusion of his presentation; cost is \$35.00.

Those purchasing the Donor Package are invited to attend a reception from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Guest lecturer Dr. Mark Brilliant, video producer Chris Lango and members of the Colley family will be available to answer questions. The Donor Package includes two general admission tickets, a signed copy of Dr. Brilliant’s book, light refreshments and tours of the Center’s collections vault. A portion of the package is a tax deductible gift to the Sacramento History Foundation.

The Time is Now is made possible by the Sacramento History Foundation, the [Wiley W. Manuel Bar Association](#), [Runyon Saltzman & Einhorn, Inc.](#), [Sacramento Region Community Foundation](#), and Mr. Daniel Visnich. For more information or to schedule an interview please call Dylan McDonald at (916) 808-7072 or e-mail at dmcDonald@cityofsacramento.org. Digital samples from the Nathaniel S. and Jerlean Colley Papers are available upon request.

The Center for Sacramento History’s mission is to foster, stimulate, and promote the study and appreciation of Sacramento’s regional history. Since 1953, it has served the community by acquiring, preserving, exhibiting, and providing access to the documentary and material culture of the region. The Center is administered by the City of Sacramento and is jointly funded by the City and County of Sacramento.

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