

LEONA TATE

Speaker Civil Rights Activist; Founder/Executive
Director of the Leona Tate Foundation for Change, Inc.



ABOUT DR. LEONA TATE

On November 14, 1960, six years after separate black and white schools were ruled unconstitutional in Brown vs Board of Education ruling, Leona Tate, became one of four 6 year old girls in New Orleans s to integrate white only public elementary schools in the Deep South. On that day, she, Gail Etienne and Tessie Prevost enrolled in McDonogh No. 19 School, in the Historic Ninth ward. A fourth girl Ruby Bridges began classes minutes latter at William Frantz School.

The Integration of New Orleans public elementary schools marked a major focal point in the history of the American Civil Rights Movement. With worldwide attention focused on New Orleans, federal marshals wearing yellow armbands escorted The New Orleans Four to the schools at 9 am. By 9:25 am the two public elementary schools in the Deep South were integrated.

“Remembering the past while looking towards the future”

Dr. Leona Tate is passionate about sharing the history of the New Orleans Civil Rights Movement through her role in the Desegregation of Public Schools. She has been featured in numerous television, print, and digital publications. Publications include CBS Mornings, Sunday Today, Preservation Magazine, and Smithsonian Magazine. Dr. Tate enjoys sharing her experiences with all audiences but especially youth.

SIGNATURE TOPICS

- ✓ Desegregation of New Orleans Public Schools
- ✓ Women in Leadership
- ✓ Community Activism
- ✓ Re-developing a Mixed-use Property

TESTIMONIAL

The wealth of passion and wisdom that Leona offers is beyond measure. If we do not learn our history from the elders who committed their lives to bending the arc of the moral universe toward justice, we'll never realize the future our children deserve. Do not miss the opportunity to hear from this living legend. She sparks a fire of self worth and conviction in the hearts of the next generation of activists.
-- Maggy Baccinelli, ACLU of Louisiana Development Director

LET'S WORK TOGETHER!

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