

**Clark Atlanta University  
Robert W. Woodruff Library  
Division of Archives**



*30th Anniversary Salute*

to

**The Atlanta  
University Center  
Civil Rights  
Movement  
1960 - 1990**

Atlanta in 1990 stands on the cusp of fulfilling its promise as an international city. In the last thirty years, it has cemented its position as the economic, political, and social capital of the New South. The awarding of the 1996 Olympics to the city is the fruition of these efforts. In a very real sense, the changes that made it possible for this success can be traced on a direct line that leads back to 11:00 am., March 15, 1960 when Atlanta University Center students began occupying seats at lunch counters in bus stations, city hall, and the state capitol. However much this city has become a city of inclusion, it was because of what students from the Atlanta University Center began thirty years ago.

The Atlanta students brought innovation to their protests. The bus trip Atlanta students conducted in the late 1960's to test segregated facilities preceded the "freedom rides" by six months. The Atlanta student movement had a national impact as well. The crisis created by the arrest of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in October, 1960 when he sat in with students at Rich's department store and the subsequent intervention by presidential candidate John F. Kennedy may have been the reason for Kennedy's slim victory that November.

The greatest importance of the student movement is not just that they were morally outraged, committed, sacrificing, and courageous enough to create and sustain a movement which led to the ultimate desegregation of the lunch counters in 1961, but the Atlanta student movement, in particular, and the Black student movement, in general, of those early, distant year of 1960 and 1961, formed an invaluable link between the past and the future.

Without those footsteps into uncharted territory, the victories at well-known places such as Birmingham, Selma, and countless other small places could not have been achieved.

# EXHIBIT

## ACTIVISTS (Wall at Entrance)

from the  
ATLANTA UNIVERSITY  
CENTER

- LONNIE KING
- JULIAM BOND
- JULIUS C. HOPE
- CAROLYN LONG BANKS
- JUNEDAVIS
- ALBERTBRINSON
- DANNY MITCHELL
- AMOS BROWN
- OTIS MOSS
- MARION BENNETT
- JOHNNIE PARHAM
- MARION WRIGHT EDEL-  
MAN
- HOWARD ZINN
- CHARLAYNE HUNTER-  
GAULT

## POLITICAL CARTOONS (Large Wall Cases)

from the  
Atlanta Inquirer  
T. MAURICE  
PENNINGTON  
Cartoonist  
(From the Artists' collection of  
original works)

## PHOTOGRAPHS (Walls of Gallery)

from the  
THE ATLANTA  
JOURNAL AND  
CONSTITUTION  
Ralph McGill, Editor  
(Archives, The Atlanta Journal and  
Constitution)

## PHOTOGRAPHS (Standing Case)

Student Activists from  
the Atlanta University  
Center