The workshop was just wonderful, although it wasn’t what I expected. I expected to be sitting in a boring classroom all day. But I really like to say that I sincerely agree with the way it was organized. It wasn’t boring at all, and if you did get bored you could always leave. So I think it was just great.

One important thing I learned in this workshop is how to get along with other people. I learned that we couldn’t fight a war and at the same time fight among ourselves. You have to live together, take a little and give a little. You have to try and understand the other person’s point of view and vice-versa. We have got to learn to love one another in this fight for equality.

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I have lots of information to take back to our Freedom School, information that I thought never existed in the mind of a human being. Things that the kids in Freedom School has been asking for so long and no one knew the answer. Now I can be proud to say that I can give some of these answers to people who have been wanting to know, I mean really want to know.

—Hazel Lee
Batesville, Mississippi

SCHEDULE OF FREEDOM WORKSHOP --- HIGHLANDER

DATE |
--- |
1st Day |
Saturday |
March 27 |
2nd Day |
Sunday |
3rd Day |
Monday |
4th Day |
Tuesday |
5th Day |
Wednesday |

TOPIK |
--- |
SELF-IMAGE |
AUDIO AIDS |
Creation and use of tapes. How to make your own teaching materials. |
WHAT DO YOU WANT FROM THIS WORKSHOP? What are your needs and plans in your community? What is happening there now? |
Monday’s discussion continued, Jazz, blues, work songs. Making tapes and photographing. Evening: music making by all |
AFRICA: trip to Ghana and Guinea |

WHO YOU WANT FROM THIS WORKSHOP? What are your needs and plans in your community? What is happening there now? |
EVENING: Knoxville College "The Civil Rights Revolution in Historical Perspective"
LATER: Tapes from Selma, Americus, etc. |
African Art Show: slides & sculpture from Ghana, Guinea, Ivory Coast |

PEOPLES WHO HELPED |
--- |
Dr. Greg Moore |
Psychiatrist, Chicago |
Robert McNamara III |
Tougaloo, Mississippi |
Grady Little and Randolph Battle |
Albany, Georgia; Joseph L. Harris - Lexington, Mississippi |
John Hope Franklin, Historian |
University of Chicago |
Alan Ribback, New York City |
James Bond, Atlanta |
Sterling Brown, Howard University |
McNamara, Tougaloo |
Ribback, New York |
Emmie Schrader, Tougaloo |
Prathia Hall, Atlanta |
Bob Parris, Birmingham |
Lucy Montgomery
6th Day Thursday
FREEDOM SCHOOLS, POOR PEOPLE, CHANGE
MUSIC PEOPLE CHOOSE TO MAKE
EVENING: MOVIE "Raisin in the Sun"

7th Day Friday
POOR PEOPLE AND FEDERAL PROGRAMS
My Federal programs don't work.
What can we do about our own programs?
EVENING: Federal government
How can we change things?

8th Day Saturday
FREEDOM DEMOCRATIC PARTY
EVENING: Dance at Reverend McLean's
to meet the member
doesn't agree

9th Day Sunday
CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT, WELFARE, ETC.
EVENING: MOVIE "All the Kings Men"

10th Day Monday
THE CONSTITUTION AND THE CIVIL RIGHTS
ACT, MORE DISCUSSION OF FREEDOM SCHOOLS,
LITERACY
Arts and Crafts

11th Day Tuesday
Recording completed; editing tapes,
interviews, music-making, writing reports

12th Day Wednesday
Clean-up, Wave Goodbye, Sing, Listen to tapes of
what we have done, look at art work, poems, photographs.
Continuous photography "class"
Taping
Continuous writing:

What I learned at the workshop that was
interesting to me was the most was the F.D.P.
and what its meaning have. And I think
everyone should know who came to a freedom
school should be the ones that want to learn
something for himself, about his rights and
what he thinks for himself. A man should
believe in himself and not someone else, to
tell him and to have ideas for himself and
someone who wants to help other people to
learn what it is for and I will say with
much gratitude to the one who decide on a
freedom school it is something real great.

F. fell free to get fairness for yourself
and your community

D. decide for yourself or decide to dis-
agree or decide to deny

P. provide for yourself and your community

A man should be free to think for himself.
A man should think that he is somebody and
if he feel the fear for his own self then he
shall have understood that he is a man and
not be afraid of himself. So I will say to
everyone to not look on yourself as for the
color of your skin but look at it as you
are man and a human...something that live
and not a dog.

-Mrs. Ida Mae Lawrence
Nashdale, Mississippi

I feel that the workshop would have been more
valuable if it had been carried out on one
level either intellectual or simply practical,
but I feel that the better educated people
tended to take over the discussion and
intimidate the other people. But just the
fact that people were together made the
whole thing worth while.

-Donna Leslie
Gulfport, Miss.

The most important to me was the first day.
I came here, Saturday when Dr. Moore talk
all about why people said that they didn't
have anything to do with this mess. I found
out these kind of statement wasn't the real
problem. The real problem was that they
were afraid for their life or children's
welfare. I also know now that you should
attack the position of another person, but
except a person as they are.

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-Donna Leslie
Gulfport, Miss.

The African trip was very interesting. The
way she describe make you believe that you
were there. The discussions on what people
done in their community were interesting
to me because you hear people talk everyday
about what happen. I believe that everyone
enjoy a workshop like this especially to
meet people from Alabama and Georgia. I
Understood that F.D.P. of Miss. will help
bring together the member of community.

-Nocni Carter
Marigold, Mississippi
It made me to know that I can know what I can do when I go back home. I don't have too much in words but in my heart I care.

-Dorothy Mae Rodgers
Rosedale, Mississippi

I can go home with a vivid mind of how to set up a Freedom school and what should be taught in the school, a better understanding of how to get along with the children-learning how to run a tape recording machine was a great experience this I really love. I can discuss what we have been discussing here with the people back home. I have learned more about the P.D.P.

-Doulaah Mae Ayers
Holly Springs, Mississippi

I've gotten a great deal of ideas about how a Freedom school should be runned and what is done in a workshop. When we, Linda, Janell, and I get home we are going to be in charge of the little workshops there during the summer and whoever made all the planning and made the schedule did some very logical thinking.

-Betty Jean Humphries
Indianaole, Mississippi

I have a friend
My friend calls me peacock
My friend calls all her friends peacock
Now I call her peacock

-Tracy Battaast
Tougaloo, Mississippi

We wrote a lot of poems during the workshop. Here in a poem.

Knoxville

The slums is like a life deferred in a dream of reality, picturing the places called "homes" but the poor who fear the structure of higher supremacy. Small kids being reared in the slums area where living and the scenery is like the "gates of hell" and rent rates is higher than the sky above, even the animals of these places in what can be classified as "Trash" and in these slums of hills you find a version of a need called "togetherness" between black and white, maybe not, because of the act of brotherhood but maybe of a thing described as "Can't do any better."
The structure of houses is eight no person would dream of seeing people living in a place that has been partially burned, and dreams of a poor man in a dream of hoversing the area........the slum of this so called machine great society.

-Janell Glass
Indianaole, Mississippi

On the second day of the workshop Alan Ribback played different tapes showing people how tapes sound after they are made. After the tapes were played, questions were asked and answers were given as follows:

Q. How can tapes be used in different communities
A. To get across to people what is happening in other communities. To let people hear speeches made by a speaker who couldn't make a personal appearance.

Q. How important are tapes?
Q. What is most important? Tapes? Radio or TV?
A. Tapes are the most important to Negroes because when various speeches are made they won't show them on TV or play them on the radio but if there is a tape you can always play it yourself if you have a recorder or someone you know has a recorder.
The usage of tapes and recorders was illustrated by Alan. Class was scheduled for those who wanted to learn how to operate a tape recorder. Using of a recorder and how to interview was illustrated. Then there were various discussions.

The next day, Jessie Harris talked on poverty. He passed out a small book written by Robert U. Jones, a local Negro of Corinth, Miss. who gave his opinion on the "community renewal program" in Corinth, Miss. We then made a poverty program of our own which took about an hour. Then we went to the question "why does it take Congress so long to make poverty bill if we can do it in an hour?" Someone answered by saying that Congress think it knows what we need but we know ourselves, so we can do it sooner. The question then asked was should Congress make a poverty bill or should we make it ourselves? The answer was that we should make it ourselves. Automation was also discussed. That night Lucy Montgomery showed some art slides.

The next day we discussed things to do to begin a Freedom School and they were:
1. Find a place.
2. Have 6-10 people in each class.
3. Canvass for getting people to attend.
4. Have class at least twice a week.

Things to be taught in the school:
1. Reading and writing
2. Filling out voter registration forms
3. Negro history
4. Developing a newspaper.

As a whole the workshop was very good. This is my first time attending a workshop and I enjoyed it very much. I feel that if it had been better planned that it maybe would have been a little better. Every topic that was discussed was very good. The only thing that was wrong was that some of the topics weren't completed and we started another and then came back to that topic. I must say I have enjoyed being at Highlander very much and the next workshop I would also like to come if for no more than one day.
Being able to talk to a wide variety of people who are associated with freedom schools in very different ways taught me a lot. It also made things more enjoyable. If I got tired of talking to a Phd. about intelligence and education among the masses, I could go talk to someone about how to do screen painting, or how he felt when he first walked into a freedom school, or I could play a game of Chinese checkers. After the first day, I felt that I could talk to anyone about anything that interested me.

-Nancy Stoller
Little Rock, Arkansas

HIGHLANDER HOUSE IS A HOUSE.
THE REASON WE NEED A HOUSE IS BECAUSE WE ARE A FAMILY.
HIGHLANDER HOUSE IS A VERY GOOD HOUSE.
THE REASON WE NEED SOMETHING RED AND BRIGHT BLUE AND PURPLE AND ORANGE AND GREEN IS BECAUSE MISSISSIPPI IS EMPTY AND GREY.
SO THINK YOU LUCY AND MILES, MRS. WATKINS, MRS. KING, SAM AND EVERYONE.

-Jane Stenbridge (Peacock)
and Peacocks, Tougaloo, Miss.
and Peacocks, Birmingham
Atlanta and On the Road

It was great for me. I was in Mississippi for 3 months without leaving. It took me 3 days to unwind how I can go back and stay for while instead of checkin and leaving. It was being in a house with people I loved and I could talk and not be afraid so I said things for myself maybe and learning specifics didn't always matter.

-Eleanor Aragon
Gulfport, Mississippi

I thought that the discussion on Poverty was handled quite well in that it gave the local people an opportunity to express their views on poverty, and it further gave them an opportunity to gain a better insight into the existing anti-poverty program and how inadequate it is. Simarily, I feel that the discussion on the setting up and operating of a Freedom School had attributes of the same nature.

The discussion of the United States Constitution was by far the most stimulating discussion to me. Not only did it enlighten one as to the rights that he is supposed to have but it also made it more evident why there are so many different interpretations of the law. Some of us were able for the first time to really examine closely the loose body of laws that are supposed to make our country a better place to live.

-Lola A. Chinnary
Alabama Project

May God bless us all and help us to complete our goal.

-Joe L. Harris
Lexington, Mississippi

Here is another poem Vietnam:
We say we love our country
We say other people love their country
We said that all men are brothers. What
Would we call the war in the Vietnam
Would we call that brotherly love
Does the word freedom have a meaning
Why do the history books say America is the
Land of Liberty a Free County,
Then why do all mens Negro and White fight
the Vietnam and Korea why can't we be Americans
as North and South regardless of color
What does we have again the Vietnamese?
Why are we fighting them?
Who are really the enemy?
Are Vietnam the enemy or we Americans enemies to ourselves,
If we are the same as Vietnamese
Why should we fight them?
They are poor too.
They wants freedom.
They wants to resister to vote.
Maybe the people in the Vietnam
can't resister to vote
Just Like Us.

-Mrs. Ida Mae Lawrence
Boesdale, Mississippi

"I know about your movement", said a man I love,
"You all are going charging up over the hill and down into the valley where you will crash into a mirror".

-Rob McNamara
Tougaloo, Mississippi

About Highlander
freedom workshop:
it was really a
FREEDOM Bubble
which will now POP
ALL OVER
Mississippi Arkansas
Alabama Georgia

pop pop pop pop
it was good
spell that
go, good
or god
or go'd
or god

But call it GOOD.
And SEE it
Peoples not afraid
of each other

and call it then
A FREEDOM FOPSHOP
Blown by you
to really POP UP
Everywhere.

-Charlie Cobb
Atlanta