



Atlanta University Center Robert W. Woodruff Library

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Maynard Jackson Mayoral Administrative Records Collection and Traveling Exhibition Open

Atlanta, GA – The Archives Research Center of the Atlanta University Center (AUC) Robert W. Woodruff Library announces the opening of the Maynard Jackson Mayoral Administrative Records collection and “The People’s Mayor: Maynard Jackson and the Politics of Transformation” traveling exhibition. The collection and exhibition offer insight into the fascinating and complex political life of one the country’s most impressive leaders.

When he took office as mayor of Atlanta in October 1973, Maynard H. Jackson, Jr. became not only the youngest person elected mayor of a major southern city but also the first African American. He served two consecutive terms and then returned for a third term in 1990.

As a Morehouse College alumnus, Jackson had close ties to the AUC community, particularly as the son of Rev. Maynard H. Jackson, Sr., also a Morehouse graduate, and his mother, Irene Dobbs Jackson, a Spelman College alumna and professor. Jackson donated his administrative records prior to his death in 2003.

Spanning from 1968 to 1994, the collection features correspondence, photographs, speeches, news clippings, proclamations, and campaign material from Jackson’s terms as vice mayor and mayor. Noteworthy items in the collection include materials related to the development of MARTA and Hartsfield International Airport (later renamed Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport in his honor) as well as documents related to the Atlanta Child Murders, the creation of Neighborhood Planning Units, and the city’s winning bid to host the 1996 Summer Olympics. In total, the collection comprises approximately 300 linear feet, with more than 560 document boxes of materials processed.

“Announcing the opening of the collection is truly a celebratory event for the library. Maynard Jackson is an important political figure in Atlanta’s history. He engineered a new future for the city and its citizens,” said Loretta Parham, CEO and Library Director, “We’re honored to be the custodians of Jackson’s administrative records and excited to make the collection available to the public for research. The

traveling exhibition is also impressive, and visitors to the exhibition will find it to be not only educational but also quite engaging.”

The Maynard Jackson Mayoral Administrative Records finding aid is accessible via the AUC Woodruff Library’s site at <http://findingaid.auctr.edu/mayjack/search>. Researchers are encouraged to call ahead to make appointments to use the collection. “The People’s Mayor: Maynard Jackson and the Politics of Transformation” traveling exhibition will be on display from March 24 through December 2, 2011. For inquiries about the viewing the collection or booking the exhibition, e-mail archives@auctr.edu or call 404-978-2052.

About the Robert W. Woodruff Library

The Atlanta University Center Robert W. Woodruff Library is an independent entity organized and operated for the exclusive benefit of its member institutions—Clark Atlanta University, the Interdenominational Theological Center, Morehouse College and Spelman College. A 21st century learning place, the library features collaborative learning and study spaces, state-of-the-art technology, practice presentation studios, a premier destination Archives Research Center and a café. Visit www.auctr.edu.

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