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Courageous Black Catholic Sister Who Risked Life for Voter Rights to Attend Premiere of New Documentary at UD on Nov. 15

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NEWS RELEASE

(Editor's Note: In addition to the documentary screening, reporters are invited to attend Cecilia Moore's African-American religion class at 9 a.m., Wednesday, Nov. 15, in room 117 in the Jesse Philips Humanities Center. Sister Mary Antona Ebo, who spearheaded a voter rights march in Selma, Ala., in 1965 will talk with the students.)

COURAGEOUS BLACK CATHOLIC SISTER WHO RISKED LIFE FOR VOTER RIGHTS TO ATTEND PREMIERE OF NEW DOCUMENTARY AT UD ON NOV. 15

DAYTON, Ohio – "My name is Sister Mary Antona, I am a Negro, a Catholic nun and I am here to witness to your rights to go to register to vote."

The woman who spoke those words and found herself on the front page of *The New York Times* after leading a voter rights march in Selma, Ala., in 1965 will be in the audience when a documentary telling her story premieres at the University of Dayton this month.

"Sisters of Selma: Bearing Witness for Change," a documentary being produced for Alabama Public Television, will be screened at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 15, in the Sears Recital Hall in the Jesse Philips Humanities Center on campus. The filmmaker Jayasri Hart and Sister Mary Antona Ebo will attend and, following the screening, will talk with the audience about the experiences of a group of Catholic sisters who risked their lives to demonstrate for civil rights and work for societal change.

The event, which is free and open to the public, is part of the Father Joseph M. Davis, S.M., Black Catholic History Month Celebration at the University of Dayton.

On March 7, 1965, Alabama state troopers and a sheriff's posse on horseback used clubs and gas to beat back voting rights marchers on the Edmund-Pettus Bridge in Selma. Dozens of people were injured; two were killed. The nationally televised event, which came to be known as "Bloody Sunday," stunned and outraged Americans. Religious leaders from around the country flocked to Selma to join the march to Montgomery, including a group of 54 rabbis, ministers, priests and sisters from St. Louis.

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