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Triton College

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**Triton College Library Celebrates Black History Month with a
Black History Leadership Symposium**

Symposium Aimed to Inspire Leadership in Students

RIVER GROVE, Ill. – The Triton College Library celebrated the last day of Black History Month with a Black History Leadership Symposium on Tuesday, Feb. 28, in the Library (A Building). The symposium aimed to inspire students with speakers Jarrett McClain, a Triton student, and keynoter Dr. Jolynn McCray, a Triton instructor.

“We really wanted our Black History Leadership Symposium to feature leaders from the Triton College community,” explained Alex Gutierrez, a reference librarian. “I’m hoping this symposium encourages students to take initiatives for their own futures.”

Student Jarrett McClain is a member of campus ministry, the Triton College track team and Triton Undergraduate Men Pursuing Higher Education (TRIUMPH). As a natural born leader on Triton’s campus, McClain emphasized the importance of an education.

“We need to approach life with courage and have no fear,” he said. “To me, being a good leader is setting an example for others. Anybody can be a good leader.”

Keynote speaker and Triton instructor Dr. Jolynn McCray shared the story of her great-great-grandfather, William Overstreet. Overstreet was a slave in Kentucky and obtained freedom by joining the Army. Dr. McCray proudly showed those in attendance his freedom papers.

Dr. McCray also had the audience listen to the song “Glory” by John Legend and discussed different types of leadership and the importance of being a good leader.

“The Triton College Library really wanted to celebrate Black History Month with this symposium,” said Gutierrez. “We want students to know that a library is more than a place that just has books.”

For more information, contact library@triton.edu.

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Media Contact

Maryann Pisano

Staff Writer

maryannpisano@triton.edu

(708) 456-0300, Ext. 3202

ABOUT TRITON COLLEGE

Triton College is a two-year college dedicated to helping members of the 25 Western Cook County communities in our district and beyond to achieve educational, professional and personal success. Located in River Grove, Ill., Triton offers more than 120 degree and certificate programs on its 110-acre campus, featuring a comfortable, friendly and diverse atmosphere. Triton also holds classes at satellite locations and offers online learning opportunities. Triton's dedicated faculty and staff work to provide high quality, convenient and affordable educational opportunities to more than 14,000 students each year. Triton College is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission. Learn more at <http://www.triton.edu/>.