

# CALL TO ACTION

## Sit In and Stand Up for Civil Rights



*"It does not make sense that negroes, who can shop for evening dresses and fur coats at fashionable stores in the city on an equal basis with white customers, cannot shop freely for books in libraries supported by taxes they help to pay."*

— Letter to the Editor, *Memphis Press-Scimitar*, March 22, 1960

## How would we respond to the call today?

The Sit-in Movement was staged largely by young college students. The first sit-in on February 1, 1960 in Greensboro, North Carolina, is said to have been the catalyst and the birth of Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee. By the end of the month, sit-ins had occurred in more than 30 communities in seven states. By the end of April, sit-ins had reached every southern state and attracted perhaps as many as 50,000 students.

Unsung civil rights heroes from the March 1960 Memphis Sit-In Movement will come together to share stories of their involvement in non-violent protest against racial segregation in the city. The open forum discussion will shed light on the racial conflict, political challenges and personal sacrifices of that time and will teach methods to engage a new generation in civil rights activism today.

*Join the National Civil Rights Museum in celebrating Memphis' Foot Soldiers of the Movement*

## 50th Anniversary of the Memphis Sit-Ins

Thursday, March 18, 2010 • Reception 6:00pm • Open Forum 7:00pm  
National Civil Rights Museum Auditorium

**Please RSVP by March 15**  
at (901) 521-9699 x289 or  
[kduke@civilrightsmuseum.org](mailto:kduke@civilrightsmuseum.org)



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