

RITE NOW @ ROP



During the month of February, the students of JoAnn Bridges Academy continued the program's tradition of hosting powerful Black History events. This year, students prepared throughout the month by studying articles, autobiographies, discussions, films, and dances that reflect the accomplishments of extraordinary trailblazers, both past and present.

The program was designed not only to educate students about Black history origins but to honor what our ancestors endured and accomplished in difficult times. Students opened the program with a welcoming speech, the Pledge of Allegiance, and the Negro National Anthem, "Lift Every Voice and Sing." One student shared her own writings on the history of Black ancestors and how they have impacted us in daily life and modern society.

Spiritual songs and soul stirring praise dances were performed to honor and show respect for ancestors' tremendous work during hard times and for their determination and leadership. The students reflected on "Monologue" by Harriet Tubman, as well as poems such as "I Am the Black Child" by Maya Angelou. The young women also shared their own inspirational poem, "Black and White" while providing improvisation.

JBA's student athletes closed the program with their creation, "JBA Presents: Oh, Freedom/Goodbye" which featured two inspirational songs and students acting the roles of slaves to represent the feelings of Black ancestors attempting to escape to freedom.

To wrap up the program, one of the student athletes read the quote by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., "If you can't fly then run, if you can't run then walk, if you can't walk then crawl, but whatever you do you have to keep moving forward."