

## **Plans Underway for Marker Honoring Anne Moody**

The civil rights pioneer will be featured  
on the Mississippi Writers Trail

By Roscoe Barnes III, PhD

*Chairman, Anne Moody History Project*

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### **Planning for Anne Moody Marker**

Centreville Alderwoman Felicia Williams, left, talks to Anne Moody History Project member Michelle Higginbotham, and Visit Mississippi's Cultural Program Manager Maggie Lowery in the community park in downtown Centreville.

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A representative of the Mississippi Development Authority (MDA) and Visit Mississippi came to Wilkinson County on Friday, February 28, to talk about Anne Moody and current plans to honor her on the Mississippi Writers Trail.

Maggie Lowery, the cultural programs manager for Visit Mississippi's tourism development division, said a marker honoring Moody is ready to be posted in downtown Centreville, Miss., pending approval by town officials.

The proposed site for the marker is the town's community park, across from the library. A special unveiling of the marker is expected in March.

Lowery shared the news during her visit to Centreville, where she met with Centreville Alderwoman Felicia Williams. They were joined by Dr. Roscoe Barnes III and Michelle Higginbotham, members of the Anne Moody History Project (AMHP) of MTC's Wilkinson County Correctional Facility (WCCF). Barnes, who serves as AMHP chairman, said he and Higginbotham were happy to learn of the special honor being given to Moody.

"We're grateful to Ms. Williams for inviting us to participate in this historic event," he said. "We are thrilled to see Anne Moody receive this honor, which she so richly deserves."



From left: Felicia Williams, Michelle Higginbotham, and Maggie Lowery.

Moody, who was born and reared in Centreville, is the author of *Coming of Age in Mississippi*. She died in 2015 at the age of 74. At the time of her death, she was living in Gloster, Miss.

News of the marker was first shared by Williams in December 2019. She had been working with Lowery to secure a place for its location.

According to Lowery, funding for the project was made possible by a grant from the National Endowment of the Humanities.

Official approval of the project by the town of Centreville means Moody would join the ranks of a few other famous writers from Mississippi. So far, markers have been created for Eudora Welty, Margaret Walker, Elizabeth Spencer and William Faulkner. Plans are underway to honor Tennessee Williams, Shelby Foote, and Walker Percy.



From left: Maggie Lowery, Michelle Higginbotham, Felicia Williams.

For more information on Visit Mississippi and the Mississippi Writers Trail, visit: <https://visitmississippi.org/writerstrail>

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**For more information:**

See the **Anne Moody** page [here](#). Questions about the Anne Moody History Project may be directed to Roscoe Barnes III, Ph.D. via email at [doctorbarnes3@gmail.com](mailto:doctorbarnes3@gmail.com) or [roscoebarnes3@yahoo.com](mailto:roscoebarnes3@yahoo.com). For updates on Anne Moody history and the on-going work of this community service project, simply follow this blog or follow AMHP on Twitter (@AnneMoodyHP). #ComingOfAgeinMississippi