



DC COMMISSION ON
THE ARTS & HUMANITIES

and DC BLACK HISTORY CELEBRATION COMMITTEE



**Black
History**
Month

GUIDE TO FREE EVENTS IN WASHINGTON, DC
FEBRUARY 1 - 28, 2015



The DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities and the DC Black History Celebration Committee are proud to present this guide to events in Washington, DC for the month of February 2015.

As a Harvard-trained historian, Carter G. Woodson, like W. E. B. Du Bois before him, believed that truth could not be denied and that reason would prevail over prejudice. His hopes to raise awareness of African American's contributions to civilization was realized when he and the organization he founded, the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History (ASNLH), conceived and announced Negro History Week in 1925. The event was first celebrated during a week in February 1926 that encompassed the birthdays of both Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass. The response was overwhelming: Black history clubs sprang up; teachers demanded materials to instruct their pupils; and progressive whites, not simply white scholars and philanthropists, stepped forward to endorse the effort.

By the time of Woodson's death in 1950, Negro History Week had become a central part of African American life and substantial progress had been made in bringing more Americans to appreciate the celebration. At mid-century, mayors of cities nationwide issued proclamations noting Negro History Week. The Black Awakening of the 1960s dramatically expanded the consciousness of African Americans about the importance of black history, and the Civil Rights movement focused Americans of all color on the subject of the contributions of African Americans to our history and culture.

The celebration was expanded to a month in 1976, the nation's bicentennial. President Gerald R. Ford urged Americans to "seize the opportunity to honor the too-often neglected accomplishments of black Americans in every area of endeavor throughout our history." That year, fifty years after the first celebration, the association held the first African American History Month. By this time, the entire nation had come to recognize the importance of Black history in the drama of the American story. Since then each American president has issued African American History Month proclamations. And the association—now the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH)—continues to promote the study of Black history all year.

(Excerpt from an essay by Daryl Michael Scott, Howard University, for the Association for the Study of African American Life and History)

PERMANENT INSTALLATION

Exhibit: ***The Struggle for Justice***
National Portrait Gallery 8th & F St. NW,
Washington DC
npg.si.edu

SEPTEMBER 2014 - SEPTEMBER 2015

Exhibit: ***The Civil Rights Act of 1964: A Long Struggle for Freedom***
8:30 AM - 4:30 PM, Monday through Saturday
Thomas Jefferson Building, Second Floor,
Southwest Exhibition Gallery
10 First St. SE, Washington DC
loc.gov

JANUARY 13 - FEBRUARY 13

Exhibit: ***Black Space Art***
Public Hours,
Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library, Great
Hall
901 G St. NW, Washington DC
dclibrary.org

EVERYDAY

***Mary McLeod Bethune Council House
National Historic Site Tour***
9 AM to 5 PM (Last tour at 4p sharp)
Mary McLeod Bethune Council House National
Historic Site
1318 Vermont Ave. NW, Washington DC
www.nps.gov/mamc

FEBRUARY 1

Get the "Scoop" on Black History
1:30 PM
Lamond Riggs Library
5401 South Dakota Ave. NE, Washington DC
dclibrary.org

FEBRUARY 2

Reading Ranger Program
10:30 - 11:30 AM
Mary McLeod Bethune Council House National
Historic Site

1318 Vermont Ave., N.W, Washington DC
www.nps.gov/mamc

Black History Month Kickoff

6 PM
African American Civil War Museum
1925 Vermont Ave. NW, Washington DC
afroamcivilwar.org

Black Space: Century Song, An Evening of Black Thought and Music from 1915 - 2015

6:30 PM
Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library: Great
Hall
901 G St. NW, Washington DC
dclibrary.org

C.R. Gibbs Lecture Series on African American History and Culture: "Tan Yanks: The District's Black Doughboys of World War I"

7 PM
Capitol View Library
5001 Central Ave. SE, Washington DC
dclibrary.org

Kid's Night - Celebrate Black History Month: Celebrate the legacy of Jesse Owens!

7 PM
Mt. Pleasant Library
3160 16th St. NW, Washington, DC
dclibrary.org

East River Jazz is presenting Celebrating Strayhorn!: Imani-Grace Cooper Sings Fitzgerald/Strayhorn

6 PM
Kennedy Center's Millennium Stage
2700 F St. NW, Washington, DC
eastriverjazz.net bemojazz.com

FEBRUARY 3

26th Annual Black Film Festival featuring award-winning leading men

6 PM
Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library: Room 5-A
901 G St. NW, Washington, DC
dclibrary.org

Discussion with Book Signing: Gateway to Freedom: The Hidden History of the Underground Rail Rd.

7 PM to 8:30 PM

National Archives, McGowan Theater
700 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, DC
archivesfoundation.org/events

Who was Nannie Helen Burroughs? Why should we care?

10 AM to 12 PM

University of the District of Columbia Community College: Multi-purpose Room
801 North Capitol St. NE, Washington, DC
cc.udc.edu/nburroughsinfo.org

FEBRUARY 4

Michael W. Brookins and Friends in Concert

6:30 PM

Capitol View Library
5001 Central Ave. SE, Washington, DC
dclibrary.org

Back There, Then: Book Presentation and Author Talk

7 PM to 9 PM

Stoddard Baptist Home, Multipurpose Room
1818 Newton St. NW, Washington, DC
backtherethen.com

African American Artists in the Collection

12:30 PM

Smithsonian American Art Museum: Meet in the F St. Lobby of the Donald W. Reynolds Center for American Art & Portraiture
8th and F St. NW, Washington, DC
smithsonianeducation.org

Black Studies Center Film Series: Do the Right Thing

12 PM

Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library, 3rd floor
901 G St. NW, Washington, DC
dclibrary.org

FEBRUARY 5

Celebrate Black History Month with the Jackson Family Art Show!

6 PM

Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library
901 G St. NW, Washington, DC
dclibrary.org

African American Artists in the Collection

12:30 PM

Smithsonian American Art Museum: Meet in the F St. Lobby of the Donald W. Reynolds Center for American Art & Portraiture
8th and F St. NW, Washington, DC
smithsonianeducation.org

Who was Nannie Helen Burroughs? Why should we care?

4 PM to 6 PM

University of the District of Columbia Community College: Multi-purpose Room
801 North Capitol St. NE, Washington, DC
cc.udc.edu/nburroughsinfo.org

FEBRUARY 6

Black History Month Story Hour

11 AM

African American Civil War Museum
1925 Vermont Ave. NW, Washington, DC
afroamcivilwar.org

Historic Theater: Join the Student Sit-Ins at the Greensboro Lunch Counter

1:30 PM to 1:50 PM and 3 PM to 3:20 PM

Smithsonian American History Museum: Meet at Greensboro Lunch Counter, 2nd Floor, East Wing
1400 Constitution Ave. NW, Washington, DC
smithsonianeducation.org

FEBRUARY 7

DC Black History Hours at Ben's Chili Bowl

10 AM to 12 PM

Ben's Chili Bowl 1213 U St. NW, Washington, DC
benschilibowl.com

Black History Month Talks – African Americans in Medicine During the Civil War Era - Robert Slawson

2:30 PM to 3:30 PM

Clara Barton Missing Soldiers Office
437 7th St. NW, Washington, DC

civilwarmed.org/clara-barton-museum/

Black History Month Family Day: Rising Up

11 AM to 4 PM

Smithsonian American History Museum 1400
Constitution Ave. NW, Washington, DC

smithsonianeducation.org

Author Talk: Carla Kaplan

2 PM to 3 PM

Anacostia Community Museum
1901 Fort Place SE, Washington, DC

www.anacostia.si.edu

FEBRUARY 8

African American Artists in the Collection

12:30 PM

American Art Museum: Meet in the F St. Lobby
of the Donald W. Reynolds Center for American
Art & Portraiture

8th and F St. NW, Washington, DC

smithsonianeducation.org

Community History Series: The Civil War and the Making of Modern Washington, DC

2 PM to 4 PM

Anacostia Community Museum
1901 Fort Place SE, Washington, DC

www.anacostia.si.edu

East River Jazz is presenting Celebrating Strayhorn!: Why Celebrate Strayhorn?

2 PM

Francis A. Gregory Neighborhood Library
3660 Alabama Ave. SE, Washington, DC

eastriverjazz.net bemojazz.com

FEBRUARY 9

Film Screening: Spies of Mississippi

Stoddard Baptist Global Care

2601 18th St. NW, Washington, DC

www.stoddardbaptisthome.com

Reading Ranger Program

10:30 to 11:30 AM

Mary McLeod Bethune Council House National
Historic Site

1318 Vermont Ave. NW, Washington, DC

www.nps.gov/mamc

C.R. Gibbs Lecture Series on African American History and Culture: “Unbroken Bonds: The African Origins of Fraternities, Sororities and Other Organizations”

7 PM

Capitol View Library
5001 Central Ave. SE,

dclibrary.org

Kid’s Night - Celebrate Black History Month!: Learn about the tradition of quilting.

7 PM

Mt. Pleasant Library

3160 16th St. NW, Washington, DC

dclibrary.org

Picturing America: The Selma to Montgomery March for Voting Rights in 1965

4:30 PM

Petworth Library

4200 Kansas Ave. NW, Washington, DC

dclibrary.org

Young Portrait Explorers: George Washington Carver

10:25 AM to 11:30 AM

National Portrait Gallery, G St. Lobby
8th & F St. NW, Washington, DC

npg.si.edu

FEBRUARY 10

26th Annual Black Film Festival featuring award-winning leading men

6 PM

Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library: Room 5-A
901 G St. NW, Washington, DC

dclibrary.org

FEBRUARY 11

Black Studies Center Film Series: Fruitvale Station

12 PM

Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library, 3rd floor
901 G St. NW, Washington, DC
dclibrary.org

2015 African History and Culture Lecture Series: African Americans Teens in the Civil Rights Movement - CR Gibbs

7 PM

Francis Gregory Library
3660 Alabama Ave. SE, Washington, DC
dclibrary.org

African American Artists in the Collection

12:30 PM

American Art Museum: Meet in the F St. Lobby of the Donald W. Reynolds Center for American Art & Portraiture
8th and F St. NW, Washington, DC
smithsonianeducation.org

Charles Bolden, First African American NASA administrator, appointed by President Obama in 2009.

6:30 PM

Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library: Great Hall
901 G St. NW, Washington, DC
dclibrary.org

Getting to Know Hale Woodruff

7 PM to 8 PM

Smithsonian American History Museum: Warner Bros. Theater
1400 Constitution Ave. NW, Washington, DC
smithsonianeducation.org

Mr. Anthony "Tony" Browder, Author, Publisher, Cultural Historian, Artist and Educational Consultant

7 PM to 9 PM

Stoddard Baptist Global Care
2601 18th St. NW, Washington, DC
www.stoddardbaptisthome.com

FEBRUARY 12, 2015 - FEBRUARY 6, 2016

Exhibit: Freedom Just Around the Corner: Black America from Civil War to Civil Rights

10 AM to 5:30 PM

National Postal Museum
2 Massachusetts Ave. NE, Washington, DC
postalmuseum.si.edu

FEBRUARY 12

African American Artists in the Collection

12:30 PM

American Art Museum: Meet in the F St. Lobby of the Donald W. Reynolds Center for American Art & Portraiture
8th and F St. NW, Washington, DC
smithsonianeducation.org

Film: Life's Essentials with Ruby Dee

7 PM

Historic Lincoln Theatre
1215 U St. NW, Washington, DC
dcarts.dc.gov

Film: Love & Valor: One Couple's Intimate Civil War Letters (2012; 90 min) closed captioned

1 PM to 3 PM

Anacostia Community Museum
1901 Fort Place SE, Washington, DC
www.anacostia.si.edu

FEBRUARY 13

Lecture with Book Signing: Redemption Songs: Singing for Freedom before Dred Scott by Lea Vander Velde

12 PM to 1 PM

National Archives, McGowan Theater
700 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, DC
archivesfoundation.org/events

Celebrating Blacks Making History: Past Present and Future

12 PM to 7 PM

Howard Theater
620 T St. NW, Washington, DC
prpis.org

Exhibit Opening Reception: Light of the Ancestors

6 PM to 9 PM

Pepco Edison Place Gallery
702 Eighth St. NW, Washington, DC
artimpactusa.com

FEBRUARY 13 - MARCH 6

Exhibition: Light of the Ancestors

12PM to 4PM, Tuesday - Friday

Pepco Edison Place Gallery
702 Eighth St. NW, Washington, DC
artimpactusa.com

FEBRUARY 14

DC Black History Hours at Ben's Chili Bowl

10 AM to 12 PM

Ben's Chili Bowl
1213 U St. NW, Washington, DC
benschilibowl.com

FROM SELMA TO FERGUSON...Getting to the "HEART" of the Issue

2 PM to 4:30 PM

Mt Gilead Baptist Church
1625 13th St. NW, Washington, DC
www.mtgileaddc.org www.hci-global.com

Black History Month Talks – The United States Colored Troops in the Civil War - CR Gibbs

2:30 PM to 3:30 PM

Clara Barton Missing Soldiers Office
437 7th St. NW, Washington, DC
civilwarmed.org/clara-barton-museum/

Frederick Douglas Day

11 AM to 12:30 PM

Anacostia Community Museum: Main Gallery
1901 Fort Place SE, Washington, DC
www.anacostia.si.edu

The Loving Story

2 PM to 3 PM

Anacostia Community Museum
1901 Fort Place SE, Washington, DC
www.anacostia.si.edu

FEBRUARY 15

African American Men Sing Songs of Praise

3 PM

Greater New Hope Baptist Church
816 8th St. NW, Washington, DC

East River Jazz is presenting Celebrating Strayhorn!: Earlier Than Most: Billy Strayhorn's Civil Rights Activism

2 PM

Francis A. Gregory Neighborhood Library
3660 Alabama Ave. SE, Washington, DC
eastriverjazz.net bemojazz.com

FEBRUARY 17

Celebrate Black History Month with the Jackson Family Art Show!

6:30 PM

Rosedale Library
1701 Gales St. NE, Washington, DC
dclibrary.org

Black History Month Movie: Ruby Bridges Goes to School

3:30 PM

Palisades Library
4901 V St. NW, Washington, DC
dclibrary.org

Abstract Act Project: Inspired by the African-American contemporary artist, Jacob Lawrence

5 PM

Rosedale Library
1701 Gales St. NE, Washington, DC
dclibrary.org

DC Legendary Musician's Award Ceremony & Celebration of U St. and the DC Legendary Musicians

6 PM to 8 PM

Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library, Great Hall
901 G St. NW, Washington, DC
DCLMusicians.org

**26th Annual Black Film Festival
featuring award-winning leading men**

6 PM

Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library: Room
5-A

901 G St. NW, Washington, DC

dclibrary.org

FEBRUARY 18

**Black Studies Center Film Series: The Night
James Brown Saved Boston**

12 PM

Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library, 3rd floor
901 G St. NW, Washington, DC

dclibrary.org

**2015 African History and Culture Lecture
Series: The African Presence Around The
World: Past & Present - CR Gibbs**

7 PM

Francis Gregory Library

3660 Alabama Ave. SE, Washington, DC

dclibrary.org

African American Artists in the Collection

12:30 PM

Smithsonian American Art Museum: Meet in the
F St. Lobby of the Donald W. Reynolds Center
for American Art & Portraiture

8th and F St. NW, Washington, DC

smithsonianeducation.org

**Dr. Charles S. Finch, III Egyptian Scholar,
Author and Historian on the Science and
Civilization of Ancient Egypt**

7 PM to 9 PM

Stoddard Baptist Global Care

2601 18th St. NW, Washington, DC

www.stoddardbaptisthome.com

FEBRUARY 19

**A 20th Anniversary commemoration of the
publication of the groundbreaking book,
Saving Our Sons: Raising Black Children in a
Turbulent World.**

6:30 PM

Watha T. Daniel/Shaw Library

1630 7th St. NW, Washington, DC

dclibrary.org

**C.R. Gibbs Lecture Series on African
American History and Culture: "The Civil
War Defenses of Anacostia: Sentinels of
Freedom: The Forgotten Story"**

7 PM

Dorothy I. Height/Benning Library

3935 Benning Rd. NE, Washington, DC

dclibrary.org

Face to Face: Ira Aldridge

12 PM National Portrait Gallery, Meet at portrait
of Ira Aldridge (1st floor)

8th & F St. NW, Washington, DC

npg.si.edu

African American Artists in the Collection

12:30 PM

Smithsonian American Art Museum: Meet in the
F St. Lobby of the Donald W. Reynolds Center
for American Art & Portraiture

8th and F St. NW, Washington, DC

smithsonianeducation.org

FEBRUARY 21

**Celebrate Black History Month with the
Jackson Family Art Show!**

2 PM

Parklands-Turner Library

1547 Alabama Ave. SE, Washington, DC

dclibrary.org

DC Black History Hours at Ben's Chili Bowl

10 AM to 12 PM

Ben's Chili Bowl

1213 U St. NW, Washington, DC

benschilibowl.com

African American Pioneers

10 AM to 3 PM

National Air and Space Museum

Independence Ave. at 6th St. SW, Washington, DC

airandspace.si.edu

Black History Month Talk – African-Americans in Medicine During the Civil War - Betsy Estilow

2:30 PM to 3:30 PM

Clara Barton Missing Soldiers Office
437 7th St. NW, Washington, DC

civilwarmed.org/clara-barton-museum/

FEBRUARY 23

Reading Ranger Program

10:30 -11:30 AM

Mary McLeod Bethune Council House National Historic Site

1318 Vermont Ave. NW, Washington, DC

nps.gov/mamc

Book Talk: 1919, The Year of Racial Violence How African Americans Fought Back

6 PM

Busboys and Poets @ 14th & V

2021 14th St. NW, Washington, DC

dchistory.org

C.R. Gibbs Lecture Series on African American History and Culture: “Pan Africanism: Origins and Issues”

7 PM

Deanwood Library

1350 49th St. NE, Washington, DC

dclibrary.org

Kid's Night - Celebrate Black History Month! Learn about George Crum, the inventor of the potato chip

7 PM

Mt. Pleasant Library

3160 16th St. NW, Washington, DC

dclibrary.org

2015 African History and Culture Lecture Series: Pan-Africanism: Issues & Origins - CR Gibbs

7 PM

Deanwood Library

1350 49th St. NE, Washington, DC

dclibrary.org

FEBRUARY 24

26th Annual Black Film Festival featuring award-winning leading men

6 PM

Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library: Room 5-A

901 G St. NW, Washington, DC

dclibrary.org

FEBRUARY 25

Black Studies Center Film Series: James Baldwin: The Price of the Ticket

12 PM

Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library, 3rd floor
901 G St. NW, Washington, DC

dclibrary.org

2015 African History and Culture Lecture Series: The Scramble for Africa in the 21st Century - CR Gibbs

7 PM

Francis Gregory Library

3660 Alabama Ave. SE, Washington, DC

dclibrary.org

African American Artists in the Collection

12:30 PM

Smithsonian American Art Museum: Meet in the F St. Lobby of the Donald W. Reynolds Center for American Art & Portraiture

8th and F St. NW, Washington, DC

smithsonianeducation.org

BlackLivesMatter And The Power of Sports: A Panel with Dr. John Carlos

7 PM to 9 PM

Watha T. Daniel/Shaw Library

1630 7th St. NW, Washington, DC

dclibrary.org

Monte O. Harris, Center for Aesthetic Modernism.

7 PM to 9 PM

Stoddard Baptist Home, Multipurpose Room
1818 Newton St. NW, Washington, DC

www.stoddardbaptisthome.com

FEBRUARY 26

Michael W. Brookins and Friends in Concert

6:30 PM

Tenley-Friendship Library
5001 Central Ave. SE, Washington, DC

dclibrary.org

African American Artists in the Collection

12:30 PM

Smithsonian American Art Museum: Meet in the
F St. Lobby of the Donald W. Reynolds Center
for American Art & Portraiture
8th and F St. NW, Washington, DC

smithsonianeducation.org

FEBRUARY 27 - AUGUST 2

Exhibition: Minging Mike's Supersonic Greatest Hits

11:30 AM to 7 PM daily

Smithsonian American Art Museum: 2nd floor
South

8th and F St. NW, Washington, DC

americanart.si.edu

FEBRUARY 27

Lecture with Book Signing: A Chosen Exile: A History of Racial Passing in American Life by Allyson Hobbs

12 PM to 1 PM

National Archives, McGowan Theater
700 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, DC

archivesfoundation.org/events

Author Talk: African American Medicine in Washington, D.C. by Heather Butts

2 PM to 3 PM

Anacostia Community Museum
1901 Fort Place SE, Washington, DC

www.anacostia.si.edu

Minging Mike, Roundtable Remix

6:30 to 7:30 PM

American Art Museum: McEvoy Auditorium
8th and F St. NW, Washington, DC

smithsonianeducation.org

FEBRUARY 28

ASALH Annual Black History Month Book Signing

10 AM to 12 PM

The Marriott Wardman Park Hotel
2600 Woodley Rd. NW, Washington, DC

asalh100.org

Celebrate Black History Month with the Jackson Family Art Show!

2 PM

William O. Lockridge/Bellevue Library
115 Atlantic St. SW, Washington, DC

dclibrary.org

DC Black History Hours at Ben's Chili Bowl

10 AM to 12 PM

Ben's Chili Bowl
1213 U St. NW, Washington, DC

benschilibowl.com

2015 African History and Culture Lecture Series: Black, Copper, & Bright : DCs Black Civil War Regiment - CR Gibbs

2:30 to 3:30 PM

Clara Barton Missing Soldiers Office
437 7th St NW, Washington, DC

civilwarmed.org/clara-barton-museum/

East River Jazz is presenting Celebrating Strayhorn!: Strayhorn Big Band: A Journey Down Memory Lane

6:30 PM

Jazz@Wesley UPTOWN

5312 Connecticut Ave. NW, Washington, DC

eastriverjazz.net bemojazz.com



DC COMMISSION ON
THE ARTS & HUMANITIES

VISION

As the Nation's Capital, the District of Columbia is a world-class cultural destination. The DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities (DCCA) will be the leading voice for arts and culture in the city, thereby elevating the impact of the arts and humanities locally, nationally and internationally.

Recognizing the changing dynamics within the city, the D.C. Commission on the Arts and Humanities is poised to increase our depth and expand our breadth of creative opportunities for residents and visitors.

MISSION

Our mission is to provide grant funds, programs and educational activities that encourage diverse artistic expressions and learning opportunities, so that all District of Columbia residents and visitors can experience the rich culture of our city.

Edmund C. Fleet | Chair, DCCA
Lionell Thomas | Executive Director, DCCA

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