

**ROSA PARKS & THE MONTGOMERY BUS BOYCOTT
PRESENTED BY LINDA GORHAM**

In 1957, nine African American teenagers integrated Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas. Three years earlier, the Supreme Court had banned segregation in public schools. The law was on their side. The people of the community were not.



“... When those nine students arrived at Central High on the first day of school, mobs of angry white protestors blocked the entrance were ready to do anything to stop them from entering. The nine students didn’t get past the mob that day, but they did not give up. They eventually made it inside and enrolled, but in the days and months that followed they were beat up, spit upon, called names, and generally harassed – because of the color of their skin...”

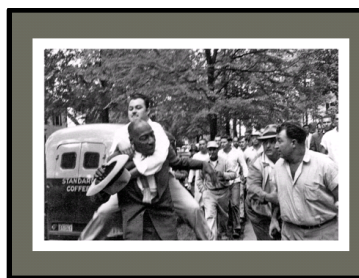
Elizabeth Eckford walking to Central High School

Linda Gorham, brings the story of the Little Rock Nine to life by telling their story through the eyes of Daisy Bates, President of the Little Rock NAACP; Alex Wilson, an African American newspaper reporter; and the students themselves.

This program was developed as part of a grant by the Chicago Tribune Freedom Museum. It incorporates a power point presentation of photos from the University of Arkansas archives (*used with permission*).



The Little Rock Nine Students & Daisy Bates



Alex Wilson, Reporter

In 2009, Linda performed this program to rave reviews in for the Little Rock community as a featured performer at the National Association of Black Storytellers Festival and Conference.