Mandela, Martin, Malcolm and You

Mr. Prexy Nesbitt

Annual Whitney Young Jr.
Awards Program

Thursday March 26, 2015
4:00 p.m.
Bernhard Center rm 7772
Reception Follows

Sponsored by
School of Social Work

Born on Chicago's West Side, Prexy Nesbitt has spent more than five decades as an educator, activist, and speaker on Africa, foreign policy, and racism. Prexy's career has also included extensive consulting and training on class, race, multiculturalism and diversity. A teacher and lecturer for many years all over the USA, he additionally has worked as a “red cap,” social worker, union organizer, and special assistant to Chicago Mayor Harold Washington. Over the course of his career, Prexy has made more than one hundred trips to Africa, including trips taken in secret to apartheid-torn South Africa.

From 1979-1983, he worked worldwide as the Program Director of the World Council of Churches Program to Combat Racism based out of Geneva, Switzerland. Today, he teaches African history courses at Chicago’s Columbia College and takes people on educational, cultural and political tours to various ‘Third World’ countries, regions and situations, both abroad and in the United States.

Whitney Young was a dynamic civil rights activist whose work on race relations and other socioeconomic issues led to numerous community and government appointments and helped change the face of the nation. In 1968, Young spoke at convocation and dedicated the newly established Western Michigan University's School of Social Work. When Young drowned in Nigeria in 1971, the school initiated the Whitney Young Scholarship and an annual celebration to honor him.