**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

WITHERS COLLECTION MUSEUM & GALLERY CELEBRATES

BLACK HISTORY MONTH THROUGH THE LENS OF DR. ERNEST C. WITHERS

MEMPHIS, Tenn., Feb. 1, 2019 – Withers Collection Museum and Gallery celebrates Black History Month  through the lens of Dr. Ernest C. Withers with special exhibits, public programs and festivities including forums and mixers All events are free and open to the public and will be held at the Withers Collection Museum and Gallery, unless otherwise disclosed beginning Feb. 1 in downtown Memphis on 333 Beale Street.

**FORUM: *Talk About it Tuesday***

“Talk About It Tuesday” is a monthly panel discussion with Q & A designed to bring people from the local community together to inspire discussion about the significant impact of cultural history in movements for economic and social justice. Attendees will have the opportunity to participate in a Q & A session.

***Tuesday, February 12 and 26***

**6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.**

**ONLINE: *Withers Wednesday and WDA Sneak Peaks***

Every Wednesday, visit the Withers Collection Museum and Gallery’s website at [witherscollection.org](https://www.thewitherscollection.com/) for a new blog post about Black History through the lens of Dr. Withers.

Get an exclusive look into the Online Withers Digital Archive every Friday on our social media pages.

**Instagram:** [@WithersMuseum](https://www.instagram.com/withersmuseum)
**Facebook:** [Withers Collection Museum and Gallery](https://www.facebook.com/WithersCollectionMuseumGallery/)

**MIXER: *Neely Agency Mixer***

The Neely Agency Mixer (NAM): Networking for a Cause Professional Mixer will be held at Withers Collection Museum and Gallery in conjunction with Withers Collection Talk About it Tuesday (TAIT). NAM is an exclusive networking event where you will find attendees networking with Memphis’ finest executives, entrepreneurs, public sector and entertainment industry professionals and enjoying great thought-provoking discussions.

***Tuesday, February 26***

**5 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.**

**BLACK HISTORY IN MEMPHIS THROUGH THE LENS OF ERNEST WITHERS**

Attendees will have the opportunity to view a public exhibition throughout the month of February at the Benjamin L. Hooks Central Library in Memphis, TN. This exhibition speaks to African American History in the South through the lens of Dr. Ernest C. Withers.

Join us for the opening reception of *Black History in Memphis Through the Lens of Ernest Withers*.

***Friday, February 8***

***5:30 p.m.***

**GOOD TIMES THROUGH THE LENS OF ERNEST WITHERS**

The Withers Collection Museum & Gallery has partnered with Leadership Memphis to display a monthly exhibit open to the public the last Friday of every month. This quarter’s exhibition features *Good Times* in the South depicted by lifestyle, music, sports and more.

***Friday, February 22***

***6:00 p.m - 8:00 p.m.***

**SPECIAL PROMOTIONS THROUGHOUT BLACK HISTORY MONTH**

Throughout the month of February the Withers Collection will offer half off admission for all visitors and discounts and free admission to select groups and the public.

* City of Memphis Employees, discounted admission with valid employee ID
* College students are free with valid ID
* Donation Days every Wednesday
* Free admission to the Museum and Gallery on Tuesday, February 12 and 26 after 5 p.m.
* Donation a book to the Withers Collection *Books on Beale* book drive and receive up to two dollars off of regular admission.

Discover more about Dr. Withers’ work and learn more about Memphis history and American history:

* Discover other Withers Collection exhibitions [here](https://www.thewitherscollection.com/exhibitionsevents).
* Check out the Withers Collection blog, [Pictures Tell the Story](https://www.thewitherscollection.com/blog).
* Schedule a group tour of the Withers Collection [here](https://www.thewitherscollection.com/visit).
* Dr. Withers' work can be seen around the globe in newspapers, books, magazines, exhibits, and movies. [Here](https://www.thewitherscollection.com/licensed-work) are just a few of the places where his photographs can be found.
* Find out how to get a Withers image licensed [here](https://www.thewitherscollection.com/licensing).
* View exclusive works by Dr. Ernest C. Withers inside of the [Online Withers Digital Archive](https://www.thewitherscollection.com/withersdigitalarchive).

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For press information, contact Jazmin Withers with the Withers Collection at jwithers@witherscollection.org

***Connect with Withers Collection Museum and Gallery:***
**Twitter:** @[WithersMuseum](https://twitter.com/withersmuseum)

**Instagram:** [@WithersMuseum](https://www.instagram.com/withersmuseum)
**Facebook:** [Withers Collection Museum and Gallery](https://www.facebook.com/WithersCollectionMuseumGallery/)
**YouTube:** [The Withers Collection](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCmV6GQyyOggVM2s1Nqyri0w)

#### To learn more about Withers Collection Museum and Gallery, call 901-523-2344 or visit the [website.](http://thewitherscollection.com/)

**About Withers Collection Museum and Gallery:** Located at 333 Beale Street, in Ernest Withers’ last working studio and the building that was named in his honor in 1995, the Withers Collection Museum and Gallery is 7,000 square feet of Memphis History. In February 2011, The Withers Collection opened its doors to the public, inviting everyone to see what Ernest Withers had accomplished. With close to 1.8 million images in the archive, the images on display range from key Civil Rights Movement events to legendary blues and jazz performers. Martin Luther King, Jr., B.B. King, “The King of Rock and Roll,” and “The Queen of Soul,” can all be seen, captured in their elements, in beautiful black and white photographs. The Withers Collection is the largest family-owned photographic collection taken by one individual. Withers Collection Museum and Gallery includes a main gallery, a music gallery, and a special events space in our studio lounge. It is the only authorized source for licensing Ernest C. Withers photographs. To learn more, please visit [thewitherscollection.org.](http://thewitherscollection.com/)