

*Rites of Passage Society  
202 Winters Lane  
Vicksburg, MS 39183*

May 11, 2018

Mayor and Aldermen  
City of Vicksburg  
1401 Walnut Street  
Vicksburg, MS 39180

Gentlemen:

The Rites of Passage Society (ROPS) will host a William Tolliver Art Exhibit July 1, 2018 at the Vicksburg City Auditorium, from 4 – 6 p.m. The theme for the show is “William Tolliver: Native Son and Artist Extraordinaire.” We will also honor some of Vicksburg’s African-American History Makers, past and present, at the exhibit, i.e. Dr. Jane Ellen McAllister, Artie “Blues Boy” White, Milt Hinton, Beah Richards, and Myrlie Evers, etc.

ROPS is a not-for-profit mentoring organization for boys and girls ages 13 – 18 years of age. ROPS teaches youth to become responsible young adults through a series of lectures, required reading, mentoring and various individual and group activities including community events.

Request the gratis use of the Vicksburg City Auditorium and security guards for the art exhibit. Also, request the city be a sponsor of the exhibit in the amount of \$2,000 to help defray the cost. The City of Vicksburg name and seal will be advertised as a sponsor of the William Tolliver Art Exhibit and an invitation is extended to Mayor Flaggs or one of his staff members to bring greetings at the exhibit. Your support of the William Tolliver Art Exhibit is appreciated.

Please make check payable to, “Rites of Passage Society” and send it to 202 Winters Ln, Vicksburg, MS 39183. You may contact me at phone numbers, 601.529.3490 or 601.638.8271 or email me at [heritagems2@gmail.com](mailto:heritagems2@gmail.com). Thank you for your support of the ROPS events.

Sincerely,

***Ezell McDonald***

Mrs. Ezell McDonald  
Founder, Rites of Passage Society