For immediate release:

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ALERT: DETROIT HISTORICAL MUSEUM TO HOST BOOK SIGNING EVENT FOR THE NEW BOOK “OUR AUNTIE ROSA” TOMORROW AT 1 P.M.


The event takes place tomorrow at the Detroit Historical Museum between 1 and 3 p.m. The program begins with a reading in the Louise C. Booth Auditorium with the authors and other members of Parks’ family followed by question and answer period. Then, the book signing will start outside the Museum Store, where books are available for purchase.

The Detroit Historical Museum is located at 5401 Woodward Ave. (NW corner of Kirby) in Midtown Detroit. Admission is free for all, all the time.

Parking in the Museum’s lot is $6 at all times.

For more information, call the Museum at 313.833.1805 or check our website at detroithistorical.org.

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“Rosa Parks inspired millions of Americans in 1955, including a nine-year-old boy in Arkansas learning about her story. Through the pages of Our Auntie Rosa, her family captures the quiet dignity—and commanding conviction—of one of the civil rights movement’s bravest champions.”

—President Bill Clinton
“What a joy to discover that Rosa Parks, an international figure and ‘Mother of the Movement,’ was as dignified and heroic a private woman as she was a civil rights icon. This beautiful tribute, lovingly written by family members, completes the picture of a twentieth-century inspiration. As compelling as what she sat down for on a bus is what she stood for at home.”

—Mitch Albom, author of Tuesdays with Morrie

“Our Auntie Rosa gives us a glimpse into the private life of an extraordinary woman who played her part in American history with courage, intelligence, and grace. We are inspired by her life and forever grateful to her family for sharing her with us all.”

—Pearl Cleage, author of Things I Should Have Told My Daughter

Most people know Rosa Parks as the courageous civil rights activist whose sacrifices, along with those of many others, made it possible for us to live in a more just society today. What the majority of her admirers throughout the world don’t know is that she was also a model of excellence in daily life, and was a devoted mother figure to her niece, Sheila McCauley Keys, and Sheila’s twelve siblings.

Just in time for Black History Month, OUR AUNTIE ROSA: The Family of Rosa Parks Remembers Her Life and Lessons by Sheila McCauley Keys with Eddie B. Allen, Jr. (Tarcher/Penguin; February 2015), presents a collection of never-before-seen photos, letters, and family stories that pay tribute to Rosa Parks and show the woman behind the legend. “Auntie Rosa,” as Sheila and her siblings called her, left the south for Detroit in 1957, where she reconnected with her only sibling, Sylvester McCauley, and his thirteen children. In the years that followed, Parks became a guiding force and inspiration to her nieces and nephews, and in this remarkable book, they share with readers the great wisdom of their Auntie Rosa.

Parks gained worldwide recognition for her brave act on an Alabama bus in December 1955, but that was just one moment in a life lived with great humility and courage. The stories collected here by her closest family members paint an intimate portrait of a great American hero, and offer life lessons that will inspire generations to come.

ABOUT THE AUTHORS:
Sheila McCauley Keys is the seventh niece of civil rights heroine Rosa Parks. In 2013, Keys was featured in PBS’s live television broadcast of the National Day of Courage, celebrating what would have been Mrs. Parks’s hundredth birthday. That same year, Keys joined President Obama and legislators in unveiling a statue of Rosa Parks in the Capitol Rotunda. Keys has become an active voice in efforts to preserve her aunt’s legacy. Contributions to this book are made by the family of Rosa Parks, which includes the children and grandchildren of Sylvester and Daisy McCauley, along with their families.

Eddie B. Allen Jr. is an award-winning reporter and freelance journalist whose work has appeared in The New York Times, Reuters, The Associated Press, BET.com, and the Detroit Free Press. Allen was a Rosa Parks Scholarship recipient at age seventeen, and he later covered Mrs. Parks’ nationally televised funeral as well as various aspects of the freedom struggle that carries her footprint.

OUR AUNTIE ROSA

The Family of Rosa Parks Remembers Her Life and Lessons

Sheila McCauley Keys with Eddie B. Allen, Jr.

Tarcher/Penguin| $24.95 | 978-0399173899 | On-sale February 2015

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