

## ENTRAINEMENT A LA CO

### – THE ARREST OF ROSA PARKS –

On December 1, 1955, one of the most well-known campaigns of the civil rights movement began. Seamstress and activist Rosa Parks was arrested, sparking the bus boycott in Montgomery, Alabama.

Mrs Parks' efforts for racial justice dated back to 1943, when she joined the local chapter of the NAACP. She frequently traveled through Alabama to interview Black people who had suffered racial terror, violence, or other injustice.

On the evening of December 1, 1955, Mrs Parks was sitting in the colored section of the bus, as she rode home from work. There were designated separated seating areas for Blacks and Whites. As more White passengers boarded, the driver asked Parks and three other Blacks to give up their seats to Whites. Mrs Parks refused, and was eventually arrested. She later recalled that she had refused to stand not because she was physically tired, but because she was tired of giving in. As a result of that historic act of civil disobedience, local activists - led by Doctor Martin Luther King - started the Montgomery bus boycott, which lasted for more than one year. It ended when a federal judge ordered that the Montgomery city buses be integrated.