



**For Immediate Release**  
March 27, 2024

**Panelist announced: Black World Series Book Launch at the Black History Museum.  
Richmond, Virginia, April 13, 2024, 4 – 6 pm**

Each April 15 since 2004, Major League Baseball celebrates Jackie Robinson Day to commemorate them being the first professional sport to break the color barrier and integrate their industries. An April 9, 2007 article from ESPN.com entitled "Robinson would have a mixed view of today's game" included an intriguing question: "What would Jackie think?" William Forrester Jr. was asked to answer this question and his candid response introduced him and his organization, the Metropolitan Junior Baseball League (MJBL), to the sports world. Now, Forrester invites you to answer this question after reading his veracious and inspiring book, "Black World Series."

It's a feel-good story that will inspire sports enthusiasts and anyone interested in African American history. In 1966, Dr. William M.T. Forrester started his youth baseball league, MJBL, when his son and other Black youths were denied the opportunity to participate in white little leagues.

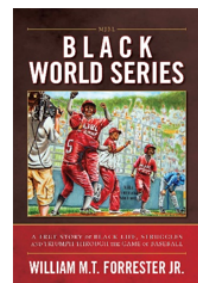
Four decades after the launch of MJBL, Forrester Jr. led a national initiative through the organization his father started to help improve the quality of life for Black and underserved youths by providing educational and athletic programs. The focal point of this initiative was Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), and some of the figureheads from this movement included a top executive from the sports industry, the leading sports media network, and the family of the perennial long-ball hitter in baseball.

The event will include a brief panel discussion with several individuals who played significant roles in this true story and an announcement concerning the 2024 MJBL Inner City Classic and Black World Series. Panelists include Alaiyo Bradshaw, a professional illustrator and fine artist from Brooklyn, New York. She is a Professor of fine arts at Parsons School of Design in New York City. Raymond Stephen is a retired sporting goods store owner and legendary youth baseball coach in Detroit, Michigan, for over 50 years. Micheal Paul Williams, a Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist for the Richmond Times Dispatch. Dr. Yolanda Bruce Brooks, clinical sports psychologist and owner of Sports Life Transition, resides in Dallas, Texas. Camille Greene is a retired senior regulatory specialist for Wachovia in Richmond, Virginia. James Williams is a former professional baseball player and the last head baseball coach at Howard University. The panel discussion can be viewed live on MJBL Facebook.

*Black World Series* is a story intended to motivate and inspire readers while gathering support for the MJBL program, which is still in operation today. Fans of true stories about overcoming adversity and preserving against incredible odds will find *Black World Series* a great addition to their home library.



**122 W Leigh St, Richmond, VA 23220**



*Black World Series* is available for purchase online at [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) and [Barnes and Noble.com](https://www.barnesandnoble.com).

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