

TO: Principals, Media Specialists & Teachers, grades 4 and 8

**RE: The Indiana Black History Challenge 2008
February 1 – February 29**

The Indianapolis-Marion County Public Library, Indiana Historical Society, Indiana Pacers, Pepsi, and Emmis Communications have teamed up to bring you the Indiana Black History Challenge.

Throughout the month of February, students and families can learn more about Indiana Black History by trying to correctly answer ten multiple-choice questions found on a Game Card to earn a chance at prizes. If a student from your school is chosen as a grand prize winner, he/she will receive free tickets to an Indiana Pacers' home game. Students can hear facts about Indiana Black History at the Indiana Pacers Web site (www.pacers.com) or by listening to their favorite Pacers players read vignettes on 1070 The Fan during February. Students can also visit the IHS Web site (www.indianahistory.org) to research Challenge facts.

Today, a starter pack of Game Cards was delivered to your school by the children's librarians from your nearest neighborhood branch of the Indianapolis-Marion County Public Library. **We've targeted grades 4 and 8, but any teacher is welcome to participate! Game Cards may be photocopied to fulfill student/teacher needs and will be accepted as official entries.** A pdf version of the Game Card can also be found on the IHS Web site.

Upon returning the completed Game Cards by February 29 to any Library location or the Indiana History Center (450 W. Ohio St.), participants will receive their prize. Participants with all ten correct answers will be automatically entered in a drawing for a variety of prizes, including four tickets to a Pacers' home game against the Miami Heat on March 31, a Pacers Backpack, and the book, But They Can't Beat Us: Oscar Robertson and the Crispus Attucks Tigers. Winners will be drawn and notified on March 5, 2008.

HERE'S HOW TO PLAY:

Students may participate individually or as a class with their teacher. Each student should complete a separate Game Card, including name, address and home phone number. When the teacher returns the completed Game Cards to the Library or the Indiana History Center, he/she will receive a prize for each student. Plus, teachers who fill out the evaluation may choose a free classroom prize of either But They Can't Beat Us (ages 12+) or Vision of Beauty: The Story of Sarah Breedlove Walker (ages 9-12). If you have questions about classroom participation or want to learn about online options to take the Challenge, please contact the IHS at programs@indianahistory.org.

In past years, teachers and media specialists have used the Indiana Black History Challenge as a fun way to do research on the Internet. Indiana Black History Challenge Facts, ~~lesson plans~~, bibliography, and evaluation forms will be available at www.indianahistory.org. Simply click on the Indiana Black History Challenge link on the IHS home page.

Thanks for your interest and participation! Good Luck!