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Triton College Celebrates Black History Month with Performance by Roosevelt Middle School

RIVER GROVE, Ill. – Triton College celebrated the start of Black History Month with a special performance by the Bellwood School District 88 Roosevelt Middle School band on Wednesday, Feb. 1, in the Triton College Student Center Cafeteria (B Building).

The performance consisted of selections from several African-American composers, with each song receiving a historical introduction of the composer by a Roosevelt student. Visual representation of each composer was shown to the audience.

Songs performed included *Lift Every Voice and Sing, Soul Bossa Nova* by Quincy Jones and *Georgia On My Mind* by Ray Charles, among others.

Mr. Clarence Williams, Roosevelt Middle School's band instructor, encouraged the crowd to sing along and cheer.

Williams also read the poem, What If There Were No Black People in the World, which highlighted the many inventions and contributions made by notable African Americans.

Those in attendance included Bellwood School District 88 Superintendent Dr. Victoria Hansen, Triton College President Mary-Rita Moore, families of the band students, community members and Triton College employees and students. All that were present enjoyed the music, atmosphere and food.

"It's a huge privilege for the Roosevelt Middle School band to perform at Triton College," said Williams. "We stress to our students that it is very important to build community. As musicians, we love performing and giving back."

For more information on Black History Month programs, contact Dr. Purva DeVol at dei@triton.edu.

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Media Contact

Maryann Pisano Staff Writer <u>maryannpisano@triton.edu</u> (708) 456-0300, Ext. 3202

ABOUT TRITON COLLEGE

Triton College is a two-year college dedicated to helping members of the 25 Western Cook County communities in our district and beyond to achieve educational, professional and personal success. Located in River Grove, Ill., Triton offers more than 120 degree and certificate programs on its 110-acre campus, featuring a comfortable, friendly and diverse atmosphere. Triton also holds classes at satellite locations and offers online learning opportunities. Triton's dedicated faculty and staff work to provide high quality, convenient and affordable educational opportunities to more than 14,000 students each year. Triton College is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission. Learn more at www.triton.edu.