

**BREC Celebrates Black History Month with Councilwoman Erika L. Green  
“Celebrating Black History: Honoring Past Pioneers and Present Heroes in Medicine”**

**EAST BATON ROUGE PARISH** – The Recreation and Park Commission for the Parish of East Baton Rouge (BREC) in partnership with Councilwoman Erika L. Green and ExxonMobil will celebrate Black History Month in a two-part event on February 18<sup>th</sup> and February 20<sup>th</sup>. The theme for this year is “**Celebrating Black History: Honoring Past Pioneers and Present Heroes in Medicine**”. This event is free and open to the public.

This year, in light of COVID-19 restrictions, *Part I* will be a virtual program premiering by Outdoor Viewing, Channel 21, and social media on **February 18<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m.** The Outdoor Viewing will be held in the parking lot of Independence Park Theatre and will allow pre-registered viewers to watch from their vehicles and receive complementary refreshments. The program will include performances from Forest Heights Academy of Excellence, McKinley Middle Magnet School and Louisiana Leadership Institute Band.

*Part II* continues the celebration with a Day of Health and Service on **February 20<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.** at Charles R. Kelly Community Center’s back lawn area located at 3535 Riley Street. Community members are asked to come exercise, view the Walking Art Museum honoring medical professionals by local artists, and donate on-site care packages. Care packages will be donated to Our Lady of the Lake COVID unit and Children’s Hospital. Donations can be dropped off pre-event at City Hall, Charles R. Kelly Community Center, BREC and Exxon; and on February 20<sup>th</sup>.

This year’s celebrations will curate artistic expression by celebrating African-American medical professionals and frontline workers. We will honor Dr. Leon Kraft, Dr. Irene Evuleocha, and Dr. Janet Cook for their relentless work in the medical field and being present-day heroes in the community. This event is also sponsored by Imagination Leads, City of Baton Rouge, and Bonton Associates.

For more information, contact BREC at 225-272-9200 or [recreationevents@brec.org](mailto:recreationevents@brec.org) or Councilwoman Erika Green’s office at 225-389-4831 or [tmerridy@brla.gov](mailto:tmerridy@brla.gov)