

# JOSH GIBSON FOUNDATION

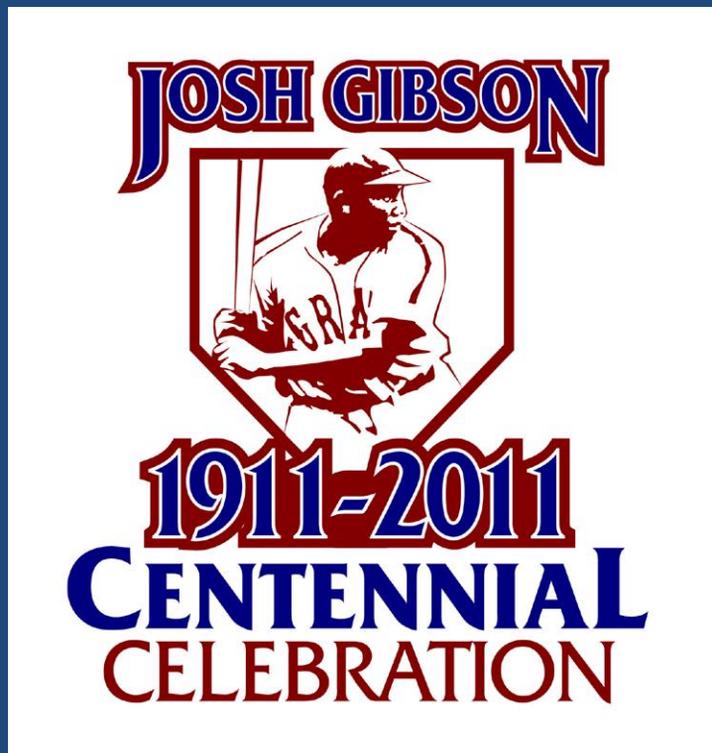
Dedicated to training a new generation of leaders by providing youth with educational and mentoring programs designed to ensure their success.

JoshGibson.org

## Josh Gibson Centennial Celebration Educational Tour

*Reaching Schools, Colleges & Universities Nationwide*

1911



2011

Prepared by: Sports Celebrity Marketing  
info@sportscelebs.com  
954-642-0707 905-873-8405  
www.sportscelebs.com



A banner for the Josh Gibson Foundation. On the left is a black and white photo of a young boy in a baseball uniform. On the right is a black and white photo of a young girl in a baseball uniform. The text 'JOSH GIBSON FOUNDATION' is in large, bold, yellow and white letters. Below it is the mission statement: 'Dedicated to training a new generation of leaders by providing youth with educational and mentoring programs designed to ensure their success.' The website 'JoshGibson.org' is in the bottom right.

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## *About the Josh Gibson Centennial Celebration 1911-2011*

2011 marks the 100<sup>th</sup> year Anniversary of the birth of Legendary Slugger of the Negro Leagues Josh Gibson. In commemoration of this event, the Josh Gibson Centennial Celebration has been launched in his honor. Our goal is to educate the masses on the Legacy of Josh Gibson, whom many regard as the greatest Negro League Player ever . It is our hope to bring this extraordinary program to schools, colleges and universities across the country this year, bringing a part of history into the present .

Students and faculty will be touched by a tradition of greatness as they hear first hand narratives from a direct descendant of Josh Gibson through his great-grandson Sean L. Gibson. These accurate accounts have been handed down through the years in a heartfelt endeavor to honor the memory of Josh Gibson and to salute the players of the Negro Leagues, some of the greatest players to never play in the Major Leagues.

A banner for the Josh Gibson Foundation. On the left is a photo of a man in a baseball uniform. In the center, the text reads "JOSH GIBSON FOUNDATION" in large, bold letters. Below this, it says "Dedicated to training a new generation of leaders by providing youth with educational and mentoring programs designed to ensure their success." On the right is a photo of a woman in a baseball uniform. At the bottom right of the banner, the website "JoshGibson.org" is listed.

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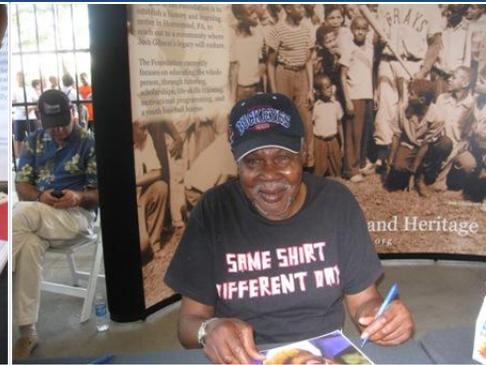
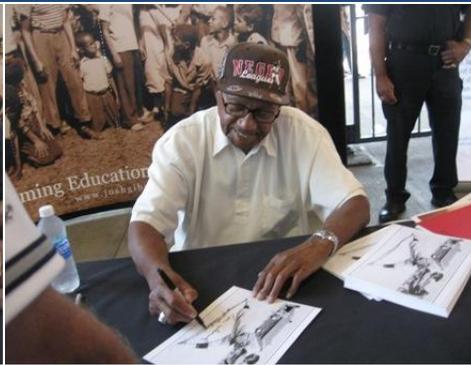
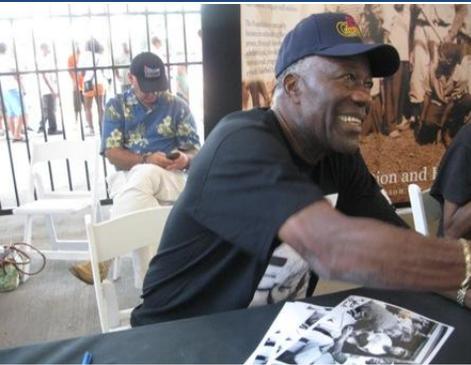
## *Suggested Schedule of Events*

- Highlight *Josh Gibson “The Legend Behind the Plate”* Documentary (50 minutes)
- Sean L. Gibson as Keynote speaker to discuss the history of the Negro Leagues with an emphasis on city’s connection to the Negro Leagues (20 minutes)
- Panel discussion/ Q&A following documentary to include Sean L. Gibson and local Negro League Players or Historians (40 minutes)
- Select items from the Josh Gibson Foundation traveling exhibit will display in the room; Details listed on a timeline, from Josh’s birth to modern day allowing students to not only view the items, but also follow his story through time
- Raffle for Josh Gibson Gift Basket
- Autograph session and photo opportunities

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Josh Gibson Traveling Exhibit Featured at Hall of Fame Heritage Weekend with the Cleveland Indians August 2010



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## *Sean L. Gibson*

Sean L. Gibson is the great-grandson of Baseball Hall of Fame legend Josh Gibson. He has dedicated his life to the preservation of Josh's legacy and is the Executive Director of the Josh Gibson Foundation, a Pittsburgh area non-profit organization.

The Josh Gibson Foundation was established in 1994 in an effort to keep the memory of Pittsburgh's beloved Josh Gibson and the entire Negro League alive. The foundation partners with Duquesne University by matching up college students with elementary and middle school youth for tutoring. The foundation also sponsors the Josh Gibson Little League.

There is likely no greater expert on the history of the Negro Leagues than Sean who speaks to a variety of groups throughout the year teaching on the significance of these great men who played the game before Jackie Robinson integrated baseball in 1947.

Josh Gibson, the man that many regard as the greatest Negro League player ever, was born on December 21, 1911 in Buena Vista, Georgia. He relocated to southwestern Pennsylvania in 1924 after his father found work in a Pittsburgh area steel mill. Josh began catching for the Pittsburgh Crawfords in 1927. With the addition of Gibson, the Crawfords rose to the top of the city's sandlot teams and challenged Cumberland Posey's Homestead Grays, a stellar club of Black professional baseball players from across the nation.

During Gibson's career, he played ball with Hall of Famers Oscar Charleston, Cool Papa Bell, Judy Johnson, and Satchel Paige. The Homestead Grays won an unprecedented nine consecutive Negro National League pennants with Gibson behind the plate.

Due to sporadic statistical accounting in the Negro Leagues, reports vary regarding the number of home runs Josh Gibson hit, with some estimates as high as 962. During his career, Gibson never played on a losing team. Moreover, it was rumored that Pittsburgh Pirates owner Bill Benswanger signed Josh to a Major League contract in 1943, a full four years before Jackie Robinson entered the league, but Major League Baseball Commissioner Kennesaw Landis allegedly would not allow Gibson to play.

If your organization is looking for an expert on Negro Leagues baseball, Sean Gibson knows its history from a personal viewpoint.

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*"This documentary reflects on Josh's life both on and off the baseball diamond"*

*"His story teaches young adults of all races on how to overcome adversity"*

*"The documentary can be used as an educational tool" . . . Gibson Family*

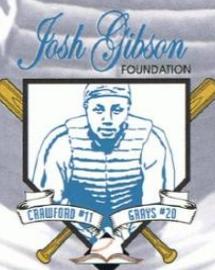
## Josh Gibson:

THE LEGEND BEHIND THE PLATE



 DUQUESNE UNIVERSITY

1911 - 1947



*Promote Education and Heritage*

[www.joshgibson.org](http://www.joshgibson.org)

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For details on available dates, fees and booking information to bring the Josh Gibson Centennial Celebration to your campus contact Sports Celebrity Marketing:



United States:

Phone: 954-642-0707

Email: [elaine@sportscelebs.com](mailto:elaine@sportscelebs.com)

Mailing Address:

49 N. Federal Hwy. #264  
Pompano Beach, FL 33062  
U.S.A.

Canada:

Phone: 905-873-8405

Email: [info@sportscelebs.com](mailto:info@sportscelebs.com)

Mailing Address:

RR#5, 13332 Tenth Line  
Georgetown, ON L7G4S8  
CANADA