

THE NEWARK PUBLIC LIBRARY  
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## PRESS RELEASE

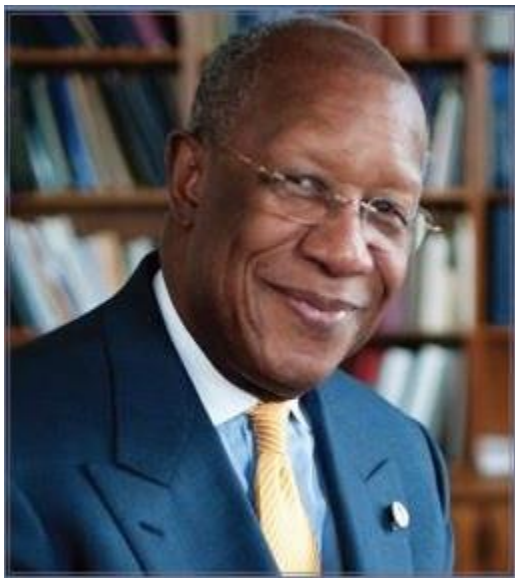
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January 5, 2017

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Please Contact: Pat McDermott, (973) 733-7744, pmcdermott@npl.org

### **Howard Dodson, Author and Library Leader, to Deliver the Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Lecture, “Becoming America: From Obama to Trump”**



On Saturday, January 21, from 2:00-4:00 p.m. the Newark Public Library will present the annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Lecture. Howard Dodson, author and library leader will speak about the state of the nation in his presentation “Becoming America: From Obama to Trump,” in Centennial Hall, at the Main Library. The program will also feature a special performance by The Solid Rock Singers with accompanist Linell Andrews.

To RSVP for this program, call 973-733-7793 or email [rsvp@npl.org](mailto:rsvp@npl.org). In case of inclement weather, please call 973-733-7784.

Howard Dodson served as Director of the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, a research unit of the New York Public Library system, from 1984 to 2011. He was also Director of the Moorland Spingarn Center and Howard University Libraries from 2011 to 2015.

Under his leadership, the Schomburg Center developed into the world’s most comprehensive public research library devoted exclusively to documenting and interpreting African Diasporan and African histories and cultures.

He has authored ten books, including *Becoming American: The African American Journey* in 2009, and curated more than 25 exhibitions.

Dodson played a leading role in transforming New York's long-lost African Burial Ground into a National Monument. He also served as a member of the President's Commission on the National Museum of African American History and Culture.

Dodson resides in Newark.

The Newark Public Library is New Jersey's largest municipal library, providing collections and services at the Main Library and seven branch libraries located in neighborhoods throughout the city. The Library serves as a gateway to knowledge and lifelong learning, presenting programs that serve diverse audiences.

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