



# Ernest Gaines Film Festival



## Fayette



In 2009, people all over Fayette County are reading ***A Lesson Before Dying*** by Ernest J. Gaines as part of **Fayette on the Page** One Book, One Community.

The Fayette County Public Library, in partnership with the Friends of the Fayette County Public Library, Barnes & Noble of Fayetteville, Clayton State University, and Kimbo's Frame & Design of Fayetteville present a series of free community activities focusing on *A Lesson Before Dying* and Ernest Gaines.

The Ernest Gaines Film Festival is a series of four monthly screenings of films based on novels and stories by Ernest J. Gaines. All screenings are free and open to the public.

Because of licensing restrictions, we are unable to include film titles on this flyer. We can tell you what they are on the phone, however, so please call the library and ask!

### Film #1 – Contact library for title

**Tuesday, May 19 - 6:00-8:30 p.m.**

*Special Kickoff Event: The Tuesday, May 19 screening features an introductory talk by Dr. LaJuan Simpson, Associate Professor of English at Clayton State University.*

**Saturday, May 23 - 10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon**

In 1962, as the civil rights movement reaches Bayonne, Louisiana, a New York journalist arrives to interview a female former slave, who has just turned 110. She tells him her story, dating back to her earliest memories of slavery and a long walk toward freedom, followed by years of triumph and heartbreak, leading to her decision to become involved in the contemporary issues unfolding around her. This outstanding film won eight Emmy Awards, including two earned by the actress performing the title role. **Contact the library for film title.**

1974 / 120 minutes / Not rated.

### Film #2 – Contact library for title

**Tuesday, June 16 - 6:00-7:00 p.m. and Saturday, June 20 - 10:00-11:00 a.m.**

In this short film, originally produced as part of PBS series of short story dramatizations, a young boy comes of age in 1940s Louisiana and grapples with what it means to be black during a time of racism and poverty. The boy's mother accompanies her son to town to see about his nagging toothache, and his journey soon becomes an eye-opening odyssey. **Contact the library for film title.**

1980 / 46 minutes / Not rated.

### Film #3 – Contact library for title

**Tuesday, July 21 - 6:00-8:00 p.m. and Saturday, July 25 - 10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon**

An ordinary day in the late 1970s on a Louisiana sugarcane plantation changes course when a local white racist farmer is shot. A group of old, black men takes a courageous step by coming forward en masse to take responsibility for the killing. As the sheriff confronts the suspects, the young plantation owner stands alone in her daring defense of this group of men, provoking racial tension that makes a compelling drama. The well-known lead male actor was nominated for an Emmy. **Contact the library for film title.**

1987 / 91 minutes / Not rated.

### Film #4 – Contact library for title

**Tuesday, August 18 - 6:00-8:00 p.m. & Saturday, August 22 - 10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon**

In the 1940s South, a young black man is sentenced to die for a murder he did not commit. The local school teacher is recruited to visit him daily and help him face death like a man, with dignity and courage. Gradually the two men form a bond that offers the hope of redemption to them both. **Contact the library for film title.**

1999 / 105 minutes / PG-13.