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**Baseball-Themed Exhibit, Barrier Breakers: From Jackie to Pumpsie, 1947-1959,
at Los Angeles Public Library Perfect for African American History Month**

***Traveling Exhibit from the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum on View for Just
Three More Weeks***

LOS ANGELES (January 27, 2023)— Barrier Breakers: From Jackie to Pumpsie, 1947-1959, a traveling exhibit that tells the story of the mid-20th century Negro Leagues and their dedicated athletes, is on view in the Getty Gallery at Central Library for just three more weeks until February 19. Developed by the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum (NLBM) in Kansas City, Missouri, the exhibit provides a timely history lesson for African American History Month.

Despite Major League Baseball's 60-year self-imposed color barrier that denied players of color the opportunity to play baseball within their organization, the Negro Leagues established their own teams and forged a glorious history during an inglorious era of American segregation. This exhibit shares the story of the strong-willed men who refused to accept the notion that they were unfit to share in the joys of America's national pastime.

The exhibit highlights the obstacles players of color faced, what they did to overcome the challenges of prejudice and social injustice in this country and how their talent, passion and perseverance changed Major League Baseball.

"Los Angeles Public Library is proud to host this wonderful exhibit, Barrier Breakers," said City Librarian John F. Szabo, "and we plan to share it with numerous school groups and community organizations to make more widely known this inspiring chapter in American history. By making it accessible at Central Library, all Angelenos can now see this exhibit for free."

“This exhibition honors the individuals who, through their dedication and will, broke the color barrier in Major League Baseball and changed the trajectory of our national pastime and America forever,” said Central Library Director Kren Malone. “Making this exhibition available to anyone visiting Central Library serves our goals to educate and inspire current and future generations.”

Barrier Breakers: From Jackie to Pumpsie, 1947-1959 will be on view at Central Library at 630 West Fifth Street, Los Angeles, through February 19, 2023.

About Los Angeles Public Library

Celebrating 150 years of service, the Los Angeles Public Library serves the largest and most diverse urban population of any library in the nation. A recipient of the nation’s highest honor for library service—the National Medal from the Institute of Museum and Library Services—its Central Library, 72 branch libraries, collection of more than eight million books, state-of-the art technology accessible at lapl.org and thousands of public programs provide everyone with free and easy access to information and the opportunity for lifelong learning.

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