

Jackie Robinson: A Story Apart

Artist: Mike Wiley

Wednesday, April 24, 2024

<u>Grade Level:</u>	<u>Time:</u>
4th Grade	10:00 am
5th Grade	1:00 pm



Mike Wiley is a North Carolina-based actor & playwright whose compelling works of documentary theatre yield powerful journeys through milestones and turning points of a shared American history. With a remarkable ability to inspire dialog, his creative vision and talents are broad and magnetic, leading audiences and communities to begin to peel layers and barriers to true 'community.' When a curtain comes down on a Mike Wiley performance, the experience has far from "ended." It's more likely that light may have seeped through, that a stubborn door may have just nudged open.

Mike Wiley has spent the last decade fulfilling his mission to bring educational theatre to young audiences. In the early days of his career, Wiley found few theatrical resources to shine light on key events and figures in black history. To bring these often ignored stories to life, Wiley started his own production company. Through his work, he has introduced countless students to the stories and legacies of Emmett Till, the Tuskegee Airmen, Henry "Box" Brown and more. Most recently he has brought Timothy B. Tyson's acclaimed book "Blood Done Sign My Name" to the stage. Mike Wiley has a Masters of Fine Arts from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, has appeared on the Discovery Channel, The Learning Channel and the National Geographic Channel and was recently profiled in Our State Magazine.

African American athletes pushed the color barrier to its breaking point. Give an ear to the ghosts of a bygone era of separate unequal locker rooms, of whites only hotels, and restaurants with only a back door for Colored Athletes to enter. Witness the hopeless humiliation of a star player and a second hand citizen. Meet role models of the outfield, the backcourt, the track, the ring, the blacktop and the mud. This play will intrigue, educate and set a thirst for success on fire. Jackie Robinson: A Game Apart is a powerful lesson of courage through dedication and leadership.

Curriculum Connections: American History, Multicultural Understanding, Listening/Communication Skills, & Visual & Performing Arts

Produced by: Mike Wiley Productions

Performance Length: 50 Minutes

Suggested Grade Levels: (3+)

Student Study Guide Available: YES

Artist Website:
www.mikewileyproductions.com



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