## THE NEWARK PUBLIC LIBRARY 5 WASHINGTON STREET, NEWARK, NEW JERSEY 07102



PRESS RELEASE

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## Sheila Oliver and Mildred Crump in Conversation with Guy Sterling at the Newark Public Library



On March 10 from 6:00-8:00 p.m. the Newark Public Library will host local author and historian Guy Sterling in conversation with notable Newarkers Sheila Y. Oliver and Mildred Crump as part of its continuing series Newark Lifetimes: Recollections and Reflections.

Assemblywoman Sheila Y. Oliver served as New Jersey's Assembly Speaker during the 214th and 215th Legislatures and is the first African-American woman to lead a legislative house in the state, and only the second

African-American woman to lead a legislative house in the country. Ms. Oliver earned her B.A. in sociology from Lincoln University and her Master of Science in planning and administration from Columbia University. Ms. Oliver is a native Newarker who graduated from Weequahic High School, and currently resides in East Orange.

Municipal Council President Mildred C. Crump was Newark's first African-American councilwoman and the first female Council president. She earned the Master of Public Administration from Rutgers-Newark and her undergraduate degree from Wayne State University. A retired braille teacher and Education Consultant from the New Jersey Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired, she has long been a community activist and an advocate for women, children, and others in need. In 2011, she was elected Vice-Chairperson of the National Democratic Municipal Officials and elected to the Democratic National Committee.

Guy Sterling is a former Star-Ledger reporter and author of *The Famous, the Familiar, and the Forgotten: 350 Notable Newarkers.* 

The program will be held in Centennial Hall on the second floor of the Main Library at 5 Washington Street in Newark.

Also, on view before and after the program, on the Library's Third Floor Gallery, is the exhibit, *Newark at 350: Settlement, Growth, Renewal*, which takes viewers on a journey through Newark's rich history from its founding by the Puritans in 1666 to the present day, and chronicles events that have not only shaped the city and the state, but the nation as well. Curated by librarian Thomas Ankner, the exhibit cases are filled with unique images from the Library's Charles F. Cummings New Jersey Information Center and its Special Collections Division. A dual arrangement of the cases provides both chronological and thematic approaches to the city's people, places, architecture, politics, institutions, and education.

The program and exhibit are free and open to the public. For more information and to RSVP, please call 973-733-7793. To check whether the Library is open in the case of inclement weather, call 973-733-7800.

The exhibit, which is supported by the New Jersey Historical Commission runs through December 31, 2016 and is on view during regular Library hours.

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