

## **Black Panther Party History Month is 10yrs old**

**It has been 10 years since It's About Time organized the first Black Panther Party History Month back in 2002. Our BPP history is so deep and rich we felt we needed more than a day or weekend to start to tell our stories. After It's About Time held the 35<sup>th</sup> yr reunion in April of 2002 in Washington DC, we were still full of fire and energy so we started organizing an event for October.**

**The effort to organize the October event led to us organizing a number of events around our legacy that month and we called it BPP History Month. Since that first one in 2002, we have organized events every year around the founding month of the BPP. Every year is different. In 2006, we organized a number of events around our archives and Legacy for Yerba Buena Museum in SF. That exhibit was called Rank and File Panther and it broke the museum's all time attendance records. It was a great lead in for the 40<sup>th</sup> yr reunion which was well attended and it ended with many comrades taking a group photo together in front of the Alameda County Courthouse. In the 2009 BPP History month, we held a large photo exhibit at Laney college and used Laney for BPP History month events.**

**In the last few years a number of BPP Alumni committees have now started having events in October. My comrades in NY (BJ, Yas, Whip, Cleo, Shep) have a Film series and Book Reviews at the Maysles Cinema in Harlem, I attended the first one they held. The LA Comrades have had a number of October events in the past years and are going to host a film series at USC and the community this year. The newly formed National Alumni Association of the Black Panther Party is having an October event in North Carolina.**

**This year we plan on having a BPP Bus Tour of historical BPP sights in Oakland. We are working with the Laney College BSU and the BPP Commemorator newspaper committee. We will host a number of workshops, exhibits and displays which will be held at Jefferys downtown Oakland.**

**Also in the month of October, the Play “Party People” in Ashland Oregon will host a weekend Bus trip to Ashland to view the play.**

**More Updates to come**

**BJ**