African American History Remains Alive in Alexander Gumby’s Popular Scrapbooks

By Lauren Marshall

Digital media is helping bring African American history and culture to a broader audience during Black History Month and throughout the year.

A series of new e-seminars developed by Columbia’s Digital Knowledge Ventures (Columbia DKV) with Columbia faculty, explores the topic of slavery and racism, the fight for civil rights, and the lives of leaders who played central roles in African Americans in their quest for equality. E-seminars combine video, audio, and interactive educational tools to produce a new kind of learning experience. Students earn scholarship and teaching of Columbia faculty, that reaches beyond classroom walls.

To access the following e-seminars, free to Columbia faculty, students and staff, look under the “cultural/society” or “history” categories on the Columbia Interactive home page (http://ci.columbia.edu).

• W.E.B. DuBois and the Black Experience.
• Liberty and Slavery in the Early British Empire.

W.E.B. DuBois

W.E.B. DuBois, leading African American writer and political activist of the 20th century, was the father of Pan-Africanism.

• Life after Death: Malcolm X and the Nation of Islam.
• Liberty and Slavery in the Early British Empire.

Malcolm X

E-Seminar 1, The Origins of Slavery: The New World. Eric Foner, professor of history and president of the American Historical Association, examines the institution of slavery, which has defined American history, national- ity and citizenship. The first in an eight-part series, this e-seminar focuses on the impact that slavery had on colonial America during the 17th and 18th centuries.

• Nonviolent Power in Action: E-Seminar 2, Martin Luther King Jr.: An American Gandhi.

L.S. Alexander Gumby

ed on African American history primarily because, “There are so many surprising and startling his- torical events pertaining to—or relating to the African Negro that one could write a book or series of books.”


Fathom, www.fathom.com. Fea- tured are scholarly interviews, arti- cles and links to e-courses, online references and related websites.

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