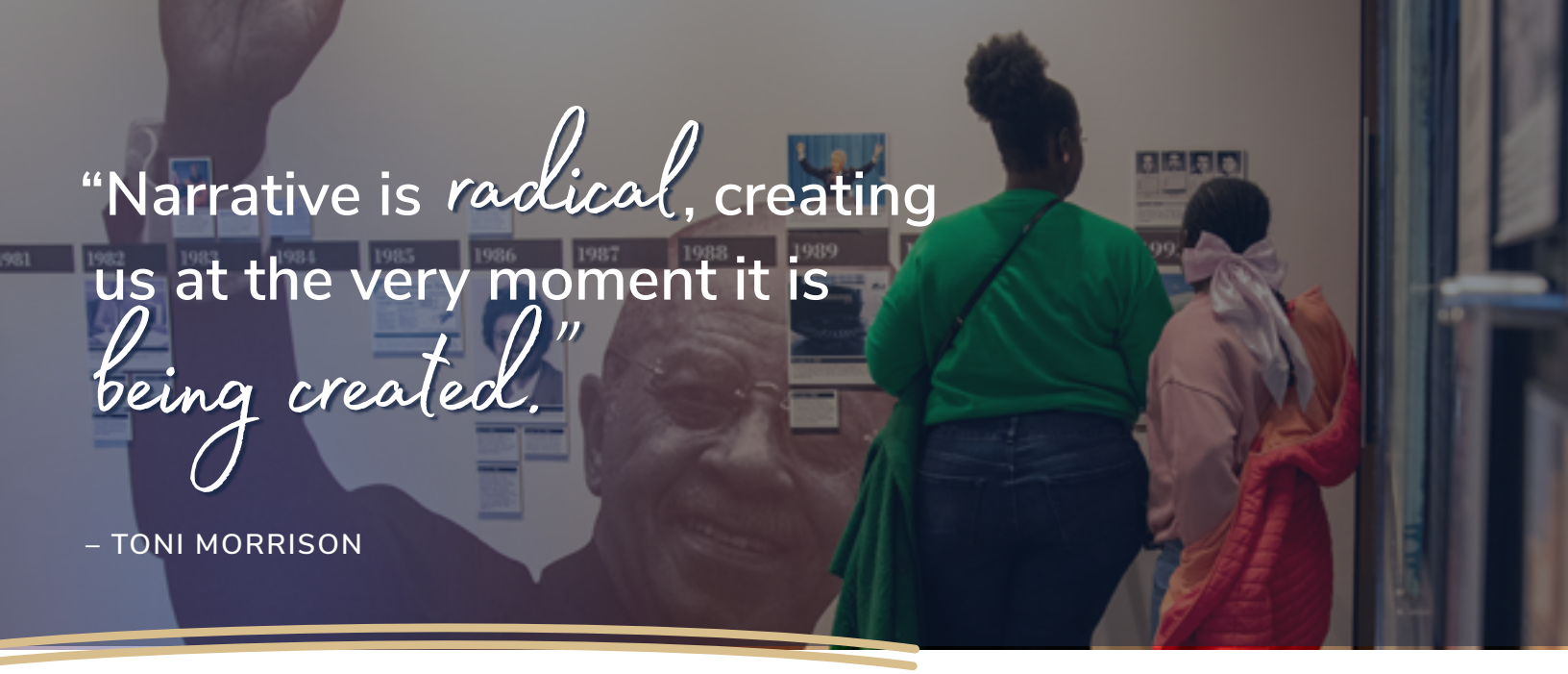
BIRMINGHAM CIVIL RIGHTS INSTITUTE

34th Anniversary

IN OUR OWN WORDS

DECEMBER 1, 2026

BIRMINGHAM CIVIL RIGHTS INSTITUTE



"Narrative is *radical*, creating us at the very moment it is *being created.*"

– TONI MORRISON

For 34 years, the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute has been entrusted with preserving history: the artifacts, photographs, documents, and stories that help us understand Birmingham's place in the ongoing pursuit of freedom.

As we look toward the Institute's next chapter, we are thinking just as intentionally about what it means to use *our voice.*

Institutions like ours provide the context, care, dignity, and nuance our stories deserve. We make space for stories that have gone untold, and we ensure the people closest to this history have the power to shape how it is *understood.*

There are still so many stories to tell. They live in our collections, our oral histories, our community, our elders, and the generations carrying them with them.



Preserving our history requires us to safeguard the artifacts and markers that tell our stories, but it also requires us to protect our right to tell those stories *in our own words.*

As we celebrate 34 years, we invite you to help us carry that work forward.



The Birmingham Civil Rights Institute is a cultural and educational center dedicated to preserving the legacy of Birmingham's role in the Civil Rights Movement. Through immersive exhibits, archival collections, and place-based educational experiences, the Institute offers a deeper understanding of civil and human rights.

This year, we have expanded that work through temporary exhibitions and programming in the Odessa Woolfolk Gallery, creating space to ask hard questions, uncover stories deserving of greater attention, celebrate history and culture, and provide a platform for artists to share their own perspectives.

4 Curated Exhibits in 2026:

- The Victors Write the Algorithm
- Is This America?
- The 99
- Historically Black

150,000+ people

REACHED ANNUALLY THROUGH PROGRAMS, EXHIBITIONS, & EVENTS

100+ guided tours

CONDUCTED IN FY 2024-2025

75 outreach events

PROVIDED TO AUDIENCES IN FY 2024-2025

National Partners

AFFILIATE OF THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

PART OF THE BIRMINGHAM CIVIL RIGHTS NATIONAL MONUMENT



Event Info

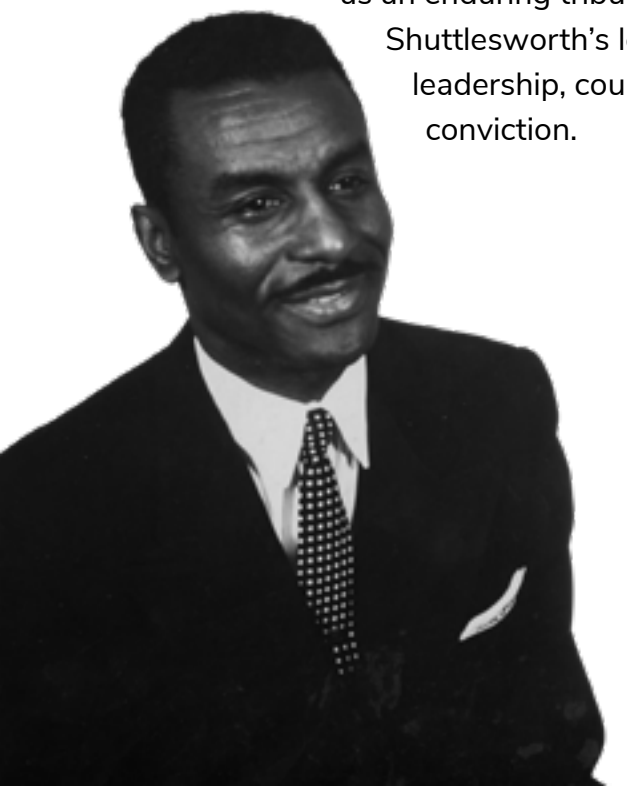
DECEMBER 1, 2026
at the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute

IN OUR OWN WORDS

2026 Fred L. Shuttlesworth Human Rights Award Presentation

ABOUT THE FRED L. SHUTTLESWORTH HUMAN RIGHTS AWARD

Named after one of Birmingham's most courageous civil rights leaders, this award recognizes individuals whose work advances the cause of civil and human rights around the world. Established in 2002, the Fred L. Shuttlesworth Human Rights Award serves as an enduring tribute to Rev. Shuttlesworth's legacy of leadership, courage, and conviction.



This award is a public recommitment to the values that defined Shuttlesworth's life and Birmingham's pivotal role in the global fight for justice. It affirms that the struggle for civil and human rights is not a relic of the past, but a living legacy that demands ongoing courage and collective action.

In a time when history is being challenged, restricted, or erased, the Institute remains a steadfast defender of truth. By uplifting those who carry the work forward, the Fred L. Shuttlesworth Human Rights Award ensures that Birmingham's story continues to inspire and call others to action.



FRED L. SHUTTLESWORTH

Human Rights Award

ALABAMA'S 14 HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

The Birmingham Civil Rights Institute is proud to honor Alabama's 14 Historically Black Colleges and Universities collectively as recipients of the 2026 **Fred L. Shuttlesworth Human Rights Award**.

For the first time in the award's history, this prestigious recognition will be presented to institutions rather than an individual, honoring the collective impact of Alabama's HBCUs in advancing civil and human rights.

Throughout the Civil Rights Movement, these institutions served as centers of organizing, resistance, and intellectual leadership. Students and faculty challenged segregation, organized economic boycotts, participated in sit-ins and voter registration campaigns, and helped advance the struggle for equal rights.

Their contributions remain deeply connected to the legacy of the Rev. Fred L. Shuttlesworth, whose courage and unwavering commitment to justice helped transform Birmingham and the nation.

This award presentation will bookend the viewing of the latest exhibit in the Odessa Woolfolk Gallery, Historically Black, which tells the collective story of HBCUs enduring commitment to educational opportunity and their continuing influence on American society.

Alabama A&M University • Alabama State University • Bishop State Community College • Gadsden State Community College • J.F. Drake State Technical College • Lawson State Community College • Miles College • Oakwood University • Selma University • Shelton State Community College • Stillman College • Talladega College • Trenholm State Community College • Tuskegee University



Sponsorship Levels & Benefits

LEVEL	BENEFIT
PRESENTING SPONSOR $30,000 *EXCLUSIVE OPPORTUNITY*	• Sixteen (16) premium VIP reserved seats at the Anniversary Celebration • Opportunity for Company Representative to deliver remarks • Private behind-the-scenes tour of the Institute for up to 10 guests • Option to host an on-site engagement opportunity (i.e., lunch & learn or curated gallery walk) for employees or clients • Premier logo placement on all event materials, signage, press releases, and digital promotions • Verbal recognition from the stage as Presenting Sponsor • Exclusive spotlight feature on BCRI's social media and website • Recognition on BCRI's permanent donor wall • Full-page ad or tribute message in printed event program • Recognition in BCRI's 2026 Annual Report
LEGACY SUPPORTER $20,000	• Twelve (12) premium VIP reserved seats at the Anniversary Celebration • Priority logo placement on event signage, website, and printed materials • Verbal recognition from the stage during the Anniversary Celebration • Recognition on BCRI's donor wall and in the 2026 Annual Report • Full-page ad or tribute message in printed event program • Dedicated acknowledgment on BCRI's social media channels • Private guided tour of the Institute for up to 6 guests
CHAMPION $15,000	• Eight (8) premium VIP reserved seats • Logo recognition on event signage, website, and printed materials • Recognition on BCRI's donor wall and in 2026 Annual Report • Half-page ad or tribute message in printed event program • Acknowledgment on BCRI's social media channels
ADVOCATE $10,000	• Six (6) VIP reserved seats • Logo recognition on event signage and printed program • Recognition on website and in 2026 Annual Report • Quarter-page ad or tribute message in event program

To share your commitment or gain further information, please reach out to Deborah Bowie, dbowie@bcri.org. All donations to BCRI are tax deductible.

34th Anniversary

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTION

CONTACT

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