Ansel Adams' first black student opens exhibit

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In conjunction with Black History Month, David Johnson, the first African American student of legendary photographer Ansel Adams, has opened a photo exhibit in the science center gallery on the Dominican campus.

The exhibit -- "The Struggle for Human Rights and Beyond: The Historical Photographs of David Johnson" -- is on display in the first floor gallery through June 7 during normal operating hours in the science center: 7:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Friday and 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday.

The exhibit is supported by Academy Affairs and co-sponsored by the Office of Diversity and Equity.

Ansel Adams was a photographer at Dominican, beginning in 1932 when he was commissioned to take photos for the school's yearbook. That started a 20-year relationship with Dominican. Adams' photos are still on display in Alemany Library.

David Johnson, now 86, was Ansel's first black student at the California School of Fine Arts. David is noted for photographing important African Americans including Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall, A. Philip Randolph, Jackie Robinson and Nat "King" Cole.

For more information, contact Sandi Chin, Director of University Community Exhibitions, at 415-485-2453 or by emailingschin@dominican.edu.