News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Celebrating Community: Black Families of Fairview and Kelly Hill

Hayward (January, 2016) –The Hayward Area Historical Society is proud to present *Celebrating Community: Black Families of Fairview and Kelly Hill* guest curated by Karen McHenry-Smith in our Community Gallery January 14 – March 5, 2017.

It has been said that understanding Black history and culture is essential to understanding American history and culture. This local history exhibit depicts the diverse experiences of past and present residents of Fairview and Kelly Hill in unincorporated Hayward, with emphasis on Black families that purchased homes and moved to this East Bay suburban community in the 1950s and 1960s. During this time, what is now known as Fairview, was one of the few communities open to non-white home owners in the Hayward area.

"Growing up on Kelly Street in the 1960s- 70s, was a wonderful experience. It was place with rows of cookie cutter houses, carefully manicured lawns, tree lined streets, and open space. Later deemed "The Hill" it was a place where kinship and a sense of family developed among neighbors. We didn't just share physical space. We shared an experience!" *Karen McHenry-Smith, Guest Curator*

We invite you to join us to explore and discover community through the lens of your African American neighbors. The exhibit features: neighborhood/area maps, oral histories, news articles, family photographs, artifacts, memorabilia and much more.

A free reception for the exhibition will be held on Friday, January 20 from 5:30-7:30 pm.

In conjunction with the exhibition, there will be two free museum admission days on Sunday, February 5 and Sunday February 19. Free Days are sponsored by a generous donation from Paradise Road Ranch.

Community members are invited to visit the exhibition at the Museum for History and Culture at 22380 Foothill Boulevard in Hayward. For more information please call (510) 581-0223 or visit www.haywardareahistory.org.

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