# Muhammad Ali:
# The Making of an Icon

**A Photographic Exhibition**

## February 8- March 16, 2012

**4th Floor Art Gallery,**

**John B Coleman Library, Prairie View A&M University**

Gallery Hours: Monday-Friday 12-5 pm and by appointment

Prairie View A&M University's Art Gallery is pleased to present a photographic exhibition entitled *Muhammad Ali: The Making of an Icon*,. All are welcome to the opening reception February 8 from 11:30-2 p.m. There is no charge to attend, all ages are welcome and refreshments will be served.

Born in 1942, Cassius Marcellus Clay began boxing in 1954 after his bicycle was stolen in his hometown of Louisville. He practiced boxing with the intentions of bruising the thief when identified. He never found the culprit, but ten years later Clay would win the 1960 Olympic gold medal for light-heavyweight boxing at the at age 18. Changing his name to Muhammad Ali in 1964, he is held a hero in the public spotlight as a result of his Olympic victory.

*Muhammad Ali: The Making of an Icon* provides a wide-ranging overview of Ali's life and times. The exhibit gives viewers a glimpse into rarely broadcasted moments of his personal life in addition to well celebrated periods in his career. This titan is shown kissing and holding his mother Odessa, playing around with his father Cassius Sr., and hanging out with his brother Rudy. Boxing fans will take delight in a series of ring-side action shots including those documenting the famous bout between Mr. Ali and George Foreman in 1974 when he used the rope-a-dope tactic to win the heavyweight championship title for the second time, and the "Thrilla in Manila" victory against Joe Frazier in 1975. This photo spectrum depicts a retired yet determined champion during the 1996 Summer Olympics in Atlanta, carrying the torch to ignite the opening ceremony caldron This exciting exhibition includes photographs by Annie Leibovitz, Gordon Parks, Steve Schapiro, Thomas Hoepker, Art Shay, and Sonia Katchian and many others. *Muhammad Ali: The Making of an Icon* was organized by Hava Gurvich of Art 2 Art Circulating Exhibitions. After a nationwide tour, Prairie View is this show's final venue.

The 4th Floor Art Gallery is located on the fourth floor of the John B. Coleman Library, on the campus of Prairie View A&M University, in Prairie View, Texas. This exhibition is free and open to the public. For more information about this exhibition or the gallery, contact Mrs. Kelley-Oliver Ldkelley@pvamu.edu 936-261-1523 or visit. http://www.pvamu.edu/pages/3665.asp

Above photo credit: Cassius Clay (Muhammad Ali) Fighting, 1961; Photo courtesy of Art Shay and the Stephen Daiter Gallery, Chicago, IL