



Saturday and Sunday, January 11 & 12

After flying and checking into the hotel Saturday, students enjoyed a dinner with recent Hunter Alumnae Julia Kunis and Big House Books Board Member Holly Smith. Sunday started with a visit to COFO and Jackson State University, with a lecture and tour from Dr. Luckett on JSU's role in the Civil Rights Movement. After, the students sat in on services at Mt. Helm; a Historic Baptist Church adjacent to Farish Street, the once famed historic Black business district of Jackson.

Dr. Luckett joined for lunch to discuss the Jackson Public Schools fight to support its students. We were joined by social entrepreneurs Dr. Bill Cooley and his daughter Toni Cooley. Toni questioned the students on what amenities and features they desire when considering living as young adults. Lunch was followed by a visit to the powerful Civil Rights Museum. After viewing exhibits on the history of the Civil Rights Movement, we volunteered at Big House Books with Board Member Rachel Glazer and Shira Muroff to fulfill book requests to inmates in Mississippi prisons.



Left, Top: Dr. Luckett lecturing during tour of JSU; Left, Center: COFO lobby during Freedom Summer; Left, Bottom: Students fulfilling and processing orders from inmates at Big House Books.

Below: Students after visiting the Mississippi Civil Rights Museum





Monday, January 13

Students began their volunteer placements in the morning at the ACLU of Mississippi, the Civil Rights Museum, Mississippi Center for Justice, and Stewpot Community Services. Photos and details of student placements are on the next page.

As part of placements, two groups toured the State Capitol. After students completed their volunteer assignments for the day, Federal Judge Carlton Reeves spoke to us in his courtroom. Judge Reeves earned national coverage for a speech he made to 3 white men before sentencing them for the murder of a black men, which they carried out yelling “white power”.

Students wrapped up the day with dinner at the Iron Horse Grill, joined by Beth Orlansky of the Mississippi Center for Justice. Beth has been working on the nationally recognized case of Curtis Flowers, who has been in prison for 23 years while having an unprecedented six criminal trials.



Beth Orlansky and students



Judge Reeves with students





Tuesday, January 14

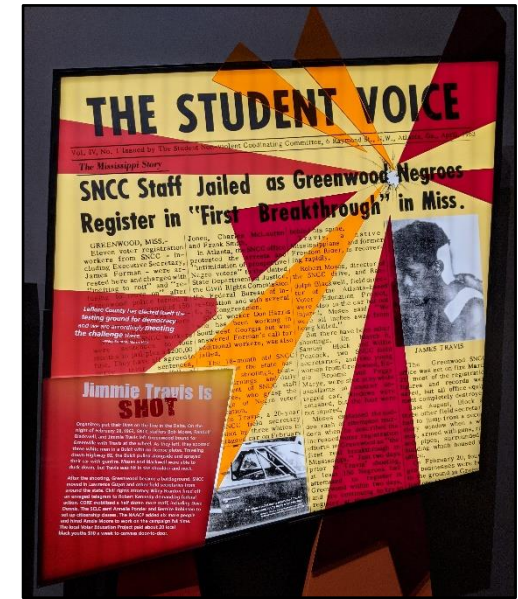
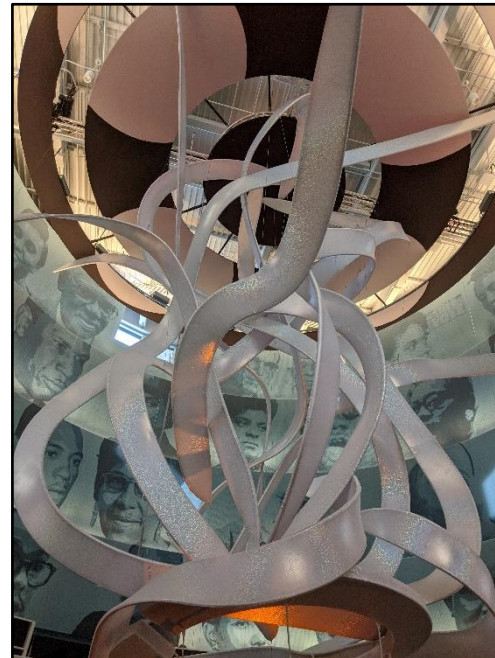
The ACLU of Mississippi is dedicated to promoting, defending, and extending civil liberties to all Mississippians. Students volunteered alongside staff on the Transgender Education and Advocacy Program of Mississippi, the first Transgender education program in the state.

Four students also volunteered with the Mississippi Department of Archives and History at the Civil Rights Museum. They were able to research original documents from the reconstruction era of Mississippi, exploring topic areas such as education, public health, and the justice system. The Department of Archives and History at the Civil Rights Museum collects, preserves, and provides access to the archival resources of the state.

After visiting the Mississippi Museum of Art, students were joined at dinner by Jake McGraw from the William Winter Institute and Rethink Mississippi. Jake shared with the students some of the ongoing work toward key issues facing Mississippi, including race relations, population migration, and economic development.



This Little Light of Mine exhibit at Civil Rights Museum



Student Voice display, Civil Rights Museum

Jake McGraw with students





Wednesday, January 15:

Stewpot Community Services works to provide immediate help to those in need with essential items and food, as well as provide opportunities for those who can give back to their community. Students organized clothing racks, stocked the pantry, served lunch and engaged with patrons, and facilitated and participated with enrichment activities.

Students volunteering at the Mississippi Center for Justice utilized their Spanish language skills to reach out to families impacted in recent ICE raids in poultry factories. They called families to document what information they could to support the Mississippi Center for Justice’s legal team in the event of a court case to keep their family in the United States.

Following students completing their volunteer placements, we toured Medgar Evers home, the site of his murder in 1963. This was followed by a visit to Foot Print Farms, the largest Urban Farm in Mississippi. Foot Print Farms uses their 68 acres to directly address food deserts and swamps in Mississippi, as well as to facilitate youth and community engagement and education around food justice.



Stewpot Community Services



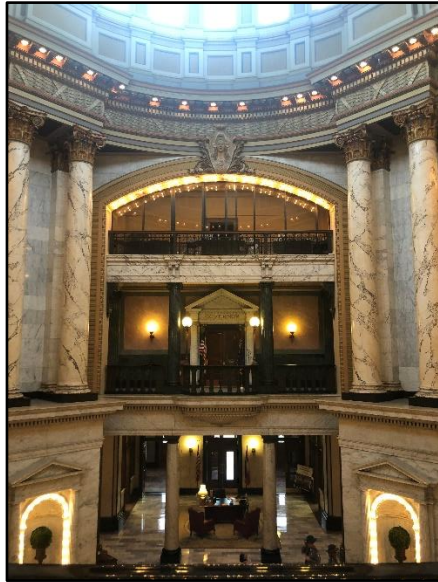
Mississippi Center for Justice

Foot Print Farms, with founder Cindy Ayers



Medgar Evers Home





Dinner and Blues music, *Hal and Mals*



COFO Meeting Room, Jackson State University

Dr. Luckett talking about Jackson Public Schools over lunch



MISSISSIPPI
FREEDOM
TRAIL

**MEDGAR EVERS
HOME**

Medgar and Myrlie Evers moved into this home with their children - Darrell and Reena - in 1955 after Medgar became Mississippi's first NAACP Field Secretary. Son Van was born in 1960. Evers was an outspoken activist for voter registration and social justice. Just after midnight, on June 12, 1963, he was assassinated in the driveway as he returned from a meeting. After his death, the family moved to California and deeded the home to Tougaloo College as an historic house museum.

PLACED DURING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FREEDOM RIDES - 1981-2011