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Tavis Smiley to receive Sankofa Freedom Award

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Posted: Tuesday, January 26, 2016 12:00 am



Tavis Smiley

By JAMES D. WATTS JR. World Scene Writer | 0 comments

Broadcaster Tavis Smiley, known for his eponymous talk show seen on PBS, will be in Tulsa on Thursday to receive the 2016 Sankofa Freedom Award.

The award, presented by the Tulsa Library Trust and the Tulsa City-County Library's African-American Resource Center, will be presented to Smiley at a ceremony beginning at 6 p.m. at Rudisill Regional Library, 1520 N. Hartford Ave.

Smiley will speak, answer questions and sign copies of his books, which will be available for purchase.

This event is free and open to the public.

The Sankofa Freedom Award is awarded every other year to a nationally acclaimed

individual who has dedicated his or her life to educating and improving the greater African-American community.

The award consists of a \$7,000 cash prize and an engraved medallion. Previous recipients include: Susan L. Taylor (2014), Hill Harper (2012), Pearl Cleage (2010), Nikki Giovanni (2008) and Michael Eric Dyson (2006).

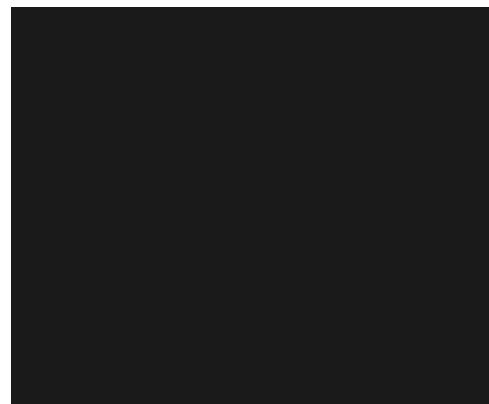
Smiley is the host of the late-night television talk show "Tavis Smiley" on PBS, as well as "The Tavis Smiley Show" from Public Radio International.

Smiley has written 18 books, including a best-selling memoir, "What I Know for Sure: My Story of Growing Up in America," "My Journey with Maya," chronicling his 28-year

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friendship with Maya Angelou, and "Death of a King: The Real Story of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Final Year."

The nonprofit Tavis Smiley Foundation provides leadership training and development for youths. Since its inception, more than 6,000 young people have participated in the foundation's "Youth to Leaders" training workshops and conferences.

For more information on the Sankofa Freedom Award and other Tulsa City-County Library events, call 918-549-7645, or go to tulsalibrary.org.

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Pace of Eufaula events rapid

• Tuesday, 41 candidates will appear in Eufaula's crowded, fast-paced primary election on Tuesday.

BY LINDSEY ROSS
EUFULA — The pace of the election in Eufaula is rapid. The primary election is set for Tuesday, and candidates are still making their way into the race. There are 41 candidates for the 11 seats on the city council. The election is expected to be one of the most competitive in the state's history.

BEFORE THE RACE
The candidates are expected to appear at a public hearing on Monday night to answer questions from voters. The hearing will be held at the Eufaula Community Center.

NEW ON TV
The primary election will be broadcast on Channel 22 on Tuesday at 7 p.m. The election will be covered by local news anchors.

RECORD
The primary election is expected to be one of the most competitive in the state's history. There are 41 candidates for the 11 seats on the city council.

PHOTO
A photo showing a group of people at a public hearing.

New Tulsa Vision to get council discussion

• The program's tax package could get an overhaul in Tuesday.

BY LINDSEY ROSS
TULSA — A new vision for the city of Tulsa is set to be discussed by the city council on Tuesday. The program, known as the Tulsa Vision, includes a tax package that could be subject to an overhaul.

PHOTO
A photo showing a group of people at a public hearing.

DHS releases report on slain boy

• An internal review shows the agency had 3 requests from parents before 6-year-old was killed.

BY LINDSEY ROSS
WASHINGTON — The Department of Homeland Security has released a report on the death of a 6-year-old boy in a DHS facility. The report shows that the agency had three requests from the parents before the boy was killed.

PHOTO
A photo showing a group of people at a public hearing.

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A photo showing a group of people at a public hearing.

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A photo showing a group of people at a public hearing.

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