

## Fall Story Hours Begin at Las Vegas Clark County Library District Branches

"It's really never too early to start reading to a child. If the child is old enough to talk to -- and parents talk to their children from Day 1 -- then the child is old enough to be read to as well," states Jim Trelease, Author of The Read-Aloud Handbook.

To help meet this need to establish good reading habits early in life and to maintain them, the Las Vegas-Clark County Library District's eight metropolitan branches invite youngsters, ages 2 to 12, to join the fall weekly story hour programs.

"The importance of early development as well as the overwhelming response to Begonia's Big Top summer reading program has prompted the District to add more story hours," said Charlotte Cabrales, children's librarian at Green Valley Library.

Story hours include Tales for Toddlers, ages 2-3 1/2; Gingerbread Kids, ages 3-5; Dream Weavers, ages 6-8; the Story Spinners, for 9-12 year olds and Family Bedtime Stories (Flamingo only).

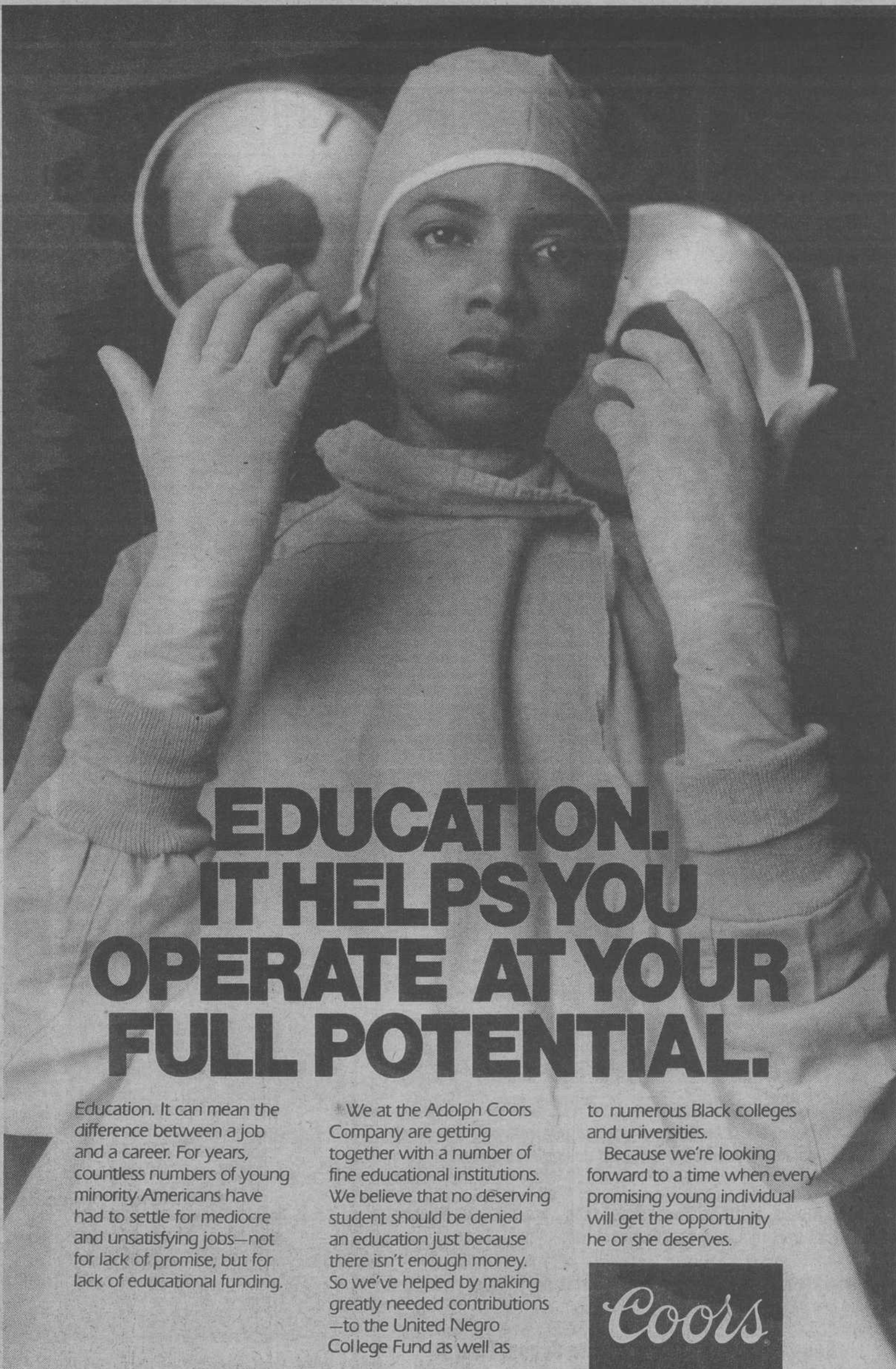
The programs are designed to meet special needs and skill developments of each age group," states Flamingo Young People's Librarian Gail Zachariah. For the youngest, fingerplays, crafts and games will develop listening and imagination skill. For each succeeding older group, the interaction, involvement and level of skill honed is increased."

Activities include storytelling, short films, crafts and made-up stories. Youngsters, 9-12, will also participate in creative dramatics and on-going craft projects which have proven to improve attitudes towards reading.

Weekly story hour programs differ slightly at each branch. Pre-registration is now in progress at the Flamingo Road, with programs beginning the week of September 15.

Pre-registration begins the week of September 22 at Charleston Heights Library, 800 Brush St., 878-3682; Green Valley Library, 2706 Green Valley Parkway, 435-0222; and at Sunrise Library, 1000 N. Nellis Boulevard, 453-1104. Programs begin the week of September 29.

West Las Vegas Library, 1402 "D" Street, 647-2118, starts registration the week of October 13 and programs begin the week of October 20.



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