



**Suffolk Center on the
Holocaust, Diversity and
Human Understanding, Inc.**

Media Release

**For Immediate Release
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***Emerging From Segregation:
Jackie Robinson's Legacy In Postwar America***

**ON THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF JACKIE ROBINSON BREAKING THE COLOR BARRIER IN MAJOR
LEAGUE BASEBALL**

Long after the Emancipation Proclamation in 1863, American society continued to be segregated. African-Americans played in the Negro Leagues while the National and American Leagues were white only. Through the first fifty years of the twentieth century African Americans were barred from Major League baseball. During World War II African-Americans served in the military in segregated units, ironically while fighting for the freedom of others. Returning home they found the situation unchanged. The acceptance in 1947 of Jackie Robinson into major league baseball was both a symbolic and real manifestation of society on the cusp of change, foreshadowing the civil rights movement that was to come.

This spring is the 60th anniversary of Jackie Robinson joining the Brooklyn Dodgers' organization. The Suffolk Center on the Holocaust, Diversity & Human Understanding (CHDHU) has created an exhibit to chronicle this event and the forces that sought to resist change. The exhibit will take place at the Suffolk County Community College Ammerman Campus, Shea Theatre, Islip Arts Building, March 27 from 9 am to 3 pm.

A program will be held at the same location from 9:30 am to 1:45 pm on **March 27**. The program will feature **Stanley Glenn**, who played with Robinson in the Negro Leagues and is currently the president of the Negro Leagues Baseball Players Association and the author of *Don't Let Anyone Take Your Joy Away*; **Ron Armstrong**, adjunct professor at Stony Brook University and a 1952 graduate of Port Jefferson High School; and, **Steve Jacobson**, retired *Newsday* sports writer and author of *Carrying Jackie's Torch: The Players Who Integrated Baseball-and America*.

Steven Schrier, Executive Director of CHDHU, sees this anniversary as an opportunity to remind the public of the value of each human, and the importance of ending every kind of discrimination so that freedom may prevail.