

Waymon Lefall Brings a Missing Piece of African American History to Children's Book, 'The Legend of Jocko'

BALTIMORE, MD – August 16 (SEND2PRESS NEWSWIRE) – His book shares the little known, inspirational story of a 12-year-old, African American boy named Jocko who sacrificed his life for our country. According to LeFall, young Jocko's moment of sacrifice, came just when George Washington faced defeat during the Revolutionary War, and headed across the Delaware River to Trenton, New Jersey to attack the British. As legend goes, Jocko, who had crossed the Delaware earlier along with volunteer troops, offered to guard Washington's horses so that they would be there waiting for him. Only, by the time Washington made it across the icy river, Jocko had frozen to death.

LeFall writes that upon Washington's return to Mt. Vernon, he ordered a sculpture to be erected of the young boy, "stepping bravely forward to hold the horses, as if saying, 'I will.'"

LeFall explains that replicas of the first statue also served a second purpose years later during the Civil War. He says the symbol of Jocko was used in the Underground Railroad to show slaves the way to safety. LeFall grew up seeing the same image used in the form of a lawn sculpture. Only, he explains that sadly, the symbol came to be understood as a racist decoration.

"I'm just bringing Jocko to the light, where he should have been all along. Jocko is not just a missing link in African-American history, but in all of history," explains LeFall.

"It is my hope someday that young boys and girls will learn about Jocko in school. My job is to get Jocko as much recognition as possible."

LeFall recognizes that there are many people who would argue his book is fiction and not based on fact. He challenges any of the non-believers out there to prove their case. Until then, LeFall will continue to believe.

LeFall has been featured in The Afro, City Paper and on the radio station Heaven 600.

To arrange an interview or to schedule a guest appearance and book signing, call 410-233-5470 or log on to www.jockobook.com.

Photos available.

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