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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Celebrating 50 years of African American Leadership

NEW ORLEANS- AARP- Louisiana joins forces with local non-profit organizations to commemorate 50 years of African American leadership by presenting Moving Through the Civil Rights Movement: The Role of Black Leadership in the City of New Orleans 1968-2018. The event will be held at Dillard University's Georges Auditorium, 2601 Gentilly Blvd, on Saturday, March 24 featuring Donna Brazile, political strategist and former chair of the Democratic National Committee. The pre-event reception will begin at 10 a.m. with the program following at 11 a.m.

Brazile will discuss an overview of the Civil Rights Movement and the impact of African American leadership in New Orleans by focusing on key topics including the election of the city's first African American mayor, Ernest "Dutch" Morial, to the election of the city's first African American female, mayor elect Latoya Cantrell. The conversation will emerge as she moderates a panel discussion exploring topics of education, culture, economic prosperity, and community activism from the perspective of local black leaders from both the private and public sectors.

"This conversation is an opportunity to unify all communities in New Orleans regardless of race to discuss and celebrate the positive transformation of this city through Black leadership over the past 50 years," said Linedda McIver, Director of Multicultural Outreach and Engagement. "As the city transitions to follow the leadership of Cantrell, AARP wants to be on the cutting edge of encouraging empowerment and leadership in the city."

Since 1978, the city has been fortunate to experience eight consecutive terms of Black mayoral leadership. AARP- LA and sponsoring organizations aspire for New Orleans' residents to understand and have a greater appreciation for the history and legacy that has been established as it pertains to Black leadership.

"At Dillard University, we pride ourselves as being the gathering place on discussions about civil rights, leadership and the evolution of the African American community," said Dr. Walter M. Kimbrough, president of Dillard. "So having a voice in this conversation with Donna and other leaders continues to be an extension of who we are as a University, but also extremely necessary now more than ever."

Everyone is welcome to attend this forum, as it is free and open to the public. Please visit <https://goo.gl/L5Q9t8> for information and registration.

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About AARP is the nation's largest nonprofit, nonpartisan organization dedicated to empowering Americans 50 and older to choose how they live as they age. With nearly 38 million members and offices in every state, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands, AARP works to strengthen communities and advocate for what matters most to families with a focus on health security, financial stability and personal fulfillment. AARP also works for individuals in the marketplace by sparking new solutions and allowing carefully chosen, high-quality products and services to carry the AARP name. To learn more, visit www.aarp.org or follow @AARP and @AARPadvocates on social media.

About Dillard University - Established in 1869 with support from the American Missionary Association of the Congregational Church (now the United Church of Christ) and the Freedmen's Aid Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church (now the United Methodist Church), Straight University and the Union Normal School were founded. They were subsequently renamed Straight College and New Orleans University, respectively. In 1935 New Orleans University and Straight College merged to form Dillard University. In 2019 Dillard will celebrate 150 years of educating some of the country's richest minds. Located in New Orleans at 2601 Gentilly Blvd., Dillard is a private four-year liberal arts historically black institution that is keeping the tradition alive of not only scholarship and service, but also being a hub of intellectual activity. Under the leadership of its seventh president, Dr. Walter M. Kimbrough, Dillard hosts the Brain Food Lecture Series bringing in an array of notable influencers such as Michael Eric Dyson, Tavis Smiley, Cornel West, Issa Rae, Misty Copeland, Malcolm Nance, Benjamin Crump and Iyanla Vanzant, to name a few. For more information, please visit www.dillard.edu. Also, follow Dillard on Twitter, Facebook: @DU1869 and Instagram: Dillard University.