

GUIDE TO FREE EVENTS IN WASHINGTON, DC | FEBRUARY 1 - 28, 2017

Black History Month 2017



DC COMMISSION ON
THE ARTS & HUMANITIES

& DC BLACK HISTORY CELEBRATION COMMITTEE

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 2017.

This guide is available online at dcarts.dc.gov.

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)

For up to date listings of events, visit www.facebook.com/DC.Black.History

On the cover: A detail of the Spirit of Freedom sculpture, part of the African American Civil War Museum

EVERY THURSDAY - SATURDAY

BEN'S CHILI BOWL'S FREE DC BLACK HISTORY AND CULTURE LESSONS

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Ben's Chili Bowl

1213 U Street, NW

202-251-1975

SATURDAYS

APPEAL Inc. Winter Workshop Series

10:30 AM - 12:30 PM

The Thurgood Marshall Center

1816 12th Street NW

FEBRUARY 1

African American Civil War Museum Black History Month Kickoff Event

6:00 - 8:00 PM

African American Civil War Museum

1925 Vermont Ave, NW

202-667-2667 www.afroamcivilwar.org

Film and Discussion: *I am Not Your Negro*

7:00 - 9:00 PM

African American History and Culture Museum,
Oprah Winfrey Theater

1400 Constitution Avenue, NW

844-750-3012 nmaahc.si.edu

FEBRUARY 2

Lecture: *Crossing The Rubicon: The Battle for Black Public Education in DC*

7:00 PM

Southwest Neighborhood Library

900 Wesley Pl, SW

202-724-4752 www.dclibrary.org/southwest

Book Talks: *We Love You, Charlie Freeman* by Kaitlyn Greenidge & *The Good Negro* by A. J. Verdelle

7:00 PM

Politics and Prose

5015 Connecticut Ave. NW

202-364-1919

FEBRUARY 3

Book Talks: *Shackles from the Deep: Tracing the Path of a Sunken Slave Ship, a Bitter Past, and a Rich Legacy* by Michael Cottman

10:00 AM

Politics and Prose

5015 Connecticut Ave. NW

202-364-1919

African American Civil War Museum Story Hour

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

African American Civil War Museum

1925 Vermont Ave, NW

202-667-2667 www.afroamcivilwar.org

FEBRUARY 4

Book Talk: *The Voting Rights War*

11:00 AM - 12:30 PM

African American Civil War Museum

1925 Vermont Ave, NW

02-667-2667 www.afroamcivilwar.org

Film Screening: *13th*

TBD

African American Civil War Museum

1925 Vermont Ave, NW

202-667-2667 www.afroamcivilwar.org

Portrait Story Days: *Tuskegee Airmen*

1:00 - 4:00 PM

National Portrait Gallery, Education Center

8th and F Streets NW Washington, DC 20001

202-633-8300 npg.si.edu

FEBRUARY 5

Portrait Story Days: *Tuskegee Airmen*

2:00 - 5:00 PM

National Portrait Gallery, Education Center

8th and F Streets NW Washington, DC 20001

202-633-8300 npg.si.edu

FEBRUARY 6

BEN'S FREE CLASSIC BLACK CINEMA CLUB: *Carmen Jones* (1954)

6:30 - 9:30 PM
Dorothy I Height/Benning Neighborhood Library
3935 Benning Rd, NE
202-281-2583 www.dclibrary.org/benning

Lecture: *From Black Cargoes to Black Lives Matter: A Brief History of African American Protest*

7:00 PM
Oxnam Chapel
4500 Massachusetts Avenue, NW
202-885-8600 www.wesleyseminary.edu

FEBRUARY 8

Second annual #Lit-in-Color Write-a-Thon featuring an afternoon of mini-writing workshops by Writers of Color

12:00 - 5:00 PM
Dupont Underground
1583, 1527 New Hampshire Ave NW

Book Discussion: *Never Caught: The Washingtons' Relentless Pursuit of Their Runaway Slave, Ona Judge*

7:00 - 9:00 PM
African American History and Culture Museum,
Oprah Winfrey Theater
1400 Constitution Avenue, NW
844-750-3012 nmaahc.si.edu/calendar/upcoming

FEBRUARY 9

Symposium: *Tarzan to Tonto: Stereotypes as Obstacles to a More Perfect Union*

6:00 - 8:00 PM
American Indian Museum: 1st Floor Level
Fourth Street & Independence Ave., SW
202-633-1000 nmaahc.si.edu

Pop Quiz: *Black Hi story Month*

6:30 - 7:30 PM
National Portrait Gallery, Kogod Courtyard
8th and F Streets, NW
202-633-8300 npg.si.edu

Lecture: *The Assault on Jim Crow Education: Black Teens in the Civil Rights Movement*

7:00 PM
Southeast Neighborhood Library
403 7th St, SE
202-698-3377 www.dclibrary.org/southwest

FEBRUARY 10

Film: *Floyd Norman, An Animated Life (2016)*

11:00 AM - 1:00 PM
Anacostia Community Museum: Program Room
1901 Fort Pl, SE
202-633-4844 anacostia.si.edu

Syncopated Rhythms: *A Celebration of African American Poetry*

5:00 - 7:00 PM
National Portrait Gallery, Kogod Courtyard
8th and F Streets, NW
202.787.5210 splitthisrock.org
facebook.com/events/1792137287704143/

FEBRUARY 11

Coming to the Table Local Group Meeting

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Octagon House, 1799 New York Ave NW

Annual Family Day: *Viva Carnivale!*

12:00 - 4:00 PM
Anacostia Community Museum: Program Room
702 Eighth Street, NW
202-633-4844 anacostia.si.edu

Portrait Story Days: *Rosa Parks*

1:00 - 4:00 PM
National Portrait Gallery, Education Center
8th and F Streets, NW
202-633-8300 npg.si.edu

Film: *Though a Lens Darkly*

3:00 - 5:00 PM
Smithsonian American Art Museum
8th and F Streets, NW
202-633-1000 americanart.si.edu

FEBRUARY 12

Portrait Story Days: *Rosa Parks*

2:00 - 5:00 PM

National Portrait Gallery, Education Center
8th and F Streets, NW
202-633-8300 npg.si.edu

FEBRUARY 13

Young Portrait Explorers: *Rosa Parks*

10:30 - 11:30 AM

National Portrait Gallery, G Street Lobby
8th and F Streets, NW
202-633-8300 npg.si.edu

Lecture: *Black Georgetown Remembered*

7:00 PM

William O. Lockridge/Bellevue Neighborhood
Library
115 Atlantic St, SW
202-243-1185 www.dclibrary.org/bellevue

FEBRUARY 14

Book Talk: *The Playbook: 52 Rules to Aim, Shoot, and Score in This Game Called Life* by Kwame Alexander, Thai Neave (Photographer)

9:00 AM

Busboys and Poets 14 & V, 2021 14th Street NW
202-319-2125

FEBRUARY 15

Book Talk: *The Original Black Elite: Daniel Murray and the Story of a Forgotten Era* By Elizabeth Dowling Taylor

7:00 PM

Politics and Prose, 5015 Connecticut Ave. NW
202-364-1919

FEBRUARY 16

A Celebration of African American History, Arts and Culture

6:30 - 9:00 PM

Lincoln Theatre, 1215 U Street NW
202-724-5613

Lecture: *Crossing The Rubicon: The Battle for Black Public Education in DC*

7:00 PM

Tenley Neighborhood Library
4450 Wisconsin Ave, NW
202-727-1488 www.dclibrary.org/tenley

FEBRUARY 17

Frederick Douglass Birthday Celebration Kick-off House Party

7:00 - 9:00 PM

Anacostia Arts Center
1231 Good Hope Road SE
202-426-5961

FEBRUARY 18

Frederick Douglass Birthday Celebration 2017 Opening Ceremony

10:15 - 12:30 PM

Anacostia Playhouse, 2020 Shannon Place SE
202-426-5961

Frederick Douglass Birthday Celebration 2017: Historic Photography Demonstration

12:00 - 4:00 PM

Anacostia Arts Center
1231 Good Hope Road SE
202-426-5961

Frederick Douglass Birthday Celebration 2017: *The Life and Times of a Frederick Douglass Portrait*, Lisa Struckmeyer, Prince William Historic Preservation Foundation

12:30 - 1:30 PM

Frederick Douglass National Historic Site
1411 W Street SE
202-426-5961

Frederick Douglass Birthday Celebration 2017: *Douglass and Shakespeare with Darius Wallace*

12:30 - 1:30 PM and 2:00 - 3:00 PM

Anacostia Arts Center
1231 Good Hope Road SE
202-426-5961

Frederick Douglass Birthday Celebration 2017: *Douglass' Love for Art*

1:00 - 2:00 PM

Anacostia Arts Center, Theatre
1231 Good Hope Road SE
202-426-5961

Frederick Douglass Birthday Celebration
2017: *I am the Painter: Frederick Douglass and a Life of Art-Making*

2:00 - 3:00 PM
Anacostia Arts Center, Theatre
1231 Good Hope Road SE
202-426-5961

Frederick Douglass Birthday Celebration
2017: *Grow-Your-Own-Food Workshop*

2:00 - 3:00 PM
Anacostia Arts Center, Cafe
1231 Good Hope Road SE
202-426-5961

Panel: *Smithsonian curators discuss the interconnections of Black and Latin history and culture.*

1:00 - 2:00 PM
Anacostia Community Museum: Program Room
202-633-4844 anacostia.si.edu

Film Screening: *Dingomaro*

2:00 - 4:00 PM
Smithsonian National Museum of African Art
950 Independence Avenue, SW
202-633-4600

Frederick Douglass Birthday Celebration
2017: *Art comes to Life: Tours of Frederick Douglass' home through the eyes of some of his contemporaries*

2:00 - 4:00 PM
Frederick Douglass National Historic Site
1411 W Street SE
202-426-5961

Children's Art Activities

2:00 - 4:00 PM
Frederick Douglass National Historic Site
1411 W Street SE
202-426-5961

Frederick Douglass Birthday Celebration
2017: *Untitled: Dance Lesson*

3:00 - 4:00 PM
Anacostia Arts Center, Theatre
1231 Good Hope Road SE
202-426-5961

Frederick Douglass Birthday Celebration
2017: *The Douglass Kitchen: African American Culinary Traditions*

3:00 - 4:00 PM
Anacostia Arts Center, Cafe
1231 Good Hope Road SE
202-426-5961

FEBRUARY 19

HBCU Sunday at Shiloh Baptist Church WDC

7:45 and 10:45 AM
Shiloh Baptist Church, 1510 9th Street NW
202-524-2696

Portrait Story Days—Black History Month: Frederick Douglass

2:00 - 5:00 PM
National Portrait Gallery, Education Center
8th and F Streets, NW
202-633-8300 npg.si.edu

Let Us Have Peace: Saints in the Making

3:00 - 4:30 PM
St. Matthew's Cathedral
1725 Rhode Island Avenue, NW
202-347-3215 <http://stmatthewscathedral.org>

African American Men Sing Songs of Praise

3:00 PM
Greater New Hope Baptist Church
816 8th St NW
202-488-3404

FEBRUARY 21

Little Ethiopia Magazine Black History Month Celebration

5:00 - 8:00 PM
Church of Scientology
Fraser Mansion, 1701 20th St, NW
202-255-1400 www.littleethiopia.org

Lecture: *Crossing The Rubicon: The Battle for Black Public Education in DC*

7:00 PM

Francis Gregory Neighborhood Library
3660 Alabama Ave, SE
202-698-6373 www.dclibrary.org/francis

Cultural Expressions: *NMAAHC Fashion Collection – Iconic Looks*

7:00 - 9:00 PM

African American History and Culture Museum,
Oprah Winfrey Theater
1400 Constitution Avenue, NW
844-750-3012 nmaahc.si.edu

FEBRUARY 22

Washingtonians Who Grew Up to Accomplish Great Things in the U.S. Military

6:00 - 8:00 PM

The Navy Memorial and Heritage Center
701 Pennsylvania Ave, NW

FEBRUARY 23

Lecture: *Harry T. Burleigh: From the Spiritual to the Harlem Renaissance*

7:00 - 9:00 PM

Library of Congress, James Madison Memorial Building, Montpelier Room, 6 floor
Independence Ave between 1st and 2nd Streets SE
202-707-5502 loc.gov

Lecture: *The Assault on Jim Crow Education: Black Teens in the Civil Rights Movement*

7:00 PM

Cleveland Park Interim Library
4340 Connecticut Ave NW
202-282-3080 www.dclibrary.org/clevelandpark

FEBRUARY 25

91st Annual ASALH Black History Month Featured Authors Event

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Washington Renaissance Hotel
999 Ninth Street, NW
202-824-9200

Portrait Story Days: *Martin Luther King, Jr.*

1:00 - 4:00 PM

National Portrait Gallery, Education Center
8th and F Streets, NW
202-633-8300 npg.si.edu

Book Talks: *The President's Kitchen Cabinet: The Story of the African Americans Who Have Fed Our First Families, from the Washingtons to the Obamas*

3:30 PM

Politics and Prose
5015 Connecticut Ave. NW
202-364-1919

FEBRUARY 26

Portrait Story Days: *Martin Luther King, Jr.*

2:00 - 5:00 PM

National Portrait Gallery, Education Center
8th and F Streets, NW
202-633-8300 npg.si.edu

Artist Talk: *John Hasse on Jazz Photographer, Herman Leonard*

3:00 - 4:00 PM

National Portrait Gallery
8th and F Streets, NW
202-633-8300 npg.si.edu

Taking the Stage: *A Celebration of Black Composers and Chamber Music Performed by Pershing's Own*

3:00 - 5:00 PM

African American History and Culture Museum,
Oprah Winfrey Theater
1400 Constitution Avenue, NW
844-750-3012 nmaahc.si.edu

FEBRUARY 27

Lecture: *Lost Kingdoms & Ancient Mysteries of Africa*

7:00 PM

Dorothy I Height/Benning Neighborhood Library
3935 Benning Rd, NE
202-281-2583 www.dclibrary.org/benning



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