

BLACK HISTORY



■ **BLACK HISTORY ART TOUR:** Husband and wife art collectors Bernard and Shirley Kinsey admire a 1936 movie poster of Paul Robeson's *The Song Of Freedom*, featured in the couple's private collection on exhibit at the DuSable Museum of African American History in Chicago. The exhibit, which is on a national tour, includes 90 paintings, sculptures, prints, books, documents, manuscripts and vintage photographs. Highlights of the exhibit include a letter from Malcolm X to Alex Haley (above, r) in which Malcolm discusses writing his autobiography with Haley; Ernie Barnes' 1965 painting *Gambler* (r); Elizabeth Catlett's original linocut, *Survivor* and Charles Alston's 1940 oil on canvas, *Portrait of A Girl*. The couple says art should be shared. "We are really more keepers of this art and historical documents, rather than owners, because frankly, no one can really own this in a sense," says Bernard Kinsey. His wife adds: "We preserve our history through art. This exhibit is historical, educational and inspirational. There's love, family and history in this collection." The tour kicked off at the California African American Museum in Los Angeles and will be at the DuSable until March 2008 and then heads for the Norton Gallery in West Palm Beach, FL.



—JET photos by Vandell Cobb