

# Amplifying Diverse Voices

The Ohio Northern University  
Black Voices Project

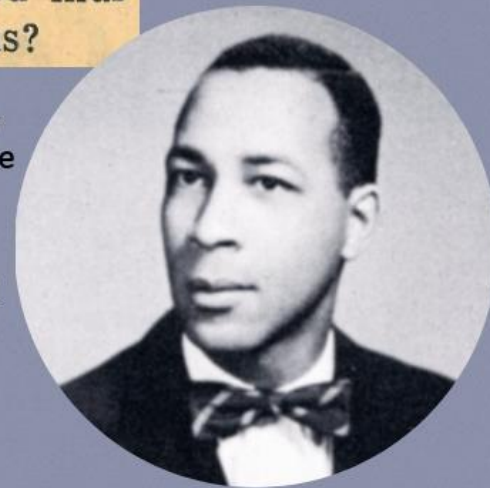
Matt Francis  
Society of Ohio Archivists  
June 8, 2021

# Beginning the Project

- Wanted to highlight Black voices
- Originally a social media effort during Black History Month.

I ask these questions, "Is that humor, to get a laugh at another's sake; or is it to help the process of stereotyping the few colored individuals present on our campus?"

"If it was used to stereotype, we few individuals on the campus who were honored to have been born with a different color of skin, (because it was God's will). I think they have succeeded, and there again, I would question the objective personality ability and brotherhoodness of the user."



*Ralph Carter  
Ohio Northern University Student  
Northern Review Letter to the Editor  
Nov. 8, 1955*

# Beginning the Project

## OHIO NORTHERN UNIVERSITY BLACK VOICES

A selection of holdings from the Ohio Northern University Archives that highlight Black voices found in our collections.

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### About This Guide

In February 2019, Heterick Memorial Library staff began a project to highlight Black voices from the ONU community that are documented in the resource for all ONU students and community members who are interested in Black history, Ohio Northern history, and their impact on where we live. From this small selection of materials, we envision that it will be updated as we continue our work to make historic materials that are reflective of our diverse community.



ONU Black A. G. Phillips, Peter, M. Johnson, F. Brooks, Row D. A. Lashley, V. Pitts, W. Mann, J. Brubaker, H. Harris, Row D. J. Lora, S. Washington, G. Lashley, S. Phillips, Row A. M. Cooper, D. Harrison, N. Johnson, K. Coates, S. Lafferty

#### Union of Black Students

ONU chapter of the Union of Black Students, 1970.

- Quickly decided to add an output more permanent along with social media outreach.
- Reached out to the ONU Office of Multicultural Development (OMD)

# Featured Materials - *The Northern Review*, (1955-1987)



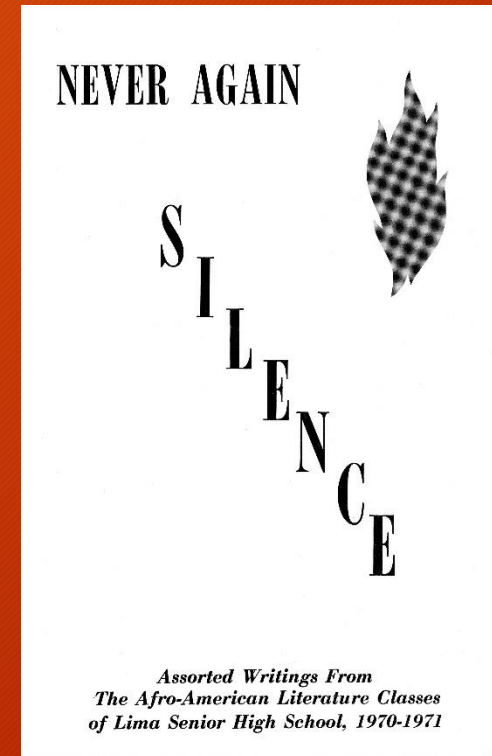
Monday, January 25, 1971

## Shots fired; UBS house damaged

Last week it was announced that windows in the UBS Cultural Center and in Presser Hall were destroyed by shots from a small caliber weapon during Thanksgiving recess. Presently it is still not known who fired the shots.



# Featured Materials - *The Northern Review* (1971)



# Featured Materials - “Listen & Learn” (2020)



## Team Statement on Recent Events

We, the Ohio Northern Football players and coaches, are deeply saddened by the recent events. The recent display of senseless deaths, assaults and racism are unacceptable. We are genuinely concerned about the well being of our students/teammates of color and their families.

We acknowledge that not all of us have experienced pain and suffering from systematic racism. We will do our part to listen and learn about the experiences and perspectives of those who have dealt with inequality.

We pledge to follow through on the understanding that we all have a responsibility to bring about change. Our commitment will be centered on the following:

1. Empathize and listen to our students/teammates.
2. We will not tolerate any hatred or prejudice.
3. Evaluate ways and act to create open communication.
4. Actively endorse organizations which support inclusivity.

Our team has discussed the current situation and we are encouraged by the men of “action” who comprise this program. We will stand together as a family and do our part to demonstrate love, respect and appreciation so that we can come together as Americans. The first step will be to share stories of listening and learning that our players have experienced. Please join us in striving to create an environment where we recognize and accept our differences.

ONU Players and Coaches



Chase Jones - Listen & Learn / Come Together (J... [Copy link](#)

Watch on  YouTube

# Campus Use



- Academic Support - Courses
- Student Groups
- Campus diversity discussions
- Alumni outreach

# Next Steps - Revisiting and Expanding





# Next Steps - Evolving to Diverse Voices

## OHIO NORTHERN UNIVERSITY DIVERSE VOICES

A selection of holdings from the Ohio Northern University Archives that highlight diverse voices from our campus community.

### ONU Diverse Voices - Information

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### About the Diverse Voices Project

The ONU Diverse Voices Project is a joint effort between the ONU Archives, Heterick Memorial Library, the Office of Multicultural Development, and campus community members designed to help preserve, share, and highlight diverse voices from the ONU community. The materials found within in this resource are preserved alongside other historical materials in the ONU Archives, and it is our hope that moving forward both the ONU Archives and the ONU Diverse Voices Project will continue to grow as we strive to have our holdings become more reflective of the diverse lives and experiences of our community members.



# Insights So Far

- Working for inclusive environments and processes.
- Empowering community members to have ownership over the work and project.
- Willingness to expand, change course, and revise.
- Commitment to highlighting to internal and external audiences.

