

**Black Votes Matter**  
UNO Adjunct Professor, Preston Love Jr.  
**Prestonlovejr.com**

Black Lives, Black Poverty and Black Votes Matter

### **Face to Face with Black History**

June 23, 40 of our youth, specifically OPS High School youth returned from a life changing Civil Rights Tour throughout the South. Memphis, Birmingham, Tuskegee, Selma, Across the Edmond Pettus Bridge, Montgomery (including the new lynching Memorial and Memorial) and Atlanta. They returned different than they left. They returned educated, sensitized, empowered and focused. They are going to be our future leaders. They came face to face with their own Black history. They will never be the same.

They smiled. They laughed, they cried, they became angry, they were shocked, they journaled, they reflected.

The *2018 Walking in Black History Tour* was organized by Black Votes Matter Institute of Community Engagement (BVM). “BVM raised the funds and the youth were able to go on the tour with no expenses to youth or their families. The Weitz Family Foundation, Sherwood Foundation and BVM, along with numerous large donations of \$1,000 or more as well as many, many generous smaller donations by over 20 donors, financed the Tour.” Said Paris Spencer-Taylor, BVM Executive Asst.

Accompanying the youth were several Chaperones (Black Studies adjunct Professors; Terri Miller, Terri Crawford, and Karen Johns, Christian couples; Pastor and Mrs. T. Michaël Williams, Pastor and Mrs. George Keys, Elder Jaron Taylor and Paris Spencer-Taylor, Hope Center’s Erline Charles, LaDonna Brown. Also attending Historic photographer Rudy Brown and Historian Loren Blake. Also, on the Tour were two UNO students from UNO Adjunct Professor’s and Tour initiator Preston Love Jr., Tour coordinator Shelly Henderson, Nurse Kelsie Nygren, RN-BSN and driving a trailing Van was Regina Jean-Pierre.

BVM announced a week before the Tour that a national film company would travel and produce a documentary. The film company sent a five-member film crew to film the entire process.

BVM has announced the formal completion of the 2018 Tour and the launch the 2019 Tour at the **First Annual BVM Face to Face with Black History Banquet. FRIDAY, OCTOBER 12<sup>TH</sup> AT Scott Conference Center. Tables and Seats are available by calling: Paris at 402-905-9305. Theme of the Banquet: “History: Learn it, Respect it, Make it”**

The Banquet will premier the Documentary, honor the Youth and donors and launch the 2019 Tour. Keynote Speaker will be Dr Edward Wheeler, President ITC, Atlanta.  
(Interdenominational Theological Center)

The Complete and Comprehensive Analysis and Report is available upon request. KETV will aired a 30-minute Chronicle on the Tour, Sunday, July 15<sup>th</sup> at 10am. The Link to the KETV story is also available upon request. **402-905-9305.**