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Contact: Maria Gebhardt, 954-786-7570, mgebhardt@browardlibrary.org

Contact: Steve Vinik, 954-357-5589, svinik@broward.org

Broward County Commission Libraries Division Announces
Tyrone Bryant Dedication Ceremony
Scheduled for Thursday, September 4, 2008

The new Tyrone Bryant Branch Library will hold a dedication ceremony on September 4, 2008 at 10:00 a.m. at the new facility located at 2230 N.W. 21 Avenue in Fort Lauderdale. The new 10,000 square foot library replaces the older, 28-year-old facility that closed in July.



The new library's collection totals 40,000 items including books, periodicals,

DVDs, audio books, CDs, computer software and more. The new library will also offer a multipurpose meeting room with a capacity of 75 people, a private tutoring room, 21 public computers with Internet access, and wireless Internet connectivity throughout the entire building. The new facility was funded by the 1999 Library Bond Issue.

The Tyrone Bryant Branch originally opened in 1980 as the Rock Island Library. On April 30, 1998, the library was officially renamed the Tyrone Bryant Branch in honor of Tyrone Bryant, a Broward County librarian who advocated for the disadvantaged and helped mobilize communities to build libraries in communities where they were most needed.

At the time of his death in 1988, at the age of 45, Bryant had been instrumental in the development of the Rock Island Library as well as other Broward County libraries in Collier City, Carver Ranches, Dania, Rock Island and the Mizell Community Center. Bryant also initiated

programs that brought books to homebound residents and provided transportation to libraries for those unable to get to one on their own. Additionally, he worked tirelessly with the state of Florida to build a library catering to migrant farm workers in the central Florida town of Frostproof.

The award-winning Broward County Libraries Division, founded in 1974, provides essential quality-of-life community service as well as outstanding customer service throughout Broward County. It has grown to become the ninth-largest library system in the nation. It is also one of the busiest, with more than nine million walk-in customers visiting its 37 locations throughout the year. Broward County Library provides approximately three million items and more than 2,000 computers for public use, and facilitates events and programs that satisfy the changing needs of Broward County's community of children, teens, and adults for information, education, and recreation. It retains a strong emphasis on literacy and after-school programs. The library's Web site, www.broward.org/library, continuously evolves to meet the needs of its customers and to offer information that encourages exploration of knowledge and self-expansion. In addition to providing electronic visitors with information about its locations, services, and events, the Web site has easy links to online catalogs, references, and electronic databases. Broward County Library has also become a leader in E-Communication, offering easy ways for its customers to stay electronically informed through its E-Newsletter, E-Spotlights, E-Updates, and E-Invitation.

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