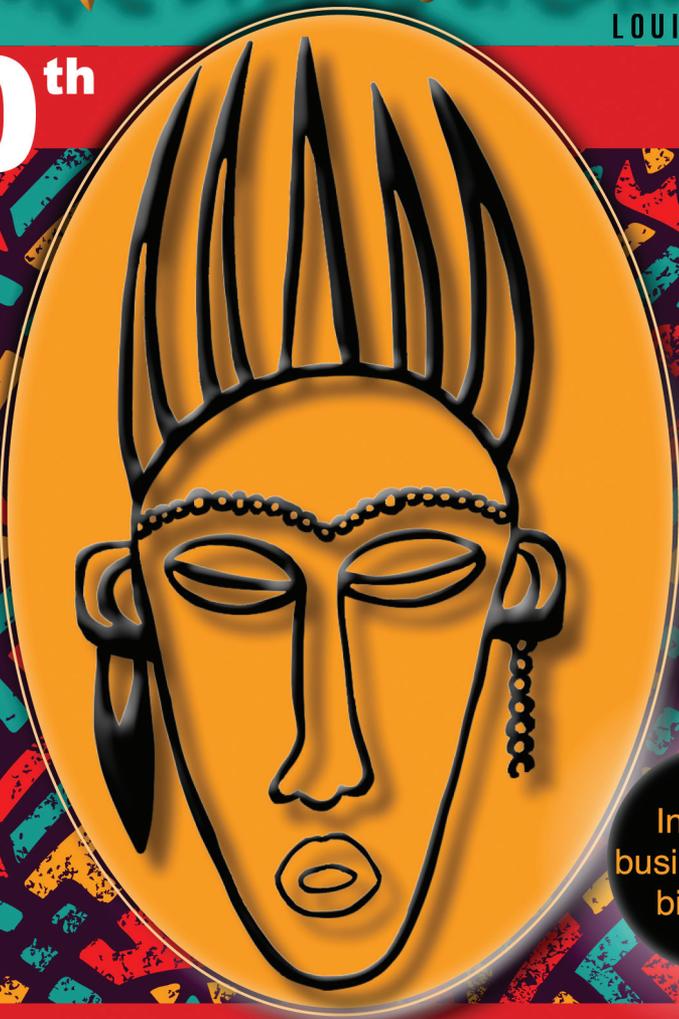


— Walter W. Hutchins —

AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH CULTURAL EVENTS CALENDAR

LOUISVILLE

ANNIVERSARY 30th



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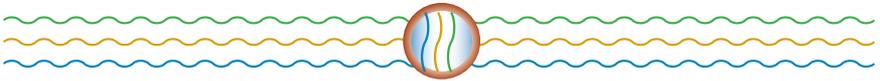


AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH CULTURAL EVENTS CALENDAR

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February 2026

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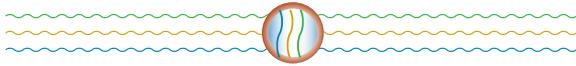
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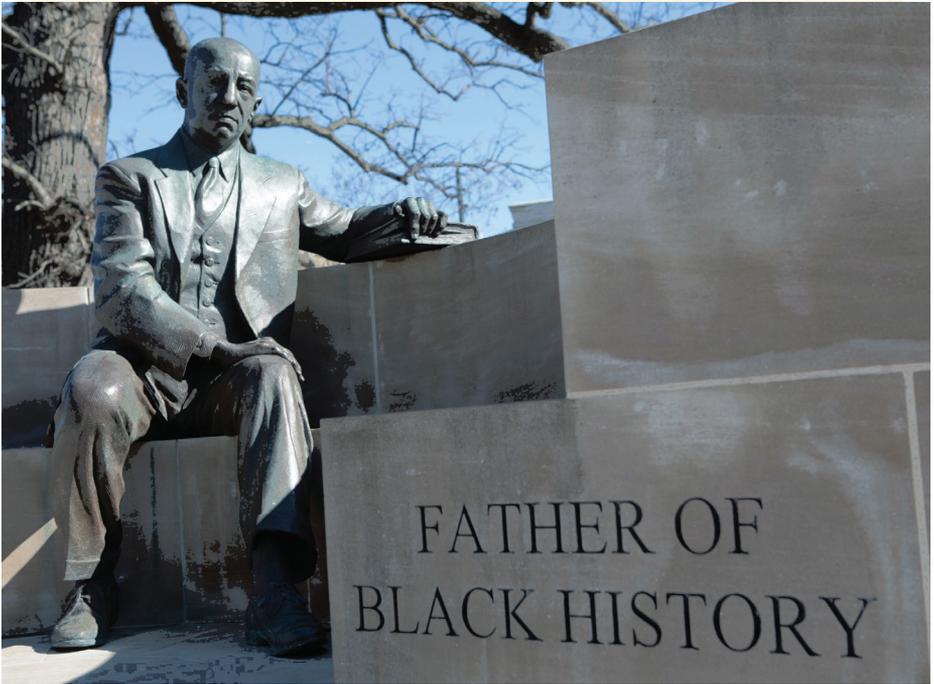
IN RECOGNITION



Dr. Carter G. Woodson

1875-1950

Preeminent Historian, Scholar, Author, Teacher, and Mentor



- Founder of *The Association for the Study of Negro Life and History* (1915)
- Publisher of *The Journal of Negro History* (1916) and *Negro History Bulletin* (1937)
- “Father” of Negro History Week (1926)
“... to dramatize the achievements of persons of African blood”

Photo Courtesy of Aukram Burton • Sculpture located at Carter G. Woodson Park
9th and Rhode Island Avenue, NW, Washington, DC.

Cover Graphic Logo Art - ImarGraphics

Cover & Booklet Design - Terri Gilmore, Artist, and Push design LLC

Events

Monday, February 2, 2026

6:00 PM

Family Storytime: Garrett Morgan - Inventor Who Saved Lives (Children)

Join us to discover the life of Garrett Morgan, the inventor of the traffic signal. You will hear his inspiring story and create a fun traffic-light craft of your own. Ages 0-10. **Parkland Library**, 2743 Virginia Ave, Louisville, KY 40211 (502) 574-1832

Black History Month Read-Aloud (Family)

A unique Black History celebration of youth literature. Patrons are invited to join Shawnee staff to read aloud excerpts from Coretta Scott King and other awardwinning authors. **Shawnee Library**, 3912 West Broadway, Louisville, KY 40211 (502) 574-1722

2025 ASALH National Membership Enrollment



Please become a member and join our mission to carry forth the work of Dr. Carter G. Woodson, who on September 9, 1915, established the Association for the Study of African American Life and History. We continue his legacy of speaking a fundamental truth to the world – that Africans and people of African descent are makers of history and co-workers in what W.E.B. Du Bois called “The Kingdom of Culture.”

ASALH Louisville, Kentucky Chapter meets the 3rd Tuesday each month.
For more information contact Barbara Boyd, (502) 356-8651.

Tuesday, February 3, 2026

10:45 AM

**2026 Kentucky Black Legislative Caucus
18th Annual Black History Month Celebration**

This year's program theme will be *The Journey Continues*. We are on this journey, making great strides, but the work is not over. We will honor Dr. Carter G. Woodson, the father of African American historiography, on the 150th anniversary of his birth. **Location:** Kentucky Senate Chambers, Frankfort, KY Please note that the Kentucky Black Legislative Caucus will host additional events throughout February. The second event (Date TBA) will be held in the LRC Committee Room. The third event (Date TBA) will be held in the Kentucky State University Student Center. The fourth and final event will be on February 26/26 in the Thomas Clark History Center. For more information, contact Senator Gerald Neal at gerald.neal@kylegislature.gov

6:00 PM

Black History Month Read-Aloud (Children)

A unique Black History celebration of youth literature. Patrons are invited to join Shawnee staff to read aloud excerpts from Coretta Scott King and other awardwinning authors.

Shawnee Library, 3912 West Broadway, Louisville, KY 40211
(502) 574-1722

10:00 PM

Tuesday: Black History Trivia

Foster your preschooler's love of reading with this engaging Storytime. Join us for books, songs, movement, and art activities that support early learning skills. Ages 3-5 **Shawnee Library**, 3912 West Broadway, Louisville, KY 40211 (502) 574-1722

Because plans may change, patrons are urged to confirm events prior to attending.

Wednesday, February 4, 2026

10:30 AM

Spin & Skate Storytime with Brittany J. Thurman (Children)

Enjoy an interactive Storytime with local author Brittany J. Thurman as she shares her new book, *Come Catch a Dream!* Children will explore the story through movement, play, and a simple hands-on activity. Ages 0-5. **Fairdale Library**, 10620 West Manslick Road, Louisville, KY 40118 (502) 375-2051

Preschool Storytime: Black Authors & Illustrators

Foster your preschooler's love of reading with this engaging Storytime. Join us for books, songs, movement, and art activities that promote early learning skills. Ages 3-5. **Shawnee Library**, 3912 West Broadway, Louisville, KY 40211 (502) 574-1722

**Fairy Tales from Around the World
with Kentucky Shakespeare (Family)**

Celebrate stories from around the world in this playful, interactive program. Children will enjoy oral storytelling focused on Black History and will have the chance to act out a story themselves. **Shawnee Library**, 3912 West Broadway, Louisville, KY 40211 (502) 574-1722

3:30 PM

Teen Craft Club

Use paint and oil pastels to create artwork inspired by Jean-Michel Basquiat. **Newburg Library**, 4800 Exeter Avenue, Louisville, KY 40218 (502) 479-6160

4:00 PM

Black Artist Showcase & Workshop (Teen)

Join us to celebrate African American artists as we learn about their art and history and create our own art inspired by them. Supplies provided. Ages 11-17. **Western Library**, 604 South Tenth Street, Louisville, KY 40203 (502) 574-1779



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Discover these programs and more on KET!
Tune-in & Stream at KET.org/BlackHistoryMonth

All times are subject to change.

Explore the stories and contributions of Black jockeys, trainers, owners, grooms, and exercise riders in the 1800s, who were instrumental in laying the foundation for the Thoroughbred industry in America.

The Legacy of Black Horsemen

KETKY Thursday, Feb. 5 • 10:30/9:30 pm

Explore the life and legacy of Edna Lewis, who left an outsized mark on American culinary history as an early advocate of the farm-to-table movement.

Finding Edna Lewis

KET Friday, Feb. 6 • 4/3 pm

This four-part series traces the rich, complex relationship between Black and Jewish Americans— defined by solidarity yet strained by division.

Black and Jewish America: An Interwoven History

KET Tuesday, Feb. 3-24 • 9/8 pm

The film explores the origins of Black college football, players' contributions, the founding of the Hall of Fame, and the reason it is located in Canton, Ohio. Black College Football Hall of

Fame: Journey to Canton

KET Wednesday, Feb. 11 • 4/3 pm

Explore the changes, misconceptions, and current state of Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs).

Opportunity, Access & Uplift: The Evolving Legacy of HBCUs

KET Wednesday, Feb. 11 • 5:30/4:30 pm

Explore the life and legacy of Kentucky-born feminist author bell hooks.

Becoming bell hooks

KETKY Thursday, Feb. 12 • 7/6 pm

A journey through Sun Ra's life and music, tracing his jazz foundations, innovative spirit, and ongoing artistic and social pursuits.

American Masters "Sun Ra: Do the Impossible"

KET Friday, Feb. 20 • 9/8 pm

The stories of the brave soldiers from western Pennsylvania who took part in the Tuskegee Airmen Experiment and fought for their country during World War II.

Fly Boys: Western Pennsylvania's Tuskegee Airmen

KET Wednesday, Feb. 25 • 4/3 pm

The Kentucky Center for African American Heritage is a proud supporter of KET.

(February 4 continued)

5:30 PM

**Movie Screening & Discussion Group:
American Fiction (Adult)**

The discussion of the movie will be next Wednesday. Popcorn will be served. **Portland Library**, 3305 Northwestern Parkway, Louisville, KY 40212 (502) 574-1744

6:00 PM

**African-American Pathfinders:
Musicians & Innovators (Adult)**

Presentation and discussion on little-known historical, innovative, and/or cultural contributions. **Parkland Library**, 2743 Virginia Ave, Louisville, KY 40211 (502)574-1623

6:30 PM

Evening Book Discussion: *Swift River* (Adult)

Adult book discussion of *Swift River* by Essie Chambers. **Highlands–Shelby Park Library**, 1250 Bardstown Rd., Suite 4, Louisville, KY 40204 (502) 574-1672

Thursday, February 5

2:00 PM

**COLLIDER: Lather & Learn—Cold Process Soapmaking
(All Ages)**

Discover the science, history, and artistry of traditional soapmaking with COLLIDER Artist-in-Residence Andrea Moran. This immersive workshop explores the cold-process method of soapmaking. Perfect for curious minds, DIY enthusiasts, and anyone who loves a good lather. Space is limited. **South Central Regional Library**, 7300 Jefferson Boulevard, Louisville, KY 40219 (502) 964-3515. To register, email Liz.Magee@lfpl.org.

5:15 PM Reception · 6:00 PM Panel Discussion
History & Science Forum

History & Science is the third forum in the Christina Lee Brown Envirome Institute's new quarterly "Science" series. This program creates space for meaningful dialogue at the intersection of history, health, the environment, and science. The evening begins with a reception at 5:15 PM, followed by a panel discussion at 6:00 PM. Panelists will explore how understanding history can raise public awareness, generate interest, and inform policy on health and environmental issues. The discussion will conclude with audience engagement and questions.

Panel Objectives:

- Explore key intersections of history and science
- Discuss how historical perspectives can raise public awareness and interest in science
- Share ways history can inform public policy on health and the environment
- Examine current topics at the crossroads of history and science

Location: Roots 101, 124 N 1st St, Louisville, KY 40202

Admission: Free

Contact: Dr. Natasha DeJarnett 502-852-9354

6:00 PM

Adult Book Club: *A Raisin in the Sun* (Adult)

A Raisin in the Sun by Lorraine Hansberry. **Shively Library**, 3920 Dixie Highway, Louisville, KY 40216 (502) 574-1730

Friday, February 6, 2026

5:00 PM

Movie Screening: 42 (Adult)

Join us for a screening of the movie 42. Snacks and drinks will be provided. Snacks and drinks provided. **Western Library**, 604 South Tenth Street, Louisville, KY 40203 (502) 574-1779

Saturday, February 7, 2026

11:00 AM

Friends of the Shawnee Library Black History Program

Historic Central High School Magnet Career librarian, Adrian Layne, will lead a discussion on censorship and banned books. Refreshments and door prizes will be available. **Shawnee Library**, 3912 West Broadway, Louisville, KY 40211 (502) 574-1722

1:00 PM

Black History Month Film Series

This free series, presented in partnership with the UofL Health Sciences Center Office of Equity and Engagement, features a panel discussion led by academic experts and community leaders after each film. Registration is requested. Visit www.lfpl.org/bhfilms for more information. **Parkland Library**, 2743 Virginia Ave, Louisville, KY 40211 Call 502-574-1623

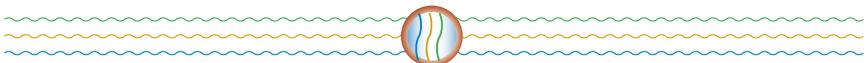
1:00–1:30 PM

Freedom Fighters: A KMHM Highlights Tour

More than 20,000 Kentuckians secured their liberty through military service, joining the United States Colored Troops in the Union Army to escape enslavement. These soldiers played a critical role in the Civil War—fighting for both the nation and their freedom. This special highlights tour at the Kentucky Military History Museum brings their stories to life and honors their enduring legacy. This tour is offered on Saturdays, February 7–28, 2026. **Location:** Kentucky Military History Museum, 125 E. Main Street, Frankfort, KY 40601

Admission: Free **Contact:** Taylor Boss (502) 564-1792

Website: <https://history.ky.gov/events/freedom-fighters-a-kmhm-highlights-tour>



2:00–4:00 PM

Medicine and Scientific Racism

Dr. John Chenault will deliver a lecture examining the often unacknowledged yet instrumental role of doctors and medical researchers in the invention and institutionalization of scientific racism in the United States. Drawing on evidence from medical history, the presentation shows how racism and medicine developed in tandem and became co-dependent as early physicians sought to identify supposed biological differences between Black and white populations.

Beginning with the racialization of the skin—the body’s most visible organ—medical researchers extended their theories inward to the brain, heart, lungs, blood, and other systems, labeling each as biologically deficient. These ideas enabled doctors to portray African people as a subhuman species and to justify hereditary enslavement and racial inequality. Disseminated through medical journals, these theories gained legitimacy as “scientific discoveries,” resulting in one of the most enduring systems of dehumanization in history.

Location: Kentucky Center for African American Heritage, 1701 W. Muhammad Ali Blvd, Louisville, KY 40203

Admission: Free

Contact: John Chenault 502-836-1916

2:00–4:00 PM

Why Africa? Why Now?

Since Ghana’s Year of Return in 2019, interest among African Americans in reconnecting with their historical and cultural roots on the African continent has grown. This presentation explores what is new and unfolding across Africa today, how individuals and communities can engage with the continent, and why participating in this renewed connection matters more than ever.

Location: Ade Food African Kitchen, 113 Grant Line Center, New Albany, IN 47150

Admission: Free. Food available for purchase.

Contact: Gwendolyn M. Noble (502) 554-7377

(February 7 continued)

2:30 PM

Adult Book Discussion

The Personal Librarian by Marie Benedict and Victoria Christopher Murray. **Bon Air Library**, 2816 Del Rio Place, Louisville, KY 40220 (502) 574-1795

3:00–3:30 PM

Highlighting Black History in Kentucky

Join us at the Kentucky Historical Society to celebrate Black History Month with a highlights tour of the exhibit A Kentucky Journey. This engaging experience explores powerful narratives of resilience, tracing Black history in Kentucky from the frontier era through the Civil Rights movement. Participants will learn about the profound impact Black Kentuckians have had on the state's history and encounter stories of strength, courage, and triumph.

Location: Kentucky Historical Society, 100 W. Broadway Street, Frankfort, KY 40601

Admission: Free **Contact:** Taylor Boss (502) 564-1792

Website: <https://history.ky.gov/events/highlighting-black-history-in-kentucky>

Tuesday, February 10, 2026

3:00 PM

Kid's Club: Quilt Squares

Inspired by Faith Ringgold. **Highlands–Shelby Park Library**, 1250 Bardstown Rd., Suite 4, Louisville, KY 40204 (502) 574-1672

Craft Time: Kimmy Cantrell Masks (Children)

Create your own Kimmy Cantrell Mask for Black History Month. Supplies provided. Ages 5-12. **Western Library**, 604 South Tenth Street, Louisville, KY 40203 (502) 574-1779

10:00 PM

Teen Tuesday: Whaddya Know About Black History Trivia?

Test your knowledge of Black History makers – real and fictional, as we play a fun and challenging Kahoot trivia game. Shawnee Library, 3912 West Broadway, Louisville, KY 40211 (502) 574-1722

Wednesday, February 11, 2026

10:05, 10:45 AM & 3:00 PM

Preschool Storytime: Black Authors & Illustrators (Children)

Foster your preschooler's love of reading with this engaging storytime! Join us for books, songs, movement, and art activities that foster early learning skills. Ages 3-5. **Crescent Hill Library**, 2762 Frankfort Avenue, Louisville, KY 40206 (502) 574-1793

Because plans may change, patrons are urged to confirm events prior to attending.

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(February 11 continued)

10:30 AM

Fairy Tales from Around the World (Children)

Celebrate stories from around the world in this playful, interactive program. Children will enjoy oral storytelling and even get to act out a story themselves! Ages 0-5. **Fairdale Library**, 10620 West Manslick Road, Louisville, KY 40118 (502) 375-2051

Preschool Storytime: Black Authors & Illustrators

Foster your preschooler's love of reading with this engaging Storytime! Join us for books, songs, movement, and art activities that encourage early learning skills. Ages 3-5. **Shawnee Library**, 3912 West Broadway Louisville, KY 40211(502) 574-1722

6:00 PM

Movie Screening & Discussion Group: American Fiction (Adult)

The discussion of the movie will be the following Wednesday. Popcorn will be served. Portland Library, 3305 Northwestern Parkway, Louisville, KY 40212 (502) 574-1744

Stephen King Book Discussion: The Green Mile (Adult)

St. Matthews Library, 3940 Grandview Avenue, Louisville, KY 40207 (502) 574-1771

Thursday, February 12, 2026

2:00 PM

Afternoon Book Discussion: Parable of the Sower (Adult)

Parable of the Sower by Octavia Butler. St. Matthews Library, 3940 Grandview Avenue, Louisville, KY 40207 (502) 574-1771

6:00 PM

Feel the Music: Nina Simone–Inspired Collage Art (Adult)

Create a “Feeling Good” collage inspired by music, stories, and visual arts. **Parkland Library**, 2743 Virginia Ave, Louisville, KY 40211 (502) 574-1832

Saturday, February 14, 2026

10:30 AM

Saturday Morning Book Discussion (Adult)

Please join us for a lively discussion of *Sing, Unburied, Sing* by Jesmyn Ward. Limited copies of the book are available. **Crescent Hill Library**, 2762 Frankfort Avenue, Louisville, KY 40206 (502) 574-1793

Jump & Fly Storytime with Brittany J. Thurman (All Ages)

During this interactive session with a local children’s author, kids will jump and soar as they help Brittany read her picture book, *Fly*. They will also create a short retelling of the story and learn the basics of double Dutch and jump rope. **Newburg Library**, 4800 Exeter Avenue, Louisville, KY 40218 (502) 479-6160

DESTINATION

Smooth Jazz

Saturday
February 14th

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Contact: derbycityjazz@gmail.com | 502-442-9869

1:00 PM

Black History Month Film Series (Adult)

This free series, presented in partnership with the UofL Health Sciences Center Office of Equity and Engagement, includes a panel discussion with academic experts and community leaders following each film. Registration is requested. Visit www.lfpl.org/bhfilms for more information. **Parkland Library**, 2743 Virginia Ave, Louisville, KY 40211. Contact: 502-574-1623

1:00 PM

The Buffalo Soldiers Academy

The Buffalo Soldiers Academy welcomes all to the African American History Month tribute honoring African Americans in the military from the Revolutionary War through World War II. There will be a film on the history of Kentucky's Buffalo Soldiers, as well as displays on African American military involvement, particularly in the United States Colored Troops (USCT), including Harriet Tubman and Cathay Williams. Recruiters will be on hand for youth interested in enrolling in the Buffalo Soldiers Youth Camp and the Boy Scouts of America. Youth and adults are welcome. **Western Library**, 604 South Tenth Street, Louisville, KY 40203. Contact: John Taylor, Jr. (502) 974-6467

1:00–1:30 PM

Freedom Fighters: A KMHM Highlights Tour

More than 20,000 Kentuckians secured their liberty through military service, joining the United States Colored Troops in the Union Army to escape enslavement. These soldiers played a critical role in the Civil War—fighting for both the nation and their freedom. This special highlights tour at the Kentucky Military History Museum brings their stories to life and honors their enduring legacy. This tour is offered on Saturdays, February 7–28, 2026. **Location:** Kentucky Military History Museum, 125 E. Main Street, Frankfort, KY 40601

Admission: Free **Contact:** Taylor Boss (502) 564-1792

Website: <https://history.ky.gov/events/freedom-fighters-a-kmhm-highlights-tour>

2:00 PM

Black History Film Screening: A Raisin in the Sun (Adult)
Shawnee Library, 3912 West Broadway, Louisville, KY 40211
(502) 574-1722

3:00–3:30 PM

Highlighting Black History in Kentucky

Join us at the Kentucky Historical Society to celebrate Black History Month with a highlights tour of the exhibit *A Kentucky Journey*. This engaging experience explores powerful narratives of resilience, tracing Black history in Kentucky from the frontier era through the Civil Rights movement. Participants will learn about the profound impact Black Kentuckians have had on the state's history and encounter stories of strength, courage, and triumph. **Location:** Kentucky Historical Society, 100 W. Broadway Street, Frankfort, KY 40601 **Admission:** Free **Contact:** Taylor Boss 502) 564-1792 **Website:** <https://history.ky.gov/events/highlighting-black-history-in-kentucky>



Listen to Soulful Sounds of Derbytown hosted by Marjorie Marshall, President of the Kentucky Music Heritage Foundation. Tune in every Sunday from 4-6 pm on WLLV 1240 AM & 101.9 FM Radio, Louisville, Kentucky, or listen online at: <https://www.wllvonline.com/listen/>

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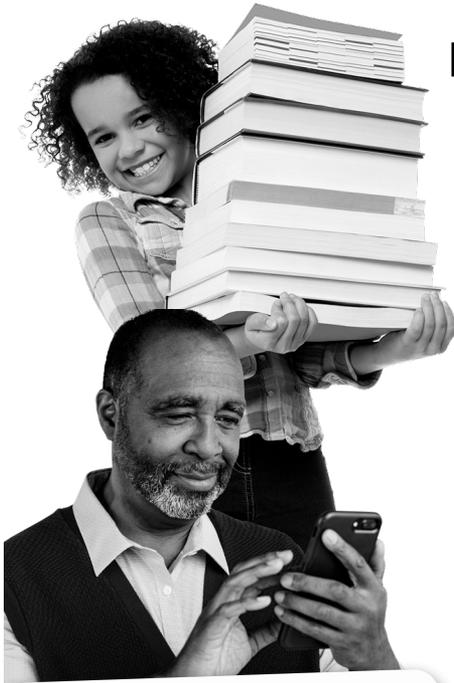
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Tuesday, February 17, 2026

10:00 AM

Early Birds Book Discussion (Adult)

The Heaven & Earth Grocery Store by James McBride. Limited copies of the book are available. Middletown Library, 12556 Shelbyville Road, Louisville, KY 40243 (502) 245-7332

3:30 PM

Eclipse: A Tribute to Alma Thomas (Children)

Get inspired by the famous abstract painting Eclipse, created by the African-American artist and teacher Alma Thomas. Make your own version of her famous painting. Supplies provided. Ages 5-12. **Parkland Library**, 2743 Virginia Ave, Louisville, KY 40211 (502) 574-1832

5:30 PM

Adult Book Discussion (Adult)

The Underground Railroad: A Novel by Colson Whitehead. Ages 18+. **Fairdale Library**, 10620 West Manslick Road, Louisville, KY 40118 (502) 375-2051

6:30 PM

Night Owls Book Discussion (Adult)

The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store by James McBride. **St. Matthews Library**, 3940 Grandview Avenue, Louisville, KY 40207 (502) 574-1771

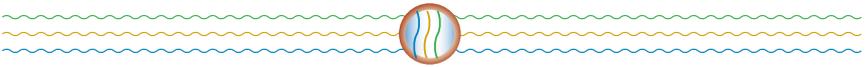
Wednesday, February 18, 2026

10:30 AM

Black History Month Storytime (Children)

Join us for a special family Storytime featuring Black authors and illustrators. For ages 0-8 and their caregivers. Newburg Library, 4800 Exeter Avenue, Louisville, KY 40218 (502) 479-6160

(February 18 continued)



Adult Book Discussion:
Homegoing Homegoing

by Yaa Gyasi. Books will be available for checkout at the library.

Jeffersontown Library, 10635 Watterson Trail, Louisville, KY
40299 (502) 267-5713

Preschool Storytime: Black Authors & Illustrators

Foster your preschooler's love of reading with this engaging Storytime. Join us for books, songs, movement, and art activities that promote early learning skills. Ages 3-5. **Shawnee Library**, 3912 West Broadway, Louisville, KY 40211 (502) 574-1722

6:00 PM

African-American Pathfinders:
Parkland CommunityPathfinders

Presentation and discussion on little-known historical, innovative, and/or cultural contributions. **Parkland Library**, 2743 Virginia Ave, Louisville, KY 40211 (502)574-1832

Thursday, February 19, 2026

10:00 AM

Beginner Sourdough Bread Workshop (Adult)

LeTicia Marshall of Bearfruit & Grow will teach us how to mix dough and shape it into a complete loaf. Registration is required. Call 502-933-0029. Ages 18 +. **Southwest Regional Library**, 9725 Dixie Highway, Louisville, KY 40272 (502)933-0029

Because plans may change, patrons are urged to confirm events prior to attending.

The Eighth Annual Elmer Lucille Allen Conference on African American Studies

The Eighth Annual Elmer Lucille Allen Conference on African American Studies is a three-day event featuring art, scholarship, and presentations celebrating African American history and culture. The conference brings together artists, scholars, and community members for dialogue, learning, and cultural exchange.

Location: Kentucky Center for African American Heritage, 1701 W. Muhammad Ali Blvd, Louisville, KY 40203

Admission: Free

Contact: Deonte Hollowell 502-855-1348

Website: <https://okike.my.canva.site/ela>

4:00 PM

COLLIDER: Black History Through Soapmaking (All Ages)

Honor Black history and heritage through the lens of soapmaking traditions and ingredients. Join COLLIDER Artist-in-Residence Andrea Moran for this culturally rich workshop that explores the African origins of soapmaking.

Space is limited. **South Central Regional Library**, 7300 Jefferson Boulevard, Louisville, KY 40219 (502) 964-3515. To register, email Liz.Magee@lfpl.org.

5:30 PM

Rhymes & Chimes: A Black History Month Music Tasting (Teens)

Join us for an evening of sound sampling, playlist mixing, and even designing your own album cover. Musician spotlights and related materials (books, CDs) will be available to check out. Parkland Library, 2743 Virginia Ave, Louisville, KY 40211 (502) 574-1832

(February 19 continued)

6:00 PM

Adult Book Discussion (Adult)

Luster by Raven Leilani. Email Michelle.Roell@ifpl.org with questions. Ages 18+. **Portland Library**, 3305 Northwestern Parkway, Louisville, KY 40212 (502) 574-1744

6:30 PM

Pipeline: A Play by Dominique Morisseau

The African American Theatre Program presents *Pipeline* by Dominique Morisseau, a powerful and timely drama that follows a Black mother's struggle to protect her son from the systemic racism and injustice of the school-to-prison pipeline after his expulsion from his private school. Through intimate storytelling, the play confronts issues of education, discipline, and survival within American institutions.

Location: Thrust Theatre, University of Louisville, 2314 S Floyd St, Louisville, KY 40208

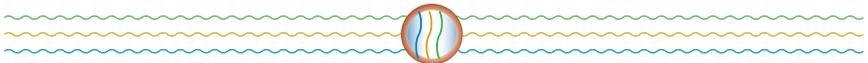
Admission: \$20

Contact: LaJa Hurt 502-852-5922

Tickets/ Website: <https://www.onthestage.tickets/show/university-oflouisville/684b20382f2ba80f65f373f7>

Family Art Night

Enjoy making art inspired by an African American artist. Iroquois Library, 601 West Woodlawn Avenue, Louisville, KY 40215 (502) 574-1720



Because plans may change, patrons are urged to confirm events prior to attending.

STOP BY THE HERITAGE CENTER

A PLACE TO HAVE A HERITAGE EXPERIENCE

Since 2011, the Kentucky Center for African American Heritage has been a member of the Kentucky Tourism, Arts, and Heritage Cabinet. As a quasi-state agency, the Heritage Center is dedicated to a statewide mission to preserve, promote, and advance the culture and heritage of African Americans in Kentucky and the legacy shared throughout the African Diaspora.

For over a decade, the Heritage Center's operation has been located in the heart of Louisville's historic Russell neighborhood on the former Louisville Street Railway Complex known as the "Trolley Barn," built in 1876. The imposing 68,000 sq. ft. campus provides multiple venues where education, enrichment, and entertainment happens.

Permanent exhibitions in the Brown-Forman Great Hall and other galleries across the Heritage Center campus include "A Salute to Muhammad Ali: A Life of Inspiration," "Black Freedom Struggle in Kentucky," "Brigadier General Charles Young: Soldier, Educator, Diplomat & Civil Rights Advocate," "The Legends of Great African American Jockeys," "Two Centuries of Black Louisville and "A Self-Guided Tour of Louisville's Civil Rights History." In addition to rotating and permanent exhibitions throughout the year, the Heritage Center produces, curates, and hosts educational, enrichment, and entertainment programs with performances of all types for children and adults alike.



EDUCATION

EXHIBITS, WORKSHOPS, TALKS AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS



ENRICHMENT

FAMILY FUN EVENTS, HOLIDAY FESTIVALS AND CULTURAL CELEBRATIONS



ENTERTAINMENT

MOVIES, PLAYS, CONCERTS AND SOCIAL EVENTS



SIGN UP FOR UPDATES!

FOLLOW US ON:   

KENTUCKY CENTER FOR AFRICAN AMERICAN HERITAGE

1701 West Muhammad Ali Boulevard | 502-583-4100 | KCAAH.ORG



Saturday, February 21, 2026

10:00 AM

Chess Tournament

Test your skill in a time-controlled chess tournament with the Kentucky Chess Ambassadors. Medals will be awarded to the top division finishers. Space is limited; All ages and skill levels welcome. Southwest Regional Library, 9725 Dixie Highway, Louisville, KY 40272. Contact: 502-933-0029 to register.

1:00 PM

Black History Month Film Series (Adult)

This free series, presented in partnership with the UofL Health Sciences Center Office of Equity and Engagement, features a panel discussion led by academic experts and community leaders after each film. Registration is requested. Visit www.lfpl.org/bhfilms for more information.

Contact: 502-574-1623 **Parkland Library**, 2743 Virginia Ave, Louisville, KY 40211

Black History Month Movie & Discussion

Watch *Hidden Figures* with a discussion to follow. Snacks and drinks provided. **Middletown Library**, 12556 Shelbyville Road, Louisville, KY 40243 (502) 245-7332

1:00–1:30 PM

Freedom Fighters: A KMHM Highlights Tour

More than 20,000 Kentuckians secured their liberty through military service, joining United States Colored Troops in the Union Army to escape enslavement. These soldiers played a critical role in the Civil War—fighting for both the nation and their freedom. This special highlights tour at the Kentucky Military History Museum brings their stories to life and honors their enduring legacy. **Location:** Kentucky Military History Museum, 125 E. Main Street, Frankfort, KY 40601



ACLU Kentucky

WE'VE GOT
YOUR BACK

JOIN US TODAY

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Admission: Free **Contact:** Taylor Boss (502) 564-1792

Website: <https://history.ky.gov/events/freedom-fighters-a-kmhm-highlights-tour>

3:00–3:30 PM

Highlighting Black History in Kentucky

Join us at the Kentucky Historical Society to celebrate Black History Month with a highlights tour of the exhibit *A Kentucky Journey*. This engaging experience explores powerful narratives of resilience, tracing Black history in Kentucky from the frontier era through the Civil Rights movement. Participants will learn about the profound impact Black Kentuckians have had on the state's history and encounter stories of strength, courage, and triumph. **Location:** Kentucky Historical Society, 100 W. Broadway Street, Frankfort, KY 40601

Admission: Free **Contact:** Taylor Boss (502) 564-1792

Website: <https://history.ky.gov/events/highlighting-black-history-in-kentucky>

Because plans may change, patrons are urged to confirm events prior to attending.

Monday, February 23, 2026

6:30 PM

Adult Book Discussion Group (Adult)

The Three Mothers: How the Mothers of Martin Luther King Jr., Malcolm X, and James Baldwin Shaped a Nation by Anna Tubbs. Books are available for checkout. Ages 18+. Northeast Regional Library, 15 Bellevoir Circle, Louisville, KY 40223 (502) 394-0379
Tuesday, February 24, 2026

10:00 AM

Kitchen Conversations

Join chef Nathan Lamar of Proof on Main for a cooking demo and discussion of his experiences as an African-American chef in Louisville. Limited seating. Ages 18+. **Southwest Regional Library**, 9725 Dixie Highway, Louisville, KY 40272 Call (502) 933.0029.

3:00 PM

Kid's Club: Spiderman: Into the Spiderverse

Movie Screening **Highlands–Shelby Park Library**, 1250 Bardstown Rd., Suite 4, Louisville, KY 40204 (502) 574-1672

5:30 PM

Vinyl & Vibes (Adult)

Join us as we spotlight February's theme, Love vs Love Lost: From Etta James to Adele. No musical expertise needed! This is simply an opportunity to unwind, enjoy some snacks, and connect with fellow music lovers. Registration requested. Email emma.pinkley@LFPL.org **Portland Library**, 3305 Northwestern Parkway, Louisville, KY 40212 (502) 574-1744

6:00 PM

Adult Book Discussion: *Giovanni's Room*

Giovanni's Room by James Baldwin. Registration requested. Email charlie.ward@lfpl.org. **Newburg Library**, 4800 Exeter Avenue, Louisville, KY 40218 (502) 479-6160

6:30 PM

LGBTQ+ Book Discussion: *The Color Purple* (Adult)

Selections will focus on books by LGBTQ+ authors or centered on LGBTQ+ characters and history. Books are available to check out at the branch. February's book selection is *The Color Purple* by Alice Walker. Ages 18+. **Northeast Regional Library**, 15 Bellevoir Circle, Louisville, KY 40223. (502) 394-0379

Wednesday, February 25, 2026

10:05, 10:45 AM & 3:00 PM

Preschool Storytime (second session)

Foster your preschooler's love of reading with this engaging Storytime. Join us for books, songs, movement, and art activities that promote early learning skills. Ages 3-5. **Crescent Hill Library**, 2762 Frankfort Avenue, Louisville, KY 40206. (502) 574-1793

10:30 AM

Preschool Storytime: Black Authors & Illustrators

Foster your preschooler's love of reading with this engaging Storytime. Join us for books, songs, movement, and art activities that promote early learning skills. Ages 3-5. **Shawnee Library**, 3912 West Broadway, Louisville, KY 40211 (502) 574-1722

3:30 PM

Teen Craft Club

Use colorful art supplies to create artwork reminiscent of Alma Thomas' famous circular technique. **Newburg Library**, 4800 Exeter Avenue, Louisville, KY 40218 (502) 479-6160

Thursday, February 26, 2026

2:00 PM

Homeschool Book Club: *Dragons in a Bag*

Explore symbolism and imagery. Dive into exciting stories, discover key literary elements and themes, and create art inspired by Zetta Elliott's *Dragons in a Bag*. Ideal for homeschoolers who enjoy reading, creativity, and engaging discussions. Limited copies available. Ages 10-14. **Southwest Regional Library**, 9725 Dixie Highway, Louisville, KY 40272. Registration requested. Call: (502) 933-0029

4:00 PM

Afterschool Art: Community Quilt (Children)

Discover the beauty and passion of the renowned Gee's Bend quilters, then craft your own unique square. Squares will be assembled into a community quilt for display at the branch. The Gee's Bend quilt makers are a group of women and their ancestors from the Gee's Bend area of Alabama's rural Black Belt, whose quilts are celebrated as some of the most important artistic contributions to American art history. **Portland Library**, 3305 Northwestern Parkway, Louisville, KY 40212. (502) 574-1744

5:00 PM

Summer of Soul Screening + Trivia

Experience the rhythm, history, and soul of the legendary 1969 Harlem Cultural Festival with a screening of *Summer of Soul*, directed by Questlove. After the film, enjoy a music-themed trivia session inspired by the film. **Parkland Library**, 2743 Virginia Ave, Louisville, KY 40211. (502) 574-1832

Friday, February 27, 2026

2:00 PM

Cozy Crafting: Paper Quilts (Adult)

Make your own collage-style paper quilt inspired by artist Faith Ringgold. Registration requested. Call 574-1832 or email AdultRef20@lfpl.org to register. **Parkland Library**, 2743 Virginia Ave, Louisville, KY 40211 (502) 574-1832

Saturday, February 28, 2026

1:00 PM

2026 Black Superhero Showcase

Join us as we spotlight graphic novels, artwork, entertaining games, and activities featuring some of the media's most popular—and not-so-popular—black superheroes! Come dressed as your favorite superhero! **Shawnee Library**, 3912 West Broadway, Louisville, KY 40211. (502) 574-1722

1:00 PM

Black History Month Film Series (Adult)

This free series, presented in partnership with the UofL Health Sciences Center Office of Equity and Engagement, features a panel discussion led by academic experts and community leaders after each film. Registration is requested. Visit www.lfpl.org/bhfilms for more information. Contact: (502) 574-1623 **Parkland Library**, 2743 Virginia Ave, Louisville, KY 40211

1:00–1:30 PM

Freedom Fighters: A KMHM Highlights Tour

More than 20,000 Kentuckians secured their liberty through military service, joining United States Colored Troops in the Union Army to escape enslavement. These soldiers played a critical role in the Civil War—fighting for both the nation and their freedom. This special highlights tour at the Kentucky

(February 28 continued)

Military History Museum brings their stories to life and honors their enduring legacy. This tour is offered on Saturdays, February 7–28, 2026. **Location:** Kentucky Military History Museum, 125 E. Main Street, Frankfort, KY 40601

Admission: Free **Contact:** Taylor Boss (502) 564-1792

Website: <https://history.ky.gov/events/freedom-fighters-a-kmhm-highlights-tour>

2:00 PM

The Trouble of Color: An American Family Memoir

A look at the book by historian Martha S. Jones, where she explores her family's history, traveling through centuries and addressing key issues of identity and belonging. We also discuss many other Black and biracial Americans in politics, popular culture, and academia. **Highlands–Shelby Park Library**, 1250 Bardstown Rd., Suite 4, Louisville, KY 40204 (502) 574-1672

3:00–3:30 PM

Highlighting Black History in Kentucky

Join us at the Kentucky Historical Society to celebrate Black History Month with a highlights tour of the exhibit A Kentucky Journey. This engaging experience explores powerful narratives of resilience, tracing Black history in Kentucky from the frontier era through the Civil Rights movement. Participants will learn about the profound impact Black Kentuckians have had on the state's history and encounter stories of strength, courage, and triumph. **Location:** Kentucky Historical Society, 100 W. Broadway Street, Frankfort, KY 40601

Admission: Free **Contact:** Taylor Boss (502) 564-1792

Website: <https://history.ky.gov/events/highlighting-black-history-in-kentucky>

3:00 PM (EST)

ROOTS 101: Black History Liberation Bowl

ROOTS 101: Black History Liberation Bowl ("LIB Bowl") is an annual Quick-Recall tournament and the culminating highlight

of a 10–12-week Black History Work & Study program. Youth ages 7–25 have a platform to demonstrate their critical thinking and knowledge of Black history and culture through dynamic, culturally relevant competition. Awards are presented immediately after the tournament at a ceremony with refreshments.

Champions: \$2,500

Second Place: \$1,250

Third Place: \$750 (awarded to each of two teams)

Checks, trophies, and medallions will be distributed at the awards ceremony.

Location: William H. Perry Elementary School, 755 Dixie Highway, Louisville, KY 40210

Admission: Free

Contact: Riccardo X 502-526-7174

The Voice of the Griot Podcast



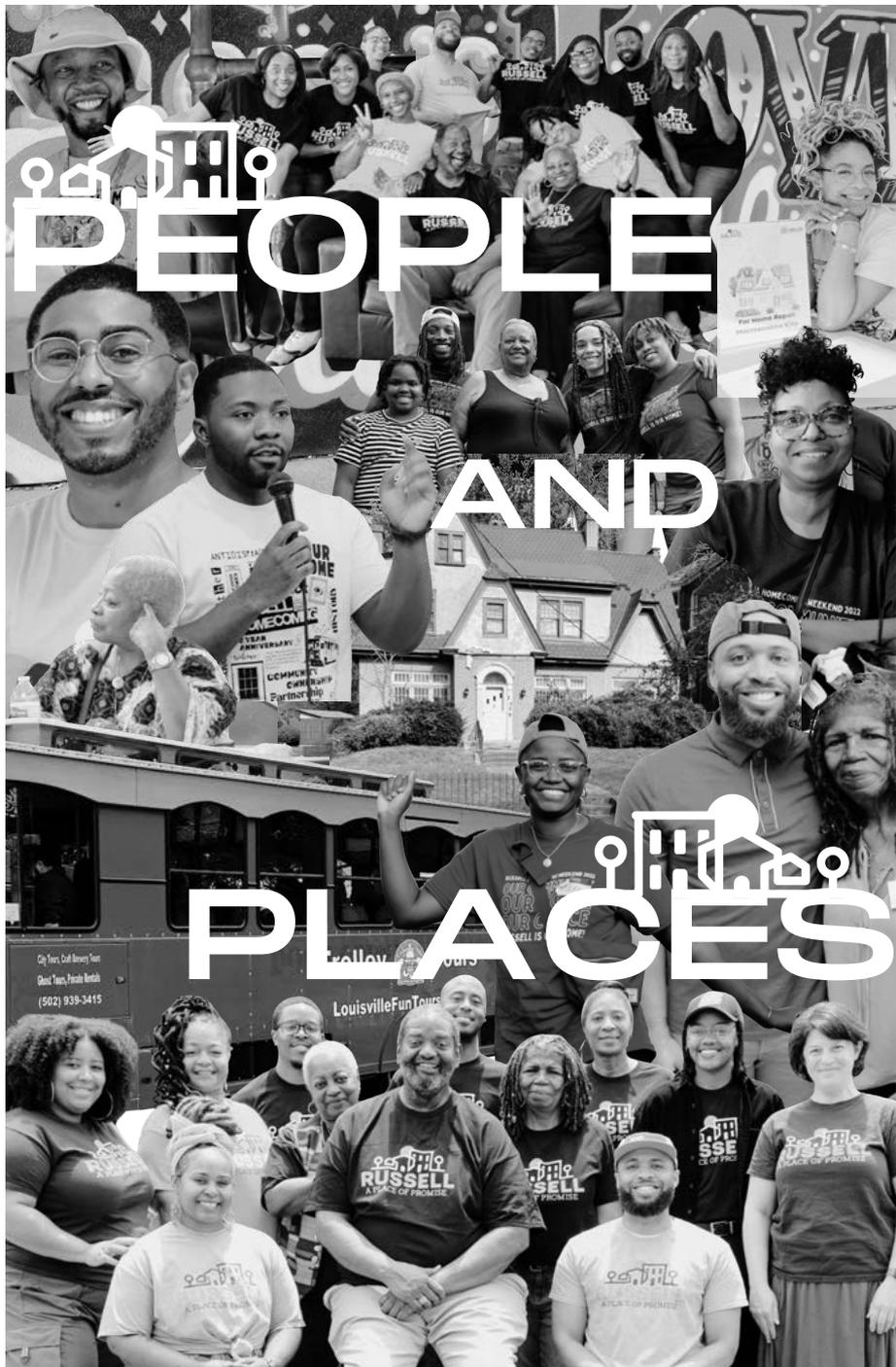
Mary Cunningham Smith
Louisville's Trolley Heroine

The Kentucky Center for African American Heritage presents the Voice of the Griot Podcast. This is our inaugural program, "Traveling While Black: Louisville's Struggle to Desegregate Public Transportation."

In this inaugural episode of Voice of the Griot features the story of one community's resistance to racist efforts to create a segregated society by depriving African Americans of equal access to public transportation in the city of Louisville, Kentucky in the post-Civil War years.

Listen to podcast at:

kcaah.org/the-voice-of-the-griot-podcast/



Russell: A Place of Promise is a 501C3 community land trust focused on building Black wealth by generating investments without displacement in the Russell neighborhood of Louisville, KY.

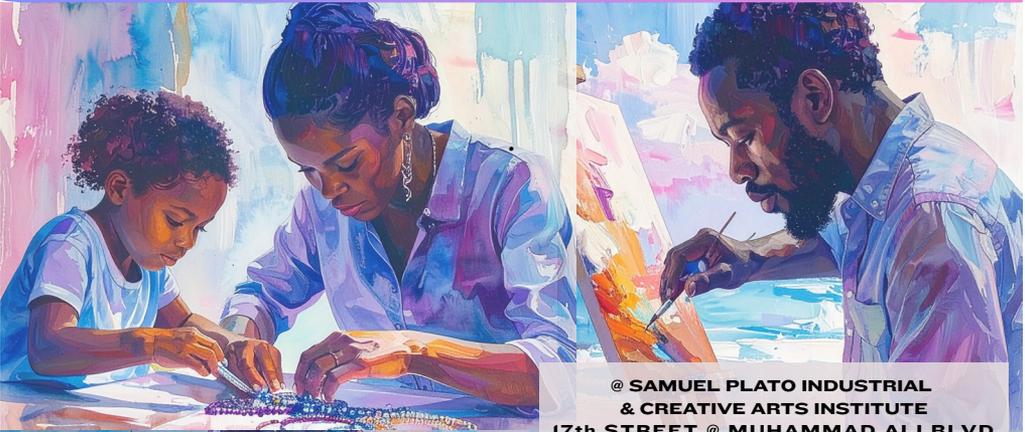
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KENTUCKY CENTER FOR AFRICAN AMERICAN HERITAGE

INTERGENERATIONAL ART STUDIO WITH GWENDOLYN KELLY & JULIA YOUNGBLOOD

Explore your creativity. All supplies and tools onsite. No cost to attend.
Young people, under 16 must be accompanied by an adult.

TUESDAYS 4 PM -7 PM . OCTOBER 7, 2025 - MAY 26, 2026



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HERITAGE CABINET





Upcoming Events



Friday, April 17, 2026

6:00 – 9:00 PM

Opening Reception

Celebrating the Black Experience Exhibition

Celebrating the Black Experience showcases the contributions of African descendants through the visual arts, honors the rich legacy of Black artists, and highlights the transformative impact of African American art in our struggle against oppression and racism. The selected artworks will reflect the diverse environments and traditions that contribute to the fabric of the Black experience. Imagery that embodies joy, sorrow, love, creativity, and truth-telling will be explored within the Black aesthetic. This year, the Kentucky Arts Council and KCAAH will partner again to enhance the exhibit's visibility by traveling to several additional communities across the state through December 2025. **Location:** Kentucky Center for African American Heritage, in the Elmer Lucille Allen Gallery, 1701 West Muhammad Ali Blvd., Louisville, KY. April 17 to June 18, 2025, Monday through Friday, 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM.



Saturday, June 20, 2026

10:00 AM–4:00 PM

**2nd Annual Freedom Day Festival at
Camp Nelson National Monument**

The National Park Service at Camp Nelson National Monument, in partnership with the Camp Nelson Foundation, Hunteertown Community Interpretive Park, the National Coalition of Black Veteran Organizations, the Kentucky Center for African American Heritage, Jessamine County Public Library, and Visit Jessamine, invites the public to the 2nd Annual Freedom Day Festival.

This special event commemorates the Brigadier General Charles Young Memorial Historical Corridor—a 170-mile route from Camp Nelson National Monument in Jessamine County, Kentucky, to Mays Lick, ending at the Charles Young Buffalo Soldiers National Monument in Wilberforce, Ohio. Born in 1864 in Mays Lick, Kentucky, to formerly enslaved parents, Charles Young became the third African American graduate of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, the first African American superintendent of a national park, and the highest-ranking African American officer in the U.S. Army at the time of his death in 1922. He was posthumously promoted to brigadier general on February 1, 2022.

The festival features live music, cultural demonstrations, food, arts and crafts, children's activities, and guided talks and walks. The event is free and open to the public. **Location:** Camp Nelson National Monument, 6614 Danville Loop 2 Road, Nicholasville, KY 40356

Admission: Free

Contact: Steve Phan 859-881-5716 cane_info@nps.gov

Website: <https://www.nps.gov/cane/index.htm>

SAVE THE DATES



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2
6

↘ FEBRUARY 14TH

BOB BALDWIN
JOHNNY BRITT

↘ JUNE 6TH

PHYLCIA RAE
TBA

↘ SEPTEMBER 5TH

MARCUS ANDERSON
ANDREA LISA

↘ DECEMBER 5TH

TBA

KENTUCKY CENTER FOR AFRICAN HERITAGE
1701 WEST MUHAMMAD ALI BOULAVARD
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY 40203

*A note of thanks to our
“friends” who had the faith
and supported this venture
twenty – nine years ago.*



Lillian D. Anthony
Frank A. Clay, Jr.
Betty F. Cooper
Lyman T. Johnson
Khuthazele Monyiga Kmt
Rev. T. W. Murray
Marie E. Porter

In DEDICATION to



Walter Williams Hutchins, Jr.

September 29, 1931 - November 17, 2022

Walter William Hutchins, Jr. was born on September 29, 1931, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, where he attended elementary, junior high, and senior high schools. Since high school, he developed two interests that would stay with him his entire life — photography and athletics. Walter graduated from Pennsylvania State University with a B.S. degree in Industrial Psychology. At Penn State, he was one of the founding members of the Delta Theta chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. Walter held various positions in advertising and marketing firms throughout his career.

However, Walter's true calling and passion was personal and community development. Even while working full time, Walter's entrepreneurial and giving spirit led him to found the groundbreaking "Black House" community center in North Philadelphia in 1967 "to serve the real needs of Black Philadelphia."

After relocating to Louisville in 1990, Walter was most known to Louisvillians as the publisher of the African American History Month Cultural Events Calendar, a fixture in the community that he published for 27 years, from 1992 to 2020. Walter referred to himself as a "History Promoter" and was especially dedicated to providing continuity for Louisville's African American history and culture. He enjoyed conducting African American history bus tours and creating picture postcards documenting historic sites hidden in plain sight. Walter was also proud to serve on the Board of the Kentucky Center for African American Heritage and was a founding member of the Western Branch Library Support Association (WBSA). WBSA created the *Keeper of the Flame Award* in honor of Walter W. Hutchins, who created, produced, and distributed the first twenty-seven years of this celebrated Annual African American History Month Cultural Events Calendar for the local Louisville community. WBSA will present the award annually, recognizing an individual with an outstanding community service career and significant contributions to African American culture and the overall broader Louisville community.

FOLLOW THE FOOTSTEPS THAT CHANGED THE WORLD.

Skin Demonstration Sites

Simon-Denis
Blue Star Cafeteria
644 South Fourth Street
410 West Main Street, 4th Fl.
(formerly Walnut Street)

The Blue Star Cafeteria was the site of a protest in 1964...
The Blue Star Cafeteria was the site of a protest in 1964...
The Blue Star Cafeteria was the site of a protest in 1964...

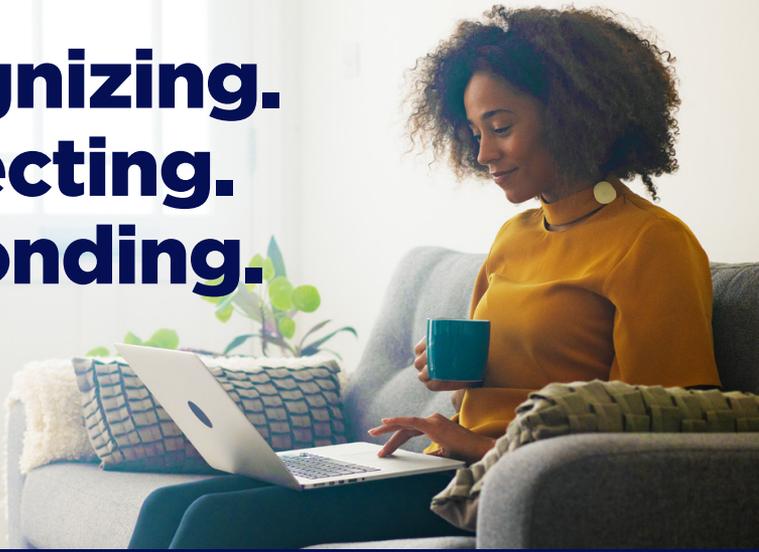


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