AFRICAN AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH
2018 CALENDAR AND CULTURAL GUIDE

PRESENTED BY THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS
CITY OF LOS ANGELES
AFRICAN AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH
CELEBRATION 2018

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Front Cover: Anthony Burks Sr., Natural Beauty Rosalia Martinez, Charcoals, pastels, and color pencils on watercolor paper, 22.5” x 24”, 2017
Dear Friends,

It is my sincere pleasure to lead our city in celebrating African American Heritage Month. The contributions of our African American residents in the arts, academia, business, government, and the nonprofit sectors are immense and well worth recognizing year-round.

Throughout our great city, we welcome the celebration of African American Heritage Month, and I encourage you to experience L.A.’s rich African American culture by participating in its traditions and customs.

I hope you will use this Calendar and Cultural Guide created by our Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA) to learn about the many activities happening all over L.A. in celebration of African American Heritage Month. Please join us in this celebration and enjoy all our neighborhood arts and cultural centers have to offer.

I also encourage you to enjoy the work of Los Angeles’ emerging and established African American artists showcased by DCA throughout this publication. These artists keep heritage alive and vibrant in innovative and contemporary ways, providing us with visual treasurers to admire.

Sincerely,

Eric Garcetti
Mayor
City of Los Angeles
Dear Friends,

On behalf of the Los Angeles City Council, it is my privilege to invite you to celebrate African American Heritage Month in our great City! People from around the world have made Los Angeles their home, and each culture contributes to the rich diversity that makes it among the foremost cities in the world.

This month we continue to honor the achievements of our City’s African Americans, and acknowledge their contributions to this great culture. With this calendar, our Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA) highlights the work of our artists who keep our shared African American traditions alive and thriving in our communities.

DCA offers a wide array of arts and cultural events for your enjoyment. Please refer to this calendar to find the numerous festivals, musical events, theatrical performances, films, poetry readings, and cultural activities in your neighborhood.

I encourage you to take part in the special events listed throughout these pages, and welcome you into our Neighborhood Arts and Cultural Centers to celebrate African American Heritage Month in the City of Angels.

It is sure to be a memorable celebration!

Sincerely,

Herb J. Wesson, Jr.
President
Los Angeles City Council

Mark7, Boxer Freddy Tyus, Watercolor, 230.5 x 45.7cm, 2007
Dear Friends,

The Department of Cultural Affairs is pleased to present this calendar of events celebrating the vibrant African American cultural traditions that continue to shape the unique heritage of our great City. These events honor the extraordinary range of African American experiences, from ancient traditions, to the contemporary voices of our artists and storytellers.

This publication showcases engaging artworks produced by Los Angeles artists honoring the past while looking towards the future with a contemporary edge. Combined with the work of other artists of African descent around the City, these artists and their work truly represent the heart and soul of this year’s African American Heritage Month Celebration.

As part of the Mayor’s “Back to Basics” priorities, the Department is helping to create a more livable and sustainable City by providing services, like this calendar and cultural guide, to enrich the quality of life for our residents and visitors. Since our City knows few boundaries, we are collaborating with our colleagues in neighboring cities to include calendar events around the Los Angeles area.

We engaged our partners and community leaders to support these events, and want to acknowledge our appreciation for their ongoing generosity. We also extend our thanks to the members of Our Authors Study Club, the Mayor’s staff, the Council President’s staff, the Board of Public Works staff, and the many nonprofit organizations, community groups, and arts organizations whose efforts helped us create this impressive listing of fun, educational, and exciting events.

What better place to see fantastic art, experience a taste of African American culture, and honor a City’s great heritage than Los Angeles? We hope you will join in the festivities and celebrate with us!

Danielle Brazell
General Manager
City of Los Angeles
Department of Cultural Affairs

Kohshin Finley, Can You See Me Now?, Oil and mixed media on canvas, 57” x 38”, 2017
CITY OF LOS ANGELES
AFRICAN AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH
2018 CELEBRATION

2018 AFRICAN AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH COMMITTEE

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Ken Moore, *The Composer*, Acrylic paint, 11” x 14”, 2017
Scintillating, soothing, and sensual best describe the familiar and legendary voice of five-time Grammy® Award winning music legend, Dionne Warwick, who has become a cornerstone of American pop music and culture. Warwick's career, which currently celebrates over 50 years, has established her as an international music icon and concert act. Over that time, she has earned 75 charted hit songs and sold over 100 million records.

She began singing professionally in 1961 after being discovered by a young songwriting team, Burt Bacharach and Hal David. She had her first hit in 1962 with *Don't Make Me Over*. Less than a decade later, she had released more than 18 consecutive Top 100 singles, including her classic Bacharach/David recordings, *Walk on By*, *Anyone Who Had a Heart*, *Message to Michael*, *Promises Promises*, *A House is Not a Home*, *Alfie*, *Say a Little Prayer*, *This Girl's in Love With You*, *I'll Never Fall in Love Again*, *Reach Out For Me*, and the theme from *Valley of the Dolls*. Together, Warwick and her songwriting team of Burt Bacharach and Hal David, accumulated more than 30 hit singles, and close to 20 best-selling albums, during their first decade together.

Warwick received her first Grammy® Award in 1968 for her mega-hit, *Do You Know the Way to San Jose?* and a second Grammy® in 1970 for the best-selling album, *I'll Never Fall in Love Again*. She became the first African-American solo female artist of her generation to win the prestigious award for Best Contemporary Female Vocalist Performance. This award was only presented to one other legend, Miss Ella Fitzgerald.

Other African American female recording artists certainly earned their share of crossover pop and R&B hits during the 1960's, however, Warwick preceded the mainstream success of her musical peers by becoming the first such artist to rack up a dozen consecutive Top 100 hit singles from 1963 to 1966.

Warwick's performance at the Olympia Theater in Paris, during a 1963 concert starring the legendary Marlene Dietrich, skyrocketed her to international stardom. As Warwick established herself as a major force in American contemporary music, she gained popularity among European audiences as well. In 1968, she became the first solo African-American artist among her peers to sing before the Queen of England at a Royal Command Performance. Since then, Warwick has performed before numerous kings, queens, presidents, and heads of state.

Warwick's recordings of songs such as *A House is not a Home*, *Alfie*, *Valley of the Dolls*, and *The April Fools*, made her a pioneer as one of the first female artists to popularize classic movie themes.

Warwick began singing during her childhood years in East Orange, New Jersey, initially in church. Occasionally, she sang as a soloist and fill-in voice for the renowned Drinkard Singers, a group comprised of her mother, Lee, along with her aunts, including Aunt Cissy, Whitney Houston's mom, and her uncles. During her teens, Warwick and her sister, Dee Dee, started their own gospel group, The Gospelaires.

Warwick attended The Hartt College of Music in Hartford, Connecticut, and during that time, began making trips to New York to do regular session work. She sang behind many of the biggest recording stars of the...
1960’s including Dinah Washington, Sam Taylor, Brook Benton, Chuck Jackson, and Solomon Burke, among many others. It was at this time that a young composer named Burt Bacharach heard her sing during a session for The Drifters and asked her to sing on demos of some new songs he was writing with his new lyricist Hal David. In 1962, one such demo was presented to Scepter Records, which launched a hit-filled 12-year association with the label.

Known as the artist who “bridged the gap,” Warwick’s soulful blend of pop, gospel and R&B music transcended race, culture, and musical boundaries. In 1970, Warwick received her second Grammy® Award for the best-selling album, I’ll Never Fall In Love Again, and began her second decade of hits with Warner Bros. Records. She recorded half a dozen albums, with top producers such as Thom Bell, Holland-Dozier-Holland, Jerry Ragavoy, Steve Barri, and Michael Omartian. In 1974, she hit the top of the charts with Then Came You, a million-selling duet with The Spinners. She then teamed up with Isaac Hayes for a highly successful world tour, A Man and a Woman.

In 1976, Warwick signed with Arista Records, beginning a third decade of hit-making. Arista Records label-mate Barry Manilow produced her first Platinum-selling album, Dionne, which included back-to-back hits I’ll Never Love This Way Again, and Déjà vu. Both recordings earned Grammy® Award, making Warwick the first female artist to win the Best Female Pop and Best Female R&B Performance Awards.

Warwick’s 1982 album, Heartbreaker, co-produced by Barry Gibb and the Bee Gees, became an international chart-topper. In 1985, she reunited with composer Burt Bacharach and longtime friends Gladys Knight, Elton John, and Stevie Wonder to record the landmark song That’s What Friends Are For, which became a number one hit record around the world and the first recording dedicated to raising awareness and major funds (over $3 Million) for the AIDS cause in support of AMFAR, which Warwick continues to support.

Throughout the 1980’s and 1990’s, Warwick collaborated with many of her musical peers, including Johnny Mathis, Smokey Robinson, Luther Vandross, Jeffrey Osborne, Kashif, and Stevie Wonder. Warwick was also host of the hit television music show, Solid Gold. In addition, she recorded several theme songs, including Champagne Wishes & Caviar Dreams for the popular television series Lifestyles of the Rich & Famous, and The Love Boat for the hit series from Aaron Spelling.

In November, 2006 Warwick recorded an album of duets, My Friends & Me, for Concord Records, a critically acclaimed Gospel album, Why We Sing, for Rhino/Warner Records, and a new jazz album, Only Trust Your Heart, a collection of standards, celebrating the music of legendary composer Sammy Cahn for Sony Red/MPCA Records. Additionally, in September 2008, Warwick added “author” to her list

Always one to give back, Warwick has supported and campaigned for many causes and charities close to her heart, including AIDS, The Starlight Foundation, children’s hospitals, world hunger, disaster relief, and music education for which she has been recognized and honored, and has raised millions of dollars. In 1987, she was appointed the first United States Ambassador of Health by President Ronald Reagan and in 2002, served as Global Ambassador for Health and Ambassador for the United Nations’ Food & Agriculture Organization (FAO), and she continues to serve as Ambassador today. In recognition of her accomplishments and support of education, a New Jersey school was named in her honor, the Dionne Warwick Institute for Economics and Entrepreneurship. Warwick was also a key participating artist in the all-star charity single, *We Are the World*, and in 1984, performed at *Live Aid*.

Celebrating 50 years in entertainment, and the 25th Anniversary of *That’s What Friends Are For*, Warwick hosted and headlined an all-star benefit concert for World Hunger Day in London. In addition, she was honored by AMFAR in a special reunion performance of *That’s What Friends are For*, alongside Elton John, Gladys Knight, and Stevie Wonder at AMFAR’s Anniversary Gala in New York City. Warwick also received the prestigious 2011 *Steve Chase Humanitarian Arts & Activism Award* by the Desert Aids Project and was recognized for her stellar career by Clive Davis at his legendary Pre-*Grammy®* Party in Los Angeles. Adding to her list of landmark honors, Warwick was a 2013 recipient of the coveted *Ellis Island Medal of Honor* in New York and was inducted into the 2013 New Jersey Hall of Fame.

On March 26, 2012, Warwick was inducted into the *Grammy®* Museum in Los Angeles, where a special 50th Anniversary exhibit was unveiled and a historic program and performance was held in the Clive Davis Theater. Additionally, a panel discussion with Clive Davis and Burt Bacharach was hosted by *Grammy®* Museum Executive Director, Bob Santelli.

Commemorating her 50th Anniversary, Warwick released a much-anticipated studio album in 2013, entitled *NOW*. Produced by the legendary Phil Ramone, the anniversary album was nominated for a 2014 *Grammy®Award* for Best Traditional Pop Vocal Album. *NOW* featured special never-before-released material written by her longtime friends and musical collaborators, Burt Bacharach and Hal David.

Most recently, Warwick released a much anticipated star-studded duets album titled *Feels So Good*, featuring collaborations with some of today’s greatest artists including Alicia Keys, Jamie Foxx, Billy Ray Cyrus, Ne-Yo, Gladys Knight, Cee Lo Green, Cyndi Lauper, and many more. *Feels So Good* was released through Bright Music Records, Caroline and Capitol.

Warwick’s pride and joy are her two sons, singer/recording artist David Elliott and award-winning music producer Damon Elliott, and her family.
Judge David S. Cunningham III was born in Riverside, California and grew up in both St. Louis, Missouri and Los Angeles, California. Judge Cunningham attended Howard University in Washington, D.C. for one year before transferring to the University of Southern California (USC) in 1974. He graduated *summa cum laude* and Phi Beta Kappa from USC in 1977. Judge Cunningham attended New York University School of Law where he was awarded a Root-Tilden-Kern Public Service Scholarship and was a founding member of NYU’s Public Interest Law Foundation.

Judge Cunningham’s decision to pursue a judicial career was influenced and affirmed by his interactions with three prominent judges in his early college life while enjoying a public sector internship in Washington, DC: Justice Thurgood Marshall, Judge John Sirica, and Judge Terry Hatter, Jr. Judge Cunningham was fascinated by the tenacity, fairness, and openness of these judges as well as their willingness to give back to their communities as public servants. Consequently, his experience inspired Judge Cunningham to develop his private practice experience, serve the local community, and strengthen his academic vigor in preparation for a judicial career.

Judge Cunningham was first admitted to the New York State Bar and began his legal career in 1980 as an attorney in the Honors Program with the United States Department of Justice, Voting Rights Section of the Civil Rights Division. His work aided Congress in its decision to extend the Voting Rights Act another 25 years.

In 1983, Judge Cunningham was admitted to the California State Bar and served as a judicial clerk for Judge Terry J. Hatter, Jr. of the United States District Court for the Central District of California. In 1984, Judge Cunningham joined the Beverly Hills Office of Finley Kumble Heine Underberg Manley & Casey as an associate.

From 1987 to 1991, while still practicing law, he taught financial institutions and trial advocacy courses at Loyola Law School in the evening as an adjunct professor. In the late eighties and early nineties, he began cultivating his budding redevelopment and eminent domain practice by representing a host of municipal entities, redevelopment agencies, the Los Angeles Airport, the LA World Port Authority, Southern California Edison, and public utilities. In the new
millennium, Judge Cunningham joined the California based law firm of Meyers Nave Riback Silver & Wilson as a principal, specializing in eminent domain, real estate matters, and redevelopment law.

From 2001 to 2005, Cunningham served as a police commissioner for the Los Angeles Police Department. It was a challenging time for the City of Los Angeles, coming on the heels of the worst corruption scandal in the history of the Los Angeles Police Department, a rise in crime, and federal scrutiny of the city’s policing practices. He served on the commission four years, becoming its president in 2003. He saw LAPD move forward from 2003 to 2005 with sweeping reforms, and strengthened civilian leadership.

From September 1, 2005 to September 1, 2006, Cunningham served on the President’s Joint Commission on LAUSD Governance (“School Board Governance Commission”). The School Board Governance Commission was organized to explore issues of school district governance, to improve academic achievement, to engage parents better, to use resources efficiently, and to make the district more accountable. The Commission ultimately made 54 recommendations seeking to restructure and to improve delivery of educational services.

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger appointed Cunningham to the Superior Court on January 22, 2009. As a judge, David Cunningham has served in multiple assignments in family law and probate, and he now serves in a civil assignment presiding over jury trials.

Judge Cunningham is an adjunct professor at the University of Southern California, Gould Law School, periodically teaching evidence to second and third year law students. Judge Cunningham is also a member of the Executive Board of the California Judges Association, the “Voice of the Judiciary.” In 2015, Judge Cunningham sponsored a summit on police reform that attracted national experts on constitutional policing issues and created a scholarship fund at UCLA to address better community police relations.
Patricia Jackson-Kelley has an Associate Degree of Applied Science in Nursing from New York City Community College, a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Hunter College, New York City, and a Masters in Public Administration in Health Service Management from Golden Gate University, San Francisco, California.

Ms. Jackson-Kelley in 2003 retired as Lt. Colonel and completed 26 years of combined active duty and reserve military service. She served in the Air Force, Air Force Reserves, Navy Reserve, and Army Reserves. Her affiliation with numerous committees and organizations within the community and throughout the United States assist her in serving veterans.

Patricia has held numerous positions within the American Legion at National, Department, District, Post, and County Council levels. She is currently serving on the National Legislative Council, Women Veteran Outreach Coordinator, and Area 4 Legislative Commission for the Department of California. She is the Past National Director for Twenty and Four (honorary society for Women Legionnaires). Additionally, Patricia is the first African American to hold Directorship since the inception of the organization in 1950.

She is the recipient of numerous national, state and local awards. To highlight a few: Chi Eta Phi Sorority, Inc., Delta Chapter Nurse of the Year, Who’s Who in Nursing, Who’s Who in Professional and Executive, Who’s Who in Black Los Angeles, Beverly Hills/Hollywood NAACP Outstanding Community Service to Veterans and their Military families, National Association of Black Military Women Membership Award, and PFC Gladys Schuster Carter Trail Blazer Award. She was most recently awarded the Ford Unsung Hero Award for Veterans, Department of Veterans Affairs (CALVET) 2010 Outstanding Veteran for Southern California, and 2012 Outstanding Achievement in Leadership, Outstanding Service and Dedication to The Community, California State Board of Equalization (2015), Certificate of Recognition City of Carson (2014), Assembly Member Steven Bradford 62nd Assembly District’s 2014 Veteran of the Year, American Legion Teamin’ 23rd District Outstanding Service Award (2014), 1st time presented Afram Global Organization Inc. Villager Award (2014), Featured in National American Legion Publication I Am
the American Legion (2014), Certificate of Recognition Outstanding Service (2014), Robert A. McDonald, Secretary Of Department of Veteran Affairs Certificate of Appointment, and the Department of Veteran Affairs Committee on Minority Veterans.

She is currently married to George Kelley, who is a Korean War veteran. George is also active in the community providing services. Pat has one son, Kyler, who resides in Denver, Colorado, with his wife and the four “gems” of Pat’s life, the grandchildren, Jai, Jaelyn, Jaren, and Jacob. Jaelyn is a junior member of the auxiliary and Kyler, Jai, Jacob, and Jaren are SAL members of Jackie Robinson Post No. 252.
Noel Massie, a 33-year UPS veteran, has assumed command as president of the company’s new and expanded Central California District, directing small package operations in an area that covers the state’s mid-section.

The Central California District is one of 20 new Districts dividing the United States activated earlier this year. It includes the cities of Fresno, Bakersfield, Salinas, and Los Angeles and features a package-delivery operation with some 10,000 employees.

Massie most recently served as the manager of UPS’s Southeast California District, which has been consolidated into the new District. He began his UPS career in 1977 as a package handler in the East Bay District. He was promoted to hub manager in 1984 and held positions in Industrial Engineering and Operations prior to being named hub division manager in 1988. After several assignments in Operations, Noel was named the Metro Philadelphia District operations manager in 1995. He was promoted to Metro Chicago District manager in 1997 and became Virginia District manager in 2003.

UPS announced in January it was going to streamline its domestic management structure to improve overall performance by reducing the number of U.S. Districts from 46 to 20. Thanks to today’s technology and the management strengths of its people, a District office now can oversee a much larger geographic area than in years past.

As part of the realignment, UPS also is expanding its outreach to customers by strengthening local sales and marketing efforts. No package handling facilities have been affected by the consolidation of management offices, nor have any UPS drivers or package handlers.

UPS (NYSE: UPS) is the world’s largest package delivery company and a global leader in supply chain and freight services. With more than a century of experience in transportation and logistics, UPS is a leading global trade expert equipped with a broad portfolio of solutions. Headquartered in Atlanta, UPS serves more than 200 countries and territories worldwide.
Doug Pearsall, *Tribal Seal #1*, Linocut printmaking, 11 3/4” x 15 3/4”, 2017
OPENING EVENTS

2018 AFRICAN AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH PRESENTATION IN THE CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBER AND OPENING CEREMONY

Join Mayor Eric Garcetti; Council President Herb J. Wesson, Jr. and the Los Angeles City Council; Board of Public Works Commissioner Mike Davis; the Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA); Our Authors Study Club; and the 2018 African American Heritage Month Committee to officially commemorate and celebrate the Opening of African American Heritage Month in the City of Los Angeles.

At this presentation in City Hall’s Council Chamber, DCA’s 2018 African American Heritage Month Calendar and Cultural Guide will be officially unveiled, and Los Angeles elected officials will present the Los Angeles Award to Living Legend Dionne Warwick and the Hall of Fame Awards to: Los Angeles Superior Court Judge David S. Cunningham III (Law); Lt. Col. Patricia Jackson-Kelley [United States Army – Retired] (Military); and Noel Massie, President, US Operations, United Parcel Service (Business).

WHEN: February 7, 2018
Presentation in the City Hall Council Chamber at 10:00 a.m.
Followed by Opening Ceremony on the South Lawn

SITE: Los Angeles City Hall
200 North Spring Street
(Public Entrance on Main Street)
Los Angeles, CA 90012

COST: Free

SPONSORS: Council President Herb J. Wesson, Jr. and the Los Angeles City Council; Office of Mayor Eric Garcetti; Department of Cultural Affairs; Board of Public Works; Los Angeles Association of Black Personnel, Inc.; Los Angeles Professional Managers Association; Our Authors Study Club, Inc.; and the 2018 African American Heritage Month Committee

INFO: 213.978.0254
2018 AFRICAN AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH
WRITE IN AMERICA EXHIBITION AND OPENING RECEPTION

Join Council President Herb J. Wesson, Jr. and the Los Angeles City Council for an opening reception hosted by the Los Angeles Association of Black Personnel, Inc. for the Write in America exhibition at the Department of Cultural Affairs’ Henry P. Rio Bridge Gallery at City Hall. Write in America celebrates the Los Angeles Sentinel’s 80th Anniversary, the National Association of Black Journalists – Los Angeles, and such early African American Los Angeles newspapers as the California Eagle and the Liberator. Selected reproductions from the Liberator have been made available in partnership with the heirs of the publication’s founder and editor, Jefferson Lewis Edmonds.

WHEN: February 8, 2018
Opening Reception from 5:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Exhibition through March 30
Monday - Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

SITE: Department of Cultural Affairs
Henry P. Rio Bridge Gallery at City Hall
Los Angeles City Hall, 3rd Floor
200 North Spring Street
(Public Entrance on Main Street)
Los Angeles, CA 90012

COST: Free

SPONSORS: Council President Herb J. Wesson, Jr. and the Los Angeles City Council; the Los Angeles Association of Black Personnel, Inc.; Department of Cultural Affairs; and the Los Angeles Public Library’s Public Relations and Digitization and Special Collections Departments

INFO: 323.733.8233

2018 AFRICAN AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH
WORSHIP SERVICE

Rev. J. Edgar Boyd, Senior Pastor, First African Methodist Episcopal Church, and Mayor Eric Garcetti cordially invite you to the 2018 African American Heritage Month Worship Service honoring members of the California Legislative Black Caucus and featuring music by Gospel Artist Lady Tramaine Hawkins.

WHEN: February 11, 2018, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon

SITE: First African Methodist Episcopal Church
2270 South Harvard Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90018

COST: Free, RSVP required

SPONSORS: First African Methodist Episcopal Church; Office of Mayor Eric Garcetti; Board of Public Works; and the 2018 African American Heritage Month Committee

INFO: RSVP at 213.978.0254
2018 AFRICAN AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH
ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION - AFRICAN AMERICANS IN TIMES OF WAR: ABROAD AND AT HOME

Participate in an engaging Round Table Discussion with local scholars about the role of African Americans in Times of War, the Our Authors Study Club theme for African American Heritage Month for 2018, and the issues confronting African Americans today at home. A reception will follow.

WHEN: February 15, 2018, 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
WHERE: Los Angeles City Hall
Edward R. Roybal Board of Public Works Session Room
200 North Spring Street, 3rd Floor
(Public Entrance on Main Street)
Los Angeles, CA 90012
COST: Free
SPONSORS: Board of Public Works; Our Authors Study Club, Inc.; and the 2018 African American Heritage Month Committee
INFO: 213.978.0254
2018 AFRICAN AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH
AN EVENING WITH AFRICAN AMERICAN AUTHORS

Mayor Eric Garcetti and Our Authors Study Club cordially invite you to An Evening with African American Authors, a discussion with local authors including: Todd Bridges, author of Killing Willis: From Different Strokes to the Mean Streets to the Life I Always Wanted; Yvette Heyliger, author of What a Piece of Work Is Man! Full-Length Plays for Leading Women; and Gil L. Robertson IV, author of Family Affair: What It Means to be African American Today. Join us for an evening of thoughtful conversation with the authors followed by a reception.

WHEN: February 21, 2018, 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
SITE: Los Angeles City Hall
Edward R. Roybal Board of Public Works Session Room
200 North Spring Street, 3rd Floor
(Public Entrance on Main Street)
Los Angeles, CA 90012
COST: Free
SPONSORS: Office of Mayor Eric Garcetti; Our Authors Study Club, Inc.; Council President Herb J. Wesson, Jr. and the Los Angeles City Council; Board of Public Works; and the 2018 African American Heritage Month Committee
INFO: 213.978.0254

2018 AFRICAN AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH STRATEGIC MATCH-MAKING EVENT

The City of Los Angeles Department of Public Works Bureau of Contract Administration cordially invites you to a Strategic Match-Making Event to create opportunities for small and emerging minority businesses to pursue contracting opportunities with the City of Los Angeles.

WHEN: February 27, 2018, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
SITE: The Reef
1933 South Broadway
Los Angeles, CA 90007
COST: Free
SPONSORS: City of Los Angeles Department of Public Works Bureau of Contract Administration and the 2018 African American Heritage Month Committee
INFO: 213.978.0254
CITY OF LOS ANGELES
2018 AFRICAN AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH CELEBRATION

2018 AFRICAN AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH CLOSING CEREMONIES AND TRAILBLAZERS RECEPTION

The Los Angeles Association of Black Personnel, Inc. invites you to the 2018 African American Heritage Month Closing Ceremonies and Trailblazers Reception recognizing African American City employees who have also served in the military. Exceptional employees will be honored with the 2018 Trailblazer Award for Exceptional Service to the City of Los Angeles and the African American Community.

WHEN: February 28, 2018, 5:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
SITE: Los Angeles City Hall Rotunda, 3rd Floor
Los Angeles City Hall
200 North Spring Street
(Public Entrance on Main Street)
Los Angeles, CA 90012

COST: Free
SPONSOR: Los Angeles Association of Black Personnel, Inc.
INFO: 310.638.5026
nouis@laabp.org
laabp.org@gmail.com
laabp.org
Both: Lezley Saar, Above: Vesta the Johnny, Acrylic on fabric on panel, 20” x 16”, 2015
At right: Therese Raquin, Madwoman in the Attic Series, Mixed media on canvas, 48” x 36”, 2011
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Mary Louise Reeves
Lovella Singer
Brenda Tyson

Our Authors Study Club, Inc.
LA Branch of ASALH
Post Office Box 882025
Los Angeles, CA 90009-3019

Frances Ampah, Erykah, Acrylic, Mixed media painting, 12” x 16”, 2017
Ray Cherry is Vice President and Private Wealth Advisor of the Los Angeles Private Wealth Management division at MUFG Union Bank. Ray works exclusively with high net worth individuals and families, business owners, and nonprofit organizations in the areas of estate planning, investment management and brokerage, risk management, trust administration, wealth planning, banking, and customized credit facilities. Using a thoughtful and comprehensive wealth planning process, Ray helps clients identify and articulate their needs and goals, and also serves as an agent to develop and implement strategies to meet those goals. Ray is typically best suited to serve clients with assets exceeding $5 million.

In 2015, Ray Cherry received the MUFG Union Bank President’s Award, which is the highest honor awarded to individuals who have contributed significantly to the firm. In 2015, the MUFG President’s Award was given to just 30 executives out of 200,000 employees worldwide.

In addition to more than two decades with MUFG Union Bank, Ray has also held significant positions with American Express Financial Advisors and First American Trust. Ray holds various regulatory licenses and certifications, including FINRA Series 7, 63, 65, California Insurance License, and is certified by NMLS. Active in the community, Ray is a Board Member of AbilityFirst and Equality California (EQCA). He is a member of the Los Angeles Estate Planning Council, a member of the Partnership for Philanthropic Planning of Greater Los Angeles, and is on the Executive Advisory Council for Community Foundation of Riverside and San Bernardino Counties.
CITY OF LOS ANGELES
AFRICAN AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

OUR AUTHORS STUDY CLUB
LOS ANGELES BRANCH OF THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF AFRICAN AMERICAN LIFE AND HISTORY, INC.

AFRICAN AMERICANS IN TIMES OF WAR
2018 NATIONAL BLACK HISTORY MONTH THEME

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A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

AFRICAN AMERICANS IN TIMES OF WAR

In 1926, ASALH’s founder, Dr. Carter G. Woodson, created the annual Black History celebration, which highlights a theme of historical and current importance. This year’s theme is “African Americans in Times of War.” Most Americans are not aware of the service, sacrifices, and distinguished selfless acts Blacks have played in defending our Country.

Throughout America’s history, from the 1700s to today, Black soldiers have honorably answered the call to duty, serving with great valor and distinction in America’s wars at home and abroad. Desiring to defend our Democracy and gain the respect of White America, Blacks formed the Buffalo Soldiers, the Tuskegee Airmen, as well as other units in order to serve this nation. However the Army was segregated. On July 26, 1948, President Harry S. Truman signed the executive order establishing the President’s Committee on Equality of Treatment and Opportunity in the Armed Services, committing the government to integrating the segregated military.

Those very concepts provide a broad, useful framework for focusing on the roles of African Americans in every American war. Black soldiers and sailors, veterans, and civilians thought their service would change segregation in America. But they returned to “For Whites Only” and “For Coloreds Only” signs, Jim Crow laws, the formation of the KKK. This is a theme filled with paradoxes of valor and defeat, of civil rights opportunities and setbacks, of struggles abroad and at home, of artistic creativity and repression, and of catastrophic loss of life and the righteous hope for peace.

As we continue to move forward in making a positive impact, for the common good of Americans, and to overcome old and new barriers, we need to display the grace, honor, and dignity of the brave men and women of our military. We have the responsibility to leave a legacy of truth for the next generation. We stand on the shoulders of enslaved Africans who endured the inhumane treatment of slavery. Those born on this continent moved forward as Coloreds, Negros, Blacks, and African Americans to contribute to the betterment of our Democracy!
On September 9, 1915, Dr. Carter G. Woodson held a meeting in Chicago, Illinois with Alexander L. Jackson, Executive Secretary of the new Negro YMCA branch. In addition to Woodson and Jackson, three other men were present: George Cleveland Hall, W. B. Hartgrove, and J. E. Stamps. At this meeting they formed the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History (ASNLH) and appointed Dr. Woodson, Executive Director, a post he held until his death on April 3, 1950. Today, this organization is known as the Association for the Study of African American Life and History, Inc. (ASALH). Its headquarters is currently on campus at Howard University in Washington, DC.

In Los Angeles, a group of Terminal Annex postal workers brought their proposal to read the works of African American authors and learn the true history of Africans in the Americas to Mrs. Vassie Davis Wright and Our Authors Study Club (OASC) was formed on February 14, 1945. Mrs. Wright recommended that the group affiliate with Dr. Woodson’s organization and Dr. Carter G. Woodson, himself, chartered Our Authors Study Club as the Los Angeles Branch of ASNLH in June 1945. OASC was incorporated as a California non-profit organization in 1946.

Our Authors Study Club, Inc. (OASC) began citywide celebrations for what was Negro History Week in 1947. In 1950, Los Angeles Mayor Fletcher Bowron issued the first proclamation acknowledging Our Authors Study Club, Inc. as the primary sponsor of Negro History Week and invited citizens of Los Angeles to join the celebration. In 1959, while serving as General Chairperson for Negro History Week, the late Gilbert Lindsay moved the Opening Ceremony to City Hall steps where the celebration now takes place every year, weather permitting. In the year of the nation’s Bicentennial, 1976, the celebration was expanded to the entire month of February and is now known as African American Heritage Month.

OASC continues its original mission and now offers programs that include: a Reading Program for elementary school students; an Oratorical Contest for high school students; scholarships for deserving college students seeking a Bachelor’s Degree; and a fellowship for Ph.D. candidates researching African American history, literature, and/or culture. Additional activities include an annual Tour of African American Landmarks in Los Angeles and the Dr. Carter G. Woodson Scholarship and Awards Luncheon where the accomplishments of extraordinary African Americans are recognized.

Our Authors Study Club, Inc. also supports the restoration of Dr. Carter G. Woodson’s home in Washington, DC, now declared a National Historic Site, and partners with community organizations including the Black Hollywood Education and Resource Center (BHERC) and the Sigma Sigma Alumnae Chapter of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc.

For more information about the Association for the Study of African American Life and History, visit their website at asalh.org.
Our Authors Study Club, Inc. is a non-profit 501 (c) (3) organization. For more information, write Our Authors Study Club, Inc. at Post Office Box 882025, Los Angeles, California 90009-3019.
Dr. Carter Godwin Woodson was born on December 19, 1875 in New Canton, Buckingham County, Virginia. His parents were former slaves Anne Eliza (Riddle) and James Henry Woodson. He died suddenly on April 3, 1950. He was the second African American to receive a Ph.D. degree from Harvard University (Dr. W.E.B. DuBois was the first). Dr. Woodson and four supporters organized the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History on Thursday, September 9, 1915 in the Wabash Avenue YMCA office located on the south side of Chicago, Illinois.

His dream for ASALH was to archive sociological and historical data, publish books, promote the study of African American life and history, and encourage racial harmony through the organization and the work of clubs and schools. In 1916, ASALH published the first issue of the *Journal of Negro History*, a highly respected and scholarly digest that was followed in 1937 by the *Negro History Bulletin*, a widely circulated historically-oriented magazine. In 1920, Dr. Woodson founded the Associated Publishers, the for-profit arm of the Association. Associated Publishers is responsible for the publication and circulation of ASALH’s renowned African American History Month Kits. Additionally, Associated Publishers sells books and other literature authored by Dr. Woodson and other prominent scholars in the field of African American history.

In February 1926, Dr. Woodson announced the institution of Negro History Week, which coincided with the birthdays of Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass. In 1976, the observance was expanded to “National African American History Month,” in honor of the nation’s bicentennial. Beginning in 1975, U.S. Presidents have paid tribute to the mission of the Association and urged all Americans to celebrate African American History Month. Since 1926, ASALH has established the national theme for the month-long celebration of African American History Month. The Association maintains the Carter G. Woodson Home in Washington, D.C., where Woodson operated ASALH from 1923 until his death in 1950. The Woodson Home is a National Historic Landmark.

The work of the organization has historically been to promote, research, preserve, interpret, and disseminate information about African American life, history, and culture to the global community.
Mrs. Wright and a group of Terminal Annex Postal Employees founded Our Authors Study Club, Inc. on February 14, 1945 for the purpose of studying the biographies of African American authors, reading and reviewing their books, and learning the true history of African American people in the Diaspora. In June of 1945, Dr. Carter G. Woodson chartered the group to become members of his Association for the Study of African Life and History, Inc. Mrs. Wright also helped to establish lending libraries in the YMCA, YWCA, and at the Second Baptist Church’s Henderson Community Center. Other notable achievements included the first citywide celebration of Negro History Week in Los Angeles and initiating a Black History curriculum in the Los Angeles Unified School District Adult Schools.

Mrs. Wright was educated in the public schools of Denver, Colorado. She graduated from Western University in Kansas City, Kansas and did her graduate work in Teaching at the University of Kansas. After moving to California, she attended the University of Southern California Extension and completed courses in Sociology and Business Administration. Mrs. Wright became well known for her abilities as an organizer, socialite, and civic worker.

Mrs. Wright was a real estate broker, community activist, a Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. member, and a very active member of Second Baptist Church. In addition, she was an organizing member of many community groups.

Mrs. Vassie D. Wright was born in Paola, Kansas on December 6, 1899, the daughter of Samuel Davis and Lula Ann (Pertilla) Davis. She died on March 20, 1983, in Los Angeles, California. On June 5, 1985, the Los Angeles Jefferson Branch Library was renamed the “Jefferson-Vassie D. Wright Memorial Library.” The library is located at 2211 West Jefferson Boulevard, Los Angeles, California, 90018.
AFRICAN AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH OPENING CEREMONY
WITH OUR AUTHORS STUDY CLUB, INC.

Join Mayor Eric Garcetti and Our Authors Study Club, Inc. to acknowledge the outstanding contributions of African Americans in our community.

**WHEN:** Wednesday, February 7, 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

**SITE:** Los Angeles City Hall
(South Lawn)
200 North Main Street
Los Angeles

**COST:** Free

**SPONSORS:** Council President Herb J. Wesson, Jr. and the Los Angeles City Council; Office of Mayor Eric Garcetti; Department of Cultural Affairs; Board of Public Works; Los Angeles Association of Black Personnel, Inc.; Los Angeles Professional Managers Association; Our Authors Study Club, Inc.; and the 2018 African American Heritage Month Committee

**INFO:** Ms. Ernestine J. Gordon, 323.759.1939

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT: [Black Cultural Events](#)
ANNUAL BLACK HISTORY BUS TOUR OF LOS ANGELES

The tour follows the progress of the African American community in Los Angeles. It includes the Biddy Mason Wall, Sugar Hill, the Island, Central Avenue, Leimert Park, and other locations throughout the City.

WHEN: February 3, 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

SITE: Consolidated Realty Board of Southern California
3725 Don Felipe Drive, Los Angeles

COST: Free

INFO: Dr. Genevieve A. Shepherd, 323-292-5027
Ms. Maude Johnson, 323-292-2361

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION ON THE NATIONAL THEME FOR AFRICAN AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH 2018: “AFRICAN AMERICANS IN TIMES OF WAR”

Join OASC and professors from area Universities as they discuss the national theme.

WHEN: February 15, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

SITE: Edward R. Roybal Board of Public Works Session Room
Los Angeles City Hall
200 North Main Street, Los Angeles

COST: Free

SPONSORS: Board of Public Works; Our Authors Study Club, Inc.; and the 2018 African American Heritage Month Committee

INFO: Ms. Ernestine J. Gordon, 323.759.1939

DR. CARTER G. WOODSON SCHOLARSHIP AND AWARDS BRUNCH

Scholarships are awarded to deserving students attending college. The event will also recognize African Americans in the communities of the City of Los Angeles.

WHEN: February 17, 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

SITE: Marina del Rey Marriott Hotel, Bay View Room
4100 Admiralty Way, Marina del Rey

COST: Call for information

INFO: Ms. Ernestine J. Gordon, 323.759.1939
AN EVENING WITH AFRICAN AMERICAN AUTHORS

Prominent Los Angeles African American authors will discuss their latest books, reveal messages about their works, and share experiences about how they gained recognition as authors.

WHEN: February 21, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.
SITE: Edward R. Roybal Board of Public Works Session Room
      Los Angeles City Hall
      200 North Main Street. Los Angeles
COST: Free
SPONSORS: Office of Mayor Eric Garcetti; Our Authors Study Club, Inc.; Council President Herb J. Wesson, Jr. and the Los Angeles City Council; Board of Public Works; and the 2018 African American Heritage Month Committee
INFO: Ms. Ernestine J. Gordon, 323.759.1939

ORATORICAL CONTEST

This contest showcases students in grades 10 through 12 attending Los Angeles County High Schools. These students will compete for Scholarship prizes by reciting their speeches based on the 2018 African American History Month theme: “African Americans in War Times”

WHEN: March 17, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon
SITE: TBA
COST: Free
SPONSORS: Our Authors Study Club and Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc., Sigma Sigma Chapter
INFO: erniegor64@gmail.com
CIVIL RIGHTS TOUR

WLCAC offers a vast cultural site that includes art collections and memorabilia across various art disciplines, including paintings, sculpture, life-size replicas, photo exhibits, and interactive mediums. The Watts Museum of Art History and Culture features several permanent art installations, public art collections and exhibits about her Civil Rights movement.

WHEN: Ongoing Exhibition
RSVP for Appointment

SITE: Watts Labor Community Action Committee
Phoenix Hall
10950 S. Central Ave., Los Angeles

COST: $5

SPONSOR: Watts Labor Community Action Committee

INFO: 323.563.5639
wlcac.org

Kohshin Finley, The Gardener, Oil and mixed media on canvas, 19” x 13”, 2017
NJIDEKA AKUNYILI CROSBY

MacArthur Foundation Grant Award-winning artist Njideka Akunyili Crosby creates large-scale works that seamlessly intertwine classical modes of painting with drawing, collage, and printmaking. Taking as their subject issues of transnationality, love, and diaspora, the works draw the viewer into interior spaces that are both fictional and rooted in the Nigerian-born, Los Angeles-based artist’s experience.

WHEN: Ongoing Exhibition
Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays, 11:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.,
Saturdays & Sundays, 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.,
Thursday, 11:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

SITE: MOCA Grand Avenue
250 South Grand Avenue, Los Angeles

COST: Adults - $15, Students - $8, Seniors - $10, Free for Children under 12, jurors with ID, and Members. Free every Thursday from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m.

SPONSOR: MOCA Grand Avenue
INFO: 213.626.6222
moca.org

THE 37TH ANNUAL BLACK DOLL SHOW - JUBILEE, CELEBRATIONS IN COLOR

This year’s theme, Jubilee, Celebrations in Color, highlights Black life as a celebration of events that are monumental and small, ordinary, and extraordinary, events that depict Black life in all its facets. On a deeper level this year’s theme seeks to explore “cultural image” as depicted through the beauty and diversity of dolls. It seeks to “reshape” the dialog on Black Life and Identity as portrayed in media and in dominant society highlighting how the Black community sees itself as portrayed in the traditional rites of passage and cultural events that have shaped it.

WHEN: Through February 17
Tuesday - Saturday, 12:00 Noon - 5:00 p.m.

SITE: William Grant Still Arts Center
2520 S. West View St., Los Angeles

COST: Free

SPONSOR: William Grant Still Arts Center
INFO: 323.734.1165
wgsac.wordpress.com
Chukes, *A Message of Hope*, Oil painting, 60” x 48”, 2017

LEZLEY SAAR: SALON DES REFUSÉS

This exhibit includes three of Saar’s most recent bodies of work: *Madwoman in the Attic/Madness and The Gaze, Monad, and Gender Renaissance*, along with a selection of early altered books that show the origins of the artist’s interest in literature, mixed media, and marginalized figures. The exhibit takes its name from the 1863 art exhibition organized by the artists excluded from the official Paris Salon due to their avant-garde styles and everyday subject matter which defied normal convention. By using this title, Saar alludes metaphorically to the marginalized groups whose depictions appear in the many portraits on view.

**WHEN:** Through February 18  
Tuesdays - Saturdays 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Sundays 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

**SITE:**  
California African American Museum  
600 State Dr., Exposition Park, Los Angeles

**COST:** Free

**SPONSOR:** California African American Museum

**INFO:**  
213.744.7432  
caamuseum.org
CIRCLES AND CIRCUITS I: HISTORY AND ART OF THE CHINESE CARIBBEAN DIASPORA

Circles and Circuits I explores the art of the Chinese Caribbean diaspora from the early 20th century to the present day. By examining the contributions of artists of Chinese descent in Cuba, Panama, Trinidad and Tobago, Jamaica, and beyond, the exhibition will reveal the hidden complexities of the transcultural art of the Caribbean. The presentation will trace the history of Chinese Caribbean art from the 1930s through the period of the region’s independence movements, highlighting the contributions of artists little known outside their own countries.

WHEN: Through February 25
Tuesdays - Saturdays 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Sundays 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

SITE: California African American Museum
600 State Dr., Exposition Park, Los Angeles

COST: Free

SPONSOR: Pacific Standard Time is an initiative of the Getty. The presenting sponsor is Bank of America

INFO: 213.744.7432
camuseum.org

THE WATSONS GO TO BIRMINGHAM - 1963

The Watson family tells the tale of growing up in a family who are from Flint, Michigan. From getting picked on by the bullies at school, to the antics of his eldest brother, Byron, this multi-media live stage production features choreographed movement, dance, stunts, and historical footage, to enhance this passionate production that sheds a light on bullying, racism, and family ties.

WHEN: Through February 26
Fridays & Saturdays - 8:00 p.m., Sundays - 3:00 p.m.

SITE: Hudson Backstage Theatre
6539 Santa Monica Blvd., Los Angeles

COST: Adults - $30, Seniors, Vets, & Students - $20, Youth under 17 - $10

SPONSOR: All the Way West Productions, Inc.

INFO: 323.960.1055
plays411.com/thewatsons

RELATIONAL UNDERCURRENTS: CONTEMPORARY ART OF THE CARIBBEAN ARCHIPELAGO

Relational Undercurrents: Contemporary Art of the Caribbean Archipelago, curated by Tatiana Flores, is MOLAA’s Pacific Standard Time: LA/LA exhibition. It is a major survey exhibition of twenty-first century art of the Caribbean that employs the archipelago as an analytical framework. The exhibition includes painting, installation art, sculpture, photography, video, and performance.

WHEN: Through March 4
Wednesdays, Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays, 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.,
Thursdays, 11:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.

SITE: Museum of Latin American Art (MOLAA)
628 Alamitos Ave., Long Beach

COST: Adults - $10, Seniors & Students - $7, Members and Children under 12 Free,
Free Admission every Sunday

SPONSOR: Pacific Standard Time is an initiative of the Getty. The presenting sponsor is Bank of America

INFO: 562.437.1689
molaa.org
SANKOFA
This exhibition, with a community focus, is a one-man show by La Monte Westmoreland. The Watts Towers Arts Center is one of, if not the only, fine arts institution of its kind that has a community arts focus and rich cultural heritage.

WHEN: Through March 4
Wednesdays - Saturdays 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

SITE: Noah Purifoy Gallery Watts Towers Arts Center Campus
1727 E. 107th St., Los Angeles

COST: Free

SPONSOR: Watts Towers Arts Center
INFO: 213.847.4646 wattstowers.org

CIRCLES AND CIRCUITS II: CHINESE CARIBBEAN ART
Circles and Circuits II explores the art of the Chinese Caribbean diaspora from the early 20th century to the present day. By examining the contributions of artists of Chinese descent in Cuba, Panama, Trinidad and Tobago, Jamaica, and beyond, the exhibition will reveal the hidden complexities of the transcultural art of the Caribbean. The focus is on the work of contemporary artists such as Albert Chong and María Magdalena Campos-Pons, as well as artists of the ongoing Chinese Caribbean diaspora. The contemporary works featured explore issues of post-colonial history, popular culture, personal history, and the body.

WHEN: Through March 11
Tuesdays - Sundays 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

SITE: Chinese American Museum
425 N. Los Angeles St., Los Angeles

COST: Adults – $3, Seniors and Students – $2, Museum Members – Free

INFO: 213.485.8567 camla.org

FOR ALL THE WORLD TO SEE: VISUAL CULTURE AND THE STRUGGLE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS
This exhibit examines the vital role that visual imagery played in the fight for racial and social equality from the 1940s through the 1970s. For All The World To See traces the emergence of attempts by some African Americans to present a more nuanced and accurate picture of African American life, relying on the power of the camera. Grasping the potential of visual images to sway public opinion and bring about social change.

WHEN: Through March 16
Mondays - Thursdays 10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m., Fridays - Saturdays 9:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m., Sundays 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

SITE: Los Angeles Central Library, Getty Gallery
630 W. Fifth St., Los Angeles

COST: Free

SPONSOR: National Institute of Humanities and Los Angeles Library
INFO: 213.228.7250 lapl.org/branches/central-library
AFRICAN & AFRICAN AMERICAN ARTISTS

Exhibit will include art by African and African American artists, books about African American art including sculpture, jewelry, and comics. Some of the artists will be: Varnette Honeywood, Synthia St. James, Noah Purifoy, Jacob Lawrence, and Samella Lewis.

WHEN: Through March 31
Mondays & Wednesdays 10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m., Tuesdays & Thursdays: 12:00 noon - 8:00 p.m.,
Friday & Saturday 9:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m., Sundays Closed

SITE: Sunland Tujunga Branch Library
7771 Foothill Blvd., Tujunga

COST: Free

SPONSOR: Sunland Tujunga Branch Library

INFO: 818.352.4481
lapl.org/branches/sunland-tujunga

Lakhiyia Hicks, Freedom!, Acrylic painting on canvas, 8” x 10”, 2017
AXÉ BAHIA: THE POWER OF ART IN AN AFRO-BRAZILIAN METROPOLIS

Axé Bahia explores the distinctive cultural role of the city of Salvador, the coastal capital of the Brazilian state of Bahia. Since the 1940s, Salvador has been an internationally renowned center of Afro-Brazilian culture, and remains an important hub of African-inspired artistic practices in Latin America. This is the most comprehensive presentation of Bahian arts to date in the U.S. It features more than 100 works from the mid-20th century to the present, including a stunning array of sculpture, painting, photography, video, and installation art.

**WHEN:** Through April 15
Wednesdays 12:00 noon - 8:00 p.m., Thursdays - Sundays 12:00 noon - 5:00 p.m.

**SITE:** Fowler Museum, UCLA
308 Charles E. Young Dr. N., Los Angeles

**COST:** Free

**SPONSOR:** Fowler Museum, UCLA

**INFO:** 310.825.9672
fowler.ucla.edu

STORIES OF ALMOST EVERYONE

Stories of Almost Everyone is an exhibition about the willingness to believe the stories that are conveyed by works of contemporary art. This exhibition is organized around the premise that objects of contemporary art possess narrative histories and inner lives that the conventions of display can only, at best, approximate.

**WHEN:** Through May 6
Tuesdays, Wednesdays, & Fridays 11:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m., Saturdays & Sundays 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

**SITE:** Hammer Museum
10899 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles

**COST:** Free

**SPONSOR:** Hammer Museum

**INFO:** 310.443.7000
hammer.ucla.edu

UNSPEAKABLE: ATLAS, KRUGER, WALKER: HAMMER CONTEMPORARY COLLECTION

This exhibit is a selection of video installations from the Hammer Contemporary Collection. It features major works by American artists Charles Atlas, Barbara Kruger, and Kara Walker created in the last decade. Using very different strategies of montage, direct address, and narrative imagery, respectively, each of these artists is among our most eloquent social critics.

**WHEN:** Through May 13
Tuesdays, Wednesdays, & Fridays 11:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m., Saturdays & Sundays 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

**SITE:** Hammer Museum
10899 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles

**COST:** Free

**SPONSOR:** Hammer Museum

**INFO:** 310.443.7000
hammer.ucla.edu
GARY SIMMONS: FADE TO BLACK

Much of Simmons’ work in this exhibit centers on his signature erasure techniques. Early in his career, he drew in white chalk on ready-made chalkboards or onto slate-painted walls, then smudged the images with his hands. In recent years, he has adapted the process to canvas and large-scale wall works, such as Blue Field Explosions (2009), a monumental drawing in the stadium that is home to the Dallas Cowboys.

WHEN: Through July 31
      Tuesdays - Saturdays 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Sundays 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

SITE: California African American Museum
      600 State Dr. Exposition Park, Los Angeles

COST: Free

SPONSOR: California African American Museum

INFO: 213.744.7432
      caamuseum.org
ADLER GUERRIER: CONDITIONS AND FORMS FOR BLCK LONGEVITY

Adler Guerrier is best known for his work exploring the poetics and politics of place. He examines the public space of the street as a site for civil discourse, disobedience, and the more private realm of the home and yard as places for meditative observation and reverie - addressing both as political spheres. His new project continues his investigation of history's relationship to landscape, picturing what the artist has described as the limited utopias enacted within domestic gardens, outdoor spaces, and private yards.

**WHEN:** Through August 26
Tuesdays - Saturdays 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Sundays 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

**SITE:** California African American Museum
600 State Dr., Exposition Park, Los Angeles

**COST:** Free

**SPONSOR:** California African American Museum

**INFO:** 323.931.1277
camuseum.org

THE EBBELL'S BLACK HERITAGE MONTH PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBIT WITH SISTAHS OF THE LENS

As part of the Ebell of Los Angeles' Black Heritage Month Celebration, Sistahs Of the Lens (SOL) and a guest artist will exhibit and sell in the Ebell's Art Salon. SOL is a group of five African American women passionate about their art and diverse in styles.

**WHEN:**
Artist Reception, February 8, 5:30 - 8:00 p.m.
Exhibit, February 8 - March 9
9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

**SITE:** The Ebell of Los Angeles
741 S. Lucerne Blvd., Los Angeles

**COST:** Free

**SPONSOR:** Ebell of Los Angeles & Sistahs Of the Lens

**INFO:** 323.931.1277
ebelloflosangeles.com

HOW SWEET THE SOUND: GOSPEL MUSIC IN LOS ANGELES

The exhibition charts the story of gospel in LA, including the Azusa Street Revival in 1906, the Great Migration to Los Angeles in the 1940’s, musical innovators within black church congregations, its key role during the Civil Rights era, and the thriving commercial success it enjoyed afterward. Each period contributed to producing a global musical phenomenon that shifted American popular culture and politics-and uplifted the country for generations.

**WHEN:**
February 8 - August 26
Tuesdays - Saturdays 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Sundays 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

**SITE:** California African American Museum
600 State Dr., Exposition Park, Los Angeles

**COST:** Free

**SPONSOR:** California African American Museum

**INFO:** 213.744.7432
camuseum.org
MARCUS MILLER’S CULTURAL DRUMMING

Come join a hands-on interactive program that introduces participants to the vast world of cultural drumming. This event involves the history, role, and significance of the drums from Asia, Europe, and the African Diaspora.

WHEN: February 8, 4:00 p.m.
SITE: Platt Branch Library
23600 Victory Blvd., Woodland Hills
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Platt Friends of the Library
INFO: 818.340.9386
lapl.org/branches/platt
SHADES OF L.A.: LOOKING AT AFRICAN AMERICANS IN LOS ANGELES THROUGH PHOTOGRAPHS

Librarian Christina Rice will present an overview of the African American photographs that are part of the vast Shades of L.A. collection that Los Angeles Public Library possesses. Refreshments will be served.

WHEN: February 8, 4:00 p.m.
SITE: Granada Hills Branch Library
10640 Petit Ave., Granada Hills
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Granada Hills Branch Library
INFO: 818.368.5687
lapl.org/branches/granada-hills

UP FROM JIM CROW: THE WASHINGTON & DU BOIS DEBATE

Join us at our Black History Month program where we will learn about and debate the ideologies of two of the most prominent African American leaders, Booker T. Washington and W.E.B. Du Bois. Led by Professor Ranford Hopkins, Moorpark College.

WHEN: February 8, 5:00 p.m.
SITE: Sherman Oaks Branch Library
14245 Moorpark St., Sherman Oaks
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Sigma Lambda Omega Chapter
INFO: 818.205.9716
lapl.org/branches/sherman-oaks

BLACK HISTORY MONTH: AFRICAN AMERICAN ARTISTS

Participants are invited to explore different art techniques as we focus on African American artists and their contribution to the art world. Bring your creativity, imagination, and be prepared to have some fun. All materials will be provided; however, some may be limited. Guests will be seated on a first come, first seated basis. Adults, 18 years and older, are welcome.

WHEN: February 8, 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.
SITE: El Monte Library
3224 N. Tyler Ave., El Monte
COST: Free
SPONSOR: El Monte Library
INFO: 626.444.9506
colapublib.org/libs/elmonte

Bernard Hoyes, Earthbound, Mixed media, sand, coffee, straw, plaster, acrylics, on canvas, 40" x 60", 2017
Angela Stedham, *Change*, Mixed media - cardboard, 30” x 30”, 2017
FREDERICK DOUGLASS NOW BY ROGER G. SMITH

In celebration of the Frederick Douglass Bicentennial, Roger Guenveur Smith presents his internationally acclaimed solo performance, *Frederick Douglass Now*. Smith bookends Douglass’ classic 19th-century texts with original narrative to create what the *Los Angeles Times* calls “a personal benchmark for this remarkable artist.” Douglass, the pioneering abolitionist and feminist, is among a gallery of historically inspired theatrical portraits drawn by Smith.

**WHEN:** February 8, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

**SITE:** California African American Museum
600 State Dr., Exposition Park, Los Angeles

**COST:** Free

**RSVP:** Required with Eventbrite

**INFO:** 213.744.7432
caamuseum.org

OKWUI OKPOKWASILI: POOR PEOPLE’S TV ROOM

Known for her intensely powerful performances, Bessie Award-winning Okwui Okpokwasili considers the collective amnesia around the Nigerian women’s resistance movements of the past century. With collaborator Peter Born, she mixes ritualistic and hallucinogenic movement, song, video, and text, creating a dystopian narrative in which characters slip through the fissures of time to wander in a bush of ghosts.

**WHEN:** February 8 - 11
Thursday - Saturday 8:30 p.m., Sunday, 7:00 p.m.

**SITE:** REDCAT
631 W. 2nd St., Los Angeles

**COST:** $15 - $30

**SPONSOR:** In association with CAP UCLA

**INFO:** 213.237.2800
redcat.org

QUEEN OF KATWE

Our Fast Film Friday series features a story of an Ugandan girl from a slum in Katwe who became a chess champion.

**WHEN:** February 9, 2:00 p.m.

**SITE:** Little Tokyo Branch Library
203 S. Los Angeles St., Los Angeles

**COST:** Free

**INFO:** 213.612.0525
lapl.org/branches/little-tokyo
**STEP AFRIKA! MIGRATION: REFLECTIONS ON JACOB LAWRENCE**

Step Afrika! is rooted in the African tradition of Gumboot, bringing the tradition into the 21st century with an American blend of percussive movement and electrifying rhythms. Set against a backdrop of 60 colorful panels by famed painter Jacob Lawrence, their theatrical piece, *Migration*, tells the story of African American families in the early 1900s who migrate to the urban north to escape sharecropping and poverty in the rural south.

**WHEN:** February 9, 8:00 p.m.

**SITE:** CSUN Valley Performing Arts Center
18111 Nordhoff St., Northridge

**COST:** $33 - $78

**SPONSOR:** Supported by Neda Nobari Foundation, KCET

**INFO:** 818.677.8800
valleyperformingartscenter.org

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Kohshin Finley, *Since These Times Ain’t Changin’*, Oil and mixed media on canvas, 25” x 20”, 2017
SCREENING AND DISCUSSION OF “I AM NOT YOUR NEGRO:” DOCUMENTARY ON JAMES BALDWIN AND RACE IN AMERICA

Professor Wonda Powell, History Department, Los Angeles Southwest College, will lead a discussion on Raoul Peck’s highly acclaimed documentary I Am Not Your Negro about author James Baldwin.

WHEN: February 10, 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.

SITE: Palms - Rancho Park Branch Library
2920 Overland Ave., Los Angeles

COST: Free

SPONSOR: Palms - Rancho Park Branch Library

INFO: 310.840.2142
lapl.org/branches/palms-rancho-park
MELEKO MOKGOSI OPENING NIGHT PROGRAM

Join artist Meleko Mokgosi in conversation with curator Erica Jones. Preview the exhibition and enjoy cocktails and music at the opening party. Botswana-born, New York-based Meleko Mokgosi is the recipient of the Mohn Award for his work in the 2012 Hammer Museum Biennial Made in L.A. He has shown at the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York; the Studio Museum in Harlem; and the Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston.

WHEN: February 10, 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.
SITE: Fowler Museum, UCLA
308 Charles E. Young Dr. N., Los Angeles
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Fowler Museum at UCLA
INFO: 310.825.9672
fowler.ucla.edu
NIKI J. CRAWFORD

Back by popular demand. Niki J. Crawford and her band bring a high energy soul performance. Crawford combines her powerful, melodic voice with poignant lyrics, funk riffs, and R&B rhythms. She is an LA-based artist who has shared stages with Santana, Aaron Neville, Al Green, and many more.

WHEN: February 10, 8:00 p.m.
SITE: Grand Annex
434 W. Sixth St., San Pedro
COST: $20 - $30
SPONSOR: Grand Vision Foundation
INFO: 310.833.4813
grandvision.org/grand-annex/
A CELEBRATION OF HISTORY: A JOURNEY IN FOUR PARTS - TERRY STEELE’S HERE & NOW:
THE LEGACY OF LUTHER VANDROSS
Grammy Nominated Singer/Songwriter (Here & Now) Terry Steele, brings to life the soul-stirring sounds of Luther Vandross’ legendary performances and honors the music of one of R&B’s most beloved singers. This is an evening of complete enjoyment and love.
WHEN: February 10, 8:00 p.m.
SITE: Nate Holden Performing Arts Center
4718 W. Washington Blvd., Los Angeles
COST: $30 - $40
SPONSOR: Ebony Repertory Theatre
INFO: 323.964.9766
ebonyrep.org

MELEKO MOGOSI: BREAD, BUTTER, AND POWER
Meleko Mokgosi’s large-scale episodic painting cycle Bread, Butter, and Power forms the newest chapter in his ongoing series Democratic Intuition, which seeks to explore ideas about the many ways that democratic concepts influence our lives, loves, and relationships on macro- and micro-levels. This twenty-panel installation interrogates the theme of feminism in the context of southern Africa, and considers the consequences of dividing labor practices by gender.
WHEN: February 11 - July 1
Wednesdays 12:00 noon - 8:00 p.m., Thursdays - Sundays 12:00 noon - 5:00 p.m.
SITE: Fowler Museum, UCLA
308 Charles E. Young Dr. N., Los Angeles
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Fowler Museum
INFO: 310.825.9672
fowler.ucla.edu

FAMILY JAM: CELEBRATING CARNAVAL
A celebration of Bahia’s Carnaval. Find inspiration in our Axé Bahia exhibition, create your own Carnaval mask, make three wishes with a Bonfim ribbon bracelet, and enjoy an Afro-Brazilian samba-reggae performance by BATALÁ Los Angeles. The afternoon will conclude with an interactive story time in the Axé Bahia exhibition.
WHEN: February 11, 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.
Storytime at 3:30 p.m.
SITE: Fowler Museum, UCLA
308 Charles E. Young Dr. N., Los Angeles
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Fowler Museum, UCLA
INFO: 310.825.9672
fowler.ucla.edu
ROBERT FARRELL: IN HIS OWN WORDS
Bob Farrell did many things in his life before coming to the City Council in 1974 to serve the Eighth District. He brought the city’s awareness to many issues outside its traditional boundaries and continues to do so today after his city career. Come to listen and ask questions.

WHEN: February 11, 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.
SITE: Los Angeles Central Library
Mark Taper Auditorium
630 W. Fifth St., Los Angeles
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Presented by the L.A. City Historical Society as part of their Marie Northrop Lecture Series.
INFO: 213.228.7250
lapl.org/branches/central-library

CELEBRATING JAMES BALDWIN - HERE AND NOW
An afternoon of readings and discussion focused on the life, contributions, and legacy of writer-activist James Baldwin. Acclaimed actor, producer, and political activist Alfre Woodard hosts the program, which includes remarks by LA poet laureate Robin Coste Lewis and performances of Baldwin’s work by actor Jussie Smollett (Empire). A reception follows the program.

WHEN: February 11, 2:00 p.m.
SITE: Skirball Cultural Center
2701 N. Sepulveda Blvd., Los Angeles
COST: Adults - $15, Seniors, Students & Children over 12 – $8, Children 2 – 12 - $7, Free to Skirball, Members & Children under 2, Free to all on Thursdays
SPONSOR: Skirball Cultural Center and Beyond Baroque
INFO: 310.440.4500
skirball.org

FILM SCREENING - THE EARLY WORKS OF CHERYL DUNYE
Cheryl Dunye practically invented a new form of cinema - call it the ‘Dunyementary.’ Using a mixture of narrative and documentary techniques, the ‘Dunyementary’ challenges social and cultural norms through a sharply funny and reflexive lens.

WHEN: February 12, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.
SITE: Edendale Branch Library
2011 W. Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Edendale Branch Library
INFO: 213.207.3000
lapl.org/branches/edendale
Andres Montoya, *Girl with A Gold Earring*, Mixed media on canvas, 10” x 10”, 2017
MOVIE SCREENING: RACE
Celebrate Black History Month and the start of the 2018 Winter Olympics with this film about Jesse Owens’ quest to become the greatest track and field athlete in the 1936 Olympics. Check out our book displays before the film. Adults and Teens 13 to 18 are welcome.

WHEN: February 12, 5:00 - 7:30 p.m.
SITE: Agoura Hills Library
29901 Ladyface Court, Agoura Hills
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Generously sponsored by the Friends of the Agoura Hills Library.
INFO: 818. 889.2278
colapublib.org/libs/agourahills

AFRICAN AMERICAN ARTISTS STORYTIME
Featuring picture books about African American artists, that will also inspire the children to create artwork for themselves.

WHEN: February 13, 2:30 p.m.
SITE: Granada Hills Branch Library
10640 Petit Ave., Granada Hills
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Granada Hills Branch Library
INFO: 818.368.5687
lapl.org/branches/granada-hills

TUSKEGEE STORYTIME
Join us for this special story time dedicated to Tuskegee Alabama. We will read about the Tuskegee Airmen and explore the significance of Tuskegee University, founded on July 4, 1881 by Booker T. Washington and home to Dr. George Washington Carver. Following the story time, we will build and experiment with paper airplanes.

WHEN: February 13, 2:30 p.m.
SITE: Alma Reaves Woods - Watts Branch Library
10205 Compton Ave., Los Angeles
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Alma Reaves Woods - Watts Branch Library
INFO: 323.789.2850
lapl.org/branches/watts
TEEN CRAFTS – BUILD A SHEKERE (GOURD SHAKER)

Let’s make a Shekere. The Shekere is a West African percussion instrument that is covered with beads.

**WHEN:** February 13, 4:00 p.m.

**SITE:** Los Angeles Central Library - Teen’Scape
630 W. 5th St., Los Angeles

**COST:** Free

**SPONSOR:** Los Angeles Central Library - Teen’Scape

**INFO:** 213.228.729
lapl.org/branches/central-library
**MASTERPIECE OF THE MONTH: JACOB LAWRENCE (COLLAGE)**

A program that teaches children and families about famous artists and their works. Each month we will focus on a different artist, learn about their lives, their artistic techniques, and then create our own artwork using the methods and materials that artist used to create their masterpieces. For children ages 5 to 12. All materials are provided. February’s artist is Jacob Lawrence; attendees will learn about mood and perspective by creating our own cityscape using tissue paper and starch.

**WHEN:** February 13, 4:00 - 5:00 p.m.

**SITE:** South Whittier Library
11543 Colima Rd., Whittier

**COST:** Free

**SPONSOR:** South Whittier Library

**INFO:** 562.946.4415
colapublib.org/libs/swittier

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**TRAVELING SHOES**

Historical and biographical stories of famous black people who have traveled for fortune, fame, and to make their mark in history. Fun for the whole family.

**WHEN:** February 14, 3:00 - 4:00 p.m.

**SITE:** Graham Library
1900 E. Firestone Blvd., Los Angeles

**COST:** Free

**SPONSOR:** Graham Library

**INFO:** 323.582.2903
colapublib.org/libs/graham

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**FREEDOM FRIENDS**

Celebrate African American Heritage Month and learn about civil rights with an interactive game.

**WHEN:** February 14, 4:00 p.m.

**SITE:** Los Angeles Central Library - Teen’Scape
630 W. 5th St., Los Angeles

**COST:** Free

**SPONSOR:** Los Angeles Central Library - Teen’Scape

**INFO:** 213.228.7291
lapl.org/branches/central-library
SCREENING: Ó PAÍ Ó (LOOK AT THIS)
During Carnaval, in Pelourinho, the historical center of Salvador, a diverse group of poor residents try to make the best of the festive spirit through creativity, irony, humor, and music. Starring well-known actors Lázaro Ramos and Wagner Moura, the film is based in a play by Márcio Meirelles, staged by the Bando de Teatro Olodum in 1992.

WHEN: February 14, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.
SITE: Fowler Museum, UCLA
308 Charles E. Young Dr. N., Los Angeles
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Fowler Museum, UCLA
INFO: 310.825.9672
fowler.ucla.edu
BLACK HISTORY MONTH FOOD TRUCK FESTIVAL AND MARKETPLACE

The Los Angeles Association of Black Personnel will be hosting a food festival that will include Black owned food trucks, live performances, and various vendors.

**WHEN:** February 15, 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

**SITE:** Olive Court and Performance Lawn
Grand Park
200 N. Grand Ave., Los Angeles

**COST:** Free

**SPONSOR:** Los Angeles Association of Black Personnel, Inc. (LAABP)

**INFO:** facebook.com/grandparklosangeles
CITY OF LOS ANGELES COMMUNITY EVENTS
2018 AFRICAN AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH CELEBRATION

FILM SCREENING OF GIRLHOOD
Viewing of *Girlhood*, a French film about a girl joining a gang and discovering that this new life does not necessarily make her any happier.

**WHEN:** February 15, 3:30 p.m.
**SITE:** Mark Twain Branch Library
9621 S Figueroa St, Los Angeles
**COST:** Free
**SPONSOR:** Mark Twain Branch Library
**INFO:** lapl.org/branches/mark-twain

AFRICAN DRUMMING AND DANCING
An exciting demonstration of African dance and percussion. Attendees can try their hand on authentic djembe drums or learn how to move and sing as they follow the drum beats.

**WHEN:** February 15, 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.
**SITE:** Lancaster Library
601 W. Lancaster Blvd., Lancaster
**COST:** Free
**SPONSOR:** Lancaster Library
**INFO:** 661.948.5029
colapublib.org/libs/lancaster

AFRICAN AMERICAN HERITAGE TEEN BOOK CLUB
Come and explore Mr. Reynolds’ books by reading excerpt of each as a group. We will explore why his writing resonates with teens today. Check out one of his books *All American Boys*, *Ghost*, *Patina*, *Long Way Down*, or *Miles Morales: Spider-Man*. Mr. Reynolds is a *New York Times* bestselling author, a National Book Award Honoree, a Kirkus Award winner, a Walter Dean Myers Award winner, an NAACP Image Award Winner, and the recipient of multiple Coretta Scott King honors.

**WHEN:** February 15, 4:00 - 5:00 p.m.
**SITE:** Vermont Square Branch Library,
201 W. 48th St., Los Angeles
**COST:** Free
**SPONSOR:** Vermont Square Teen Librarian
**INFO:** 323.290.7405
lapl.org/branches/vermont-square

VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL GRAVELY, LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE AWARD CELEBRATION

Celebrate a man of many firsts aboard the Battleship IOWA Museum with the 5th annual presentation of Vice Admiral Samuel L. Gravely, Jr. Leadership and Service Award. The Award recognizes leaders in Southern California who exemplify the Vice Admiral’s trailblazing and courageous service. The award presentation will feature live jazz, inspiring speakers, a color guard, and bestowing of the award to Mr. Fisher.

WHEN:    February 15
Sunset Reception: 5:30 p.m.
Award Program: 6:30 p.m.

SITE:    The Battleship IOWA Museum
250 S. Harbor Blvd., San Pedro

COST:    Free (Donation Suggested)

SPONSOR:   Pacific Battleship Center
INFO:    877.446.9261
pacificbattleship.com

BOOK CLUB FOR ADULTS: BETWEEN THE WORLD AND ME

Honoring Black History month, the February’s Book Club will feature Between the World and Me. The author takes us along his journey through America’s history of race and its contemporary resonances. New members are welcome. Refreshments provided.

WHEN:    February 15, 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

SITE:    Norwood Library
4550 N. Peck Rd., El Monte

COST:    Free

SPONSOR:   Friends of the Norwood
INFO:    626.443.3147
colapublib.org/libs/norwood

CURATORIAL WALKTHROUGH: HOW SWEET THE SOUND

Tour How Sweet the Sound with CAAM history curator Tyree Boyd-Pates and Daniel Walker of USC’s Gospel Music Archive. Discover how gospel music pioneers James Cleveland, Andraé Crouch, Sallie Martin, and others brought gospel to Los Angeles and redefined the genre.

WHEN:    February 16, 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.

SITE:    California African American Museum
600 State Dr., Exposition Park, Los Angeles

COST:    Free

SPONSOR:   California African American Museum
INFO:    213.744.7432
camauseum.org
GENEALOGY GARAGE: THE BASICS OF AFRICAN AMERICAN GENEALOGY

Join us to hear the ins and outs of African American Genealogy research. It can be difficult, but we know some tips and tricks to make it easier.

WHEN: February 17, 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
SITE: Los Angeles Central Library
      History & Genealogy Dept.: LL4
      630 W. Fifth St., Los Angeles
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Los Angeles Library
INFO: 213.228.7250
       lapl.org/branches/central-library
AFRICAN AMERICAN MUSIC
We will use Freegal’s streaming service to enjoy a wide selection of African American music.

WHEN: February 17, 2:00 p.m.
SITE: Arroyo Seco Library
       6145 N. Figueroa St., Los Angeles
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Arroyo Seco Library
INFO: 323.255.0537
       lapl.org/branches/arroyo-seco

AFRICAN AND AFRICAN AMERICAN TALES
An afternoon with storyteller Michael McCarty sharing stories of the challenges and triumphs of Africans and African Americans throughout history. For children of all ages, but most suitable for ages 4 to 12.

WHEN: February 17, 2:00 - 3:00 p.m.
SITE: Temple City Library
       5939 Golden West Ave., Temple City
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Temple City Library
INFO: 626.285.2136
       colapublib.org/libs/templecity

TRIBUTE TO CONGRESSWOMAN BARBARA JORDAN
A short documentary and video clips highlighting U.S. Congresswoman Barbara Jordan’s life and contributions to civil rights. The event includes excerpts from recordings of her notable speeches including the 1974 Watergate hearings, and keynote addresses to the 1976 and 1992 Democratic Conventions.

WHEN: February 17, 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.
SITE: Los Angeles Central Library
       Meeting Room B
       630 W. 5th St., Los Angeles
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Social Science, Philosophy & Religion Department/LAPL
INFO: 213.228.7000
       lapl.org/branches/central-library
BLUES HISTORY
Carolyn Washington is best known for her contributions to blues as a teacher, spokeswoman, producer, author, founder of The Blues Schools Program, and blues singer. She is the daughter of the great guitarist-singer Roy Gaines who played for Diana Ross and Billie Holiday.

WHEN: February 17, 3:00 - 4:00 p.m.
SITE: Eagle Rock Branch Library
      5027 Caspar Ave., Los Angeles
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Carolyn Washington
INFO: 323.258.8079
       lapl.org/branches/eagle-rock

Ken Moore, Man in a Hat, Acrylic and watercolor, 18” x 24”, 1972
A JAZZ CONCERT WITH THE GRANADA HILLS CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL

The school’s jazz band, under the direction of Cameron Guerrero, will perform what is considered America’s one “original” art form, created by African Americans, known as “Jazz.” Refreshments will be served.

WHEN: February 17, 3:00 - 4:00 p.m.
SITE: Granada Hills Branch Library
10640 Petit Ave., Granada Hills
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Granada Hills Branch Library
INFO: 818.368.5687
lapl.org/branches/granada-hills

AFRICAN AMERICANS IN 1940S LA: PHOTOGRAPHS IN WALTER GORDON’S COLLECTION

Alva Moore Stevenson, historian and retired UCLA librarian will show photographs from the collection of Walter L. Gordon, a groundbreaking attorney who established his law practice in Los Angeles in the late 1930s.

WHEN: February 17, 3:00 - 5:00 p.m.
SITE: Palms - Rancho Park Branch Library
2920 Overland Ave., Los Angeles
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Palms-Rancho Park Branch Library
INFO: 310.840.2142
lapl.org/branches/palms-rancho-park

AFRICAN DANCE COMPETITION LA 2018 - BLACK HISTORY MONTH EVENT

African dance is polycentric, which sets it apart from most other dance traditions. The traditional African dance is gradually making way towards more modern dance moves. African Dance LA, in its 2nd year of productions, aims to be the largest African dance competition with a focus on the art of contemporary African dance. This event recognizes our youth’s efforts to promote and preserve African culture through dance and other art forms.

WHEN: February 17, 4:00 - 9:00 p.m.
SITE: California African American Museum
600 State Dr., Exposition Park, Los Angeles
COST: $15 - $20
SPONSOR: Sponsored by Councilmember Curren D. Price Jr. of the 9th District, ESDIAC Global System, Little Ethiopia Cultural and Resource Center, Ethiopian Airlines, and Moneygram
INFO: 213.744.7432
africandancela.com
TYFAHRA SINGS NANCY WILSON
Tyfahra presents a thrilling evening of Jazz from the songbook of the amazing song stylist Nancy Wilson. She will perform with a live jazz band. Two surprise guests artists join her in this evening of tribute.

WHEN: February 17, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.
SITE: Barbara Morrison Performing Arts Center, 4305 Degnan Blvd., #101, Los Angeles
COST: $25
SPONSOR: Barbara Morrison Performing Arts Center
INFO: 323.350.1962

A CELEBRATION OF HISTORY: A JOURNEY IN FOUR PARTS - BERNARD & SHIRLEY KINSEY COLLECTION
A Journey in Four Parts - A Look at African American Culture with Bernard & Shirley Kinsey details the Bernard and Shirley Kinsey “Kinsey Collection.” The collection tells the often-untold African American stories of achievement and contribution through historical objects dating from 1595, as well as 2- and 3-dimensional artworks from the 19th, 20th, and 21st century. The collection has been cited in three national awards, including the President’s National Award for Museum and Library Services.

WHEN: February 17, 8:00 p.m.
SITE: Nate Holden Performing Arts Center 4718 W. Washington Blvd., Los Angeles
COST: $30 - $40
SPONSOR: Ebony Repertory Theatre
INFO: 323.964.9766, ebonyrep.org

“I AM NOT YOUR NEGRO” FILM SCREENING & DISCUSSION
A screening of this groundbreaking film and a thoughtful discussion on the topics of race and civil rights. This program is presented in conjunction with our Getty Gallery exhibit, For all the World to See.

WHEN: February 18, 2:00 p.m.
SITE: Los Angeles Central Library
Mark Taper Auditorium
630 W. Fifth St., Los Angeles
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Los Angeles Central Library
INFO: 213.228.7250
lapl.org/branches/central-library
CITY OF LOS ANGELES COMMUNITY EVENTS
2018 AFRICAN AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH CELEBRATION

JANIVA MAGNESS SINGS THE BLUES


WHEN: February 18, 2:00 - 3:00 p.m.
SITE: Los Angeles Central Library
Mark Taper Auditorium
630 W. 5th St., Los Angeles

COST: Free
RSVP, tickets available via Eventbrite

SPONSOR: Los Angeles Central Library
INFO: 213.228.7250
lapl.org/branches/central-library

Andres Montoya, Pink, Mixed media on canvas, 12” x 12”, 2017
SALON AND PERFORMANCE BY MAURICE HARRIS

During the closing week of Salon des Refusés by Lezley Saar, artist Maurice Harris, founding creator of floral design company Bloom & Plume, will activate the exhibition with a performance featuring spoken word as well as readings of passages from books that inspired Saar’s surrealist works, including *Madwoman in the Attic* and *Monad*.

**WHEN:** February 18, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

**SITE:** California African American Museum
600 State Dr., Exposition Park, Los Angeles

**COST:** Free

**SPONSOR:** California African American Museum

**INFO:** 213.744.7432
caamuseum.org

ONE HUNDRED FILMS TO WATCH WHILE YOU’RE STILL A TEEN

Some films capture the human experience of teenagers. Teen’Scape will feature a special film screening to celebrate Black History Month.

**WHEN:** February 19, 5:30 p.m.

**SITE:** Los Angeles Central Library - Teen’Scape
630 W. 5th St., Los Angeles

**COST:** Free

**SPONSOR:** Los Angeles Central Library - Teen’Scape

**INFO:** 213.228.7291
lapl.org/branches/central-library

KENTE CLOTH INSPIRED DUCT TAPE CRAFT FOR TEENS

Teens will have an opportunity to create African Kente Cloth inspired crafts using duct tape.

**WHEN:** February 20, 2:30 - 4:00 p.m.

**SITE:** Eagle Rock Branch Library
5027 Caspar Ave., Los Angeles

**COST:** Free

**SPONSOR:** Young Adult Librarian

**INFO:** 323.258.8079
lapl.org/branches/eagle-rock
TEEN CRAFTS – BUILD A KAZOO

Jug bands were a popular form of African American music in the 19th century United States, and one of the most popular instruments in these bands was the kazoo. Learn how to make your own kazoo during the DIY segment.

WHEN: February 20, 4:00 p.m.
SITE: Los Angeles Central Library - Teen'Scape
      630 W. 5th St., Los Angeles
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Los Angeles Central Library - Teen'Scape
INFO: 213.228.7291
      lapl.org/branches/central-library
AFRICAN DRUM CIRCLES WITH CHAZZ ROSS

Chazz Ross guides audiences on a colorful safari with 20 African Djembe volunteer drummers. Everyone is fascinated by playing simple rhythms while singing together. Chazz discusses the history and benefits of drumming during this engaging program. For children ages 5 and up and their families.

WHEN: February 21, 3:30 - 4:15 p.m.
SITE: Lawndale Library
14615 Burin Ave., Lawndale
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Lawndale Library
INFO: 310.676.0177
colapublib.org/libs/lawndale

FILM SCREENING FOR TEENS

A screening of a powerful and moving documentary on the evolution of Black Power.

WHEN: February 21, 4:00 p.m.
SITE: Los Angeles Central Library - Teen’Scape
630 W. 5th St., Los Angeles
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Los Angeles Central Library - Teen’Scape
INFO: 213.228.7291
lapl.org/branches/central-library

AFRICAN DANCE RHYTHMS

Dance with special guest performer Teresa Smith as she explores the musical movement and style of African dance. Don’t be shy and show us your fancy footwork. For children ages 5 to 12 and their families.

WHEN: February 21, 4:30 - 5:30 p.m.
SITE: Rivera Library
7828 S. Serapis Ave., Pico Rivera
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Rivera Library
INFO: 562. 949.5485
colapublib.org/libs/rivera
VSEDC LEGACY OF AFRICAN AMERICAN OWNED BUSINESSES CELEBRATION & SEMINAR

This annual business event focuses on the challenges and opportunities that African American family-owned businesses face, this year’s theme is “Beating the Odds... the Legacy of African American Family-Owned Businesses.” Network with family-owned business owners and learn about the challenges and successes of owning and operating a family enterprise.

WHEN: February 21, 6:00 p.m.

SITE: VSEDC Business Source Center, South Region
6109 S. Western Ave, Los Angeles

COST: Free

SPONSOR: The Vermont Slauson Economic Development Corporation (VSEDC)

INFO: 323.789.4515
vasedc.org

SCREENING: SARAFINA

When the South African government decides to make Afrikaans the official language in her school, Sarafina takes to the streets with her fellow students. Her views become even more intense when her teacher is imprisoned. In conjunction with Bread, Butter, and Power, artist Meleko Mokgosi has selected films addressing colonialism, democracy, and liberation across the continent of Africa.

WHEN: February 21, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

SITE: Fowler Museum, UCLA
308 Charles E. Young Dr. N., Los Angeles

COST: Free

SPONSOR: Fowler Museum, UCLA

INFO: 310.825.9672
fowler.ucla.edu
FIRST LADIES HEALTH INITIATIVE OPEN HOUSE
The First Ladies Health house will offer free medical screenings to the community as well as health education.
WHEN: February 22, 1:00 p.m.
SITE: First Ladies Health House
2249 S Hobart Ave., Los Angeles
COST: Free
SPONSOR: The First Ladies Health Initiative
INFO: firstladieshealth.com

AFRICAN AMERICAN CULTURE & DIVERSITY
The African American experience comes alive for children and their caregivers with engaging stories about Black History. Attendees will also make a unity wreath craft.
WHEN: February 22, 3:30 p.m.
SITE: Ascot Branch Library
120 West Florence Ave., Los Angeles
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Ascot Branch Library
INFO: 323.759.4817
lapl.org/branches/ascot

FILM SCREENING OF “KICKS”
An interesting movie about a black teen who tries to retrieve a pair of expensive sneakers that a local thug stole from him.
WHEN: February 22, 3:30 p.m.
SITE: Mark Twain Branch Library
9621 S. Figueroa St., Los Angeles
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Mark Twain Branch Library
INFO: lapl.org/branches/mark-twain
AFRICAN AMERICAN HERITAGE TEEN BOOK CLUB

Come and explore Mr. Reynolds’ books by reading excerpt of each as a group. We will explore why his writing resonates with teens today. Check out his books *All American Boys*, *Ghost*, *Patina*, *Long Way Down*, or *Miles Morales: Spider-Man*. Mr. Reynolds is a *New York Times* bestselling author, a National Book Award Honoree, a *Kirkus* Award winner, a Walter Dean Myers Award winner, an *NAACP* Image Award Winner, and the recipient of multiple Coretta Scott King honors.

**WHEN:** February 22, 4:00 - 5:00 p.m.

**SITE:** Vermont Square Branch Library
1201 W. 48th St., Los Angeles

**COST:** Free

**SPONSOR:** Vermont Square Teen Librarian

**INFO:** 323.290.7405
lapl.org/branches/vermont-square
AFRICAN SUNSET ART
Learn about the countries and animals native to the African continent by creating “African Sunset Art.”

WHEN: February 22, 4:00 - 5:00 p.m.
SITE: Little Tokyo Branch Library
203 S. Los Angeles St., Los Angeles
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Little Tokyo Branch Library
INFO: 213.612.0525
lapl.org/branches/little-tokyo

POETRY SLAM FOR KIDS AND TEENS
This poetry slam contest will encourage those who participate to speak creatively about some aspect of African American heritage. Submissions must be entered by February 9, at the Reference Desk. You may win a Barnes & Noble gift certificate. For ages 10 to 18. Refreshments will be served.

WHEN: February 22, 4:00 p.m.
SITE: Granada Hills Branch Library
10640 Petit Ave., Granada Hills
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Granada Hills Branch
INFO: 818.368.5687
lapl.org/branches/granada-hills

SOCIAL JUSTICE STORYTIME
Celebrate diversity, recognize struggle, and enact change. Each month will feature stories and activities surrounding social justice issues, such as immigration, Black Lives Matter, and gender identity. Recommended for ages 4 to 8.

WHEN: February 22, 4:00 p.m.
SITE: Memorial Branch Library
4625 W. Olympic Blvd., Los Angeles
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Memorial Branch Library
INFO: 323.938.2732
lapl.org/branches/memorial
TEEN DOCUMENTARY: TUSKEGEE AIRMEN

The library will screen the PBS documentary Tuskegee Airmen. This inspiring World War II story spotlights the 450 men who fought on two fronts at once. Black American aviators, known as the Tuskegee Airmen, battled Axis powers in Europe and North Africa and then took on racism at home. For teens and tweens ages 11 to 18.

WHEN: February 22, 4:00 - 5:00 p.m.
SITE: Rivera Library
7828 S. Serapis Ave., Pico Rivera
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Rivera Library
INFO: 562.949.5485
colapublib.org/libs/rivera

A CELEBRATION OF HISTORY: “A JOURNEY IN FOUR PARTS - OBBA BABATUNDE”

Obba Babatunde's award-winning show, Once in A Lifetime, is a tribute to the late, great Sammy Davis, Jr. Emmy Award winner and Tony nominee Obba Babatundé masterfully brings Davis to life, performing some of Davis’ favorites, such as I Gotta Be Me, Mr. Bojangles, The Candy Man, and the title song, Once in a Lifetime.

WHEN: February 23, 8:00 p.m.
SITE: Nate Holden Performing Arts Center
4718 W. Washington Blvd., Los Angeles
COST: $30 - $40
SPONSOR: Ebony Repertory Theatre
INFO: 323.964.9766
ebonyrep.org

AQUARIUM OF PACIFIC - AFRICAN AMERICAN FESTIVAL

The 16th annual African American Festival, celebrating the rich diversity of African American and African cultures. The festival will feature live entertainment and arts and crafts. Festival performers include Mardi Gras second line dancers, hip hop and break dancers, jazz musicians, interactive drum circles, West African dancers, and storytellers.

WHEN: February 24 - 25, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
SITE: Aquarium of the Pacific
100 Aquarium Way, Long Beach
COST: Adults - $29.95, Children - $17.95, Seniors - $26.95, Children under three and Members are Free
SPONSOR: Aquarium of the Pacific
INFO: 562.590.3100
aquariumofpacific.org
SYMPOSIUM: BLACKNESS AND THE ART OF EMPOWERMENT IN BAHIA, BRAZIL

For many worldwide, the Brazilian state of Bahia represents the epicenter of Afro-Brazilian culture. Its capital city, Salvador, has been lauded as a Black Rome (Roma negra) where African-derived traditions have flourished. Nonetheless, residents of African descent often face institutionalized racism and other forms of inequality. This one-day symposium brings together Bahian arts activists and scholars to examine the ways in which arts practices can serve as modes of social critique and cultural resistance.

WHEN: February 24, 10:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
SITE: Fowler Museum UCLA
308 Charles E. Young Dr. N., Los Angeles
COST: Free
RSVP: tickets available via Eventbrite
SPONSOR: Fowler Museum, UCLA
INFO: 310.825.9672
fowler.ucla.edu

Lyle Everett Rushing, Quiet Storm, Mixed media-acrylic, charcoal, gesso & pastel on wood, 24” x 28”, 2017
COMMUNITY RIDE TO BIDDY MASON MONUMENT

Ride for health, wellness, and education. Learn the story of the remarkable Biddy Mason. Snacks will be served at the monument by the Biddy Mason Institute.

WHEN: February 24, 10:00 a.m.

SITE: Ride On! Bike Shop/Co-Op
4319 Degnan Blvd., Los Angeles

COST: Free

SPONSOR: Ride On! Bike Shop/Co-Op

INFO: 323.903.5043
rideonbikeshop.com
GENEALOGY WORKSHOP
Charlotte Bocage, Family Historian and Professional Genealogist, presents this genealogy workshop designed to assist you with research into your ancestry. She offers pointers on how to collect and organize information, as well as resources and researching tips. Beginners and experienced researchers welcome.

WHEN: February 24, 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
SITE: Woodcrest Library
1340 W. 106th St., Los Angeles
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Woodcrest Library
INFO: 323.757.9373 colapublib.org/libs/woodcrest

MAREN HASSINGER - THE SPIRIT OF THINGS
For over four decades, Maren Hassinger has explored relationships between the industrial and natural worlds in a practice that is both meditative and critical. Since the 70s, her sculpture has incorporated common materials associated with manufacturing, mass media, and commerce in abstract compositions. She transforms wire rope, newspapers, plastic bags, and more into evocations of beauty.

WHEN: February 24 - May 26
Mondays - Saturdays, 12:00 noon - 6:00 p.m.
SITE: Art + Practice
3401 W. 43rd Pl., Los Angeles
COST: Free
SPONSOR: The Baltimore Museum of Art (BMA) and Art + Practice
INFO: 323.337.6887 artandpractice.org

THE EDDIE GREEN STORY
Elva Diane Green wrote this book about her father, the legendary Eddie Green, to provide an example to her grandson that a person can succeed no matter the obstacles. The book won the Foreward INDIES 2016 Bronze Book Award. Learn about the exciting story of Elva’s research and discoveries along the way to publication and about her legendary father, one of America’s most beloved entertainers.

WHEN: February 24, 2:00 p.m.
SITE: Eagle Rock Branch Library
5027 Caspar Ave., Los Angeles
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Elva Diane Green
INFO: 323.258.8079 lapl.org/branches/eagle-rock
A SHARED LEGACY - AFRICAN PRESENCE IN MEXICO
Come to hear local historian, Alva Moore Stevenson, speak on the relatively little known history of Afro Mexicans, who migrated into the Southwest United States and African Mexicans who migrated to Mexico. Stevenson will also speak on the two groups shared historical and cultural legacy.

WHEN: February 24, 2:00 p.m.
SITE: Hyde Park Miriam Matthews Library
      2205 W. Florence Ave., Los Angeles
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Hyde Park Miriam Matthews Library
INFO: 323.750.7241
       lapl.org/branches/hyde-park

FAMILY PROGRAM: MOBIL MESSAGES
Create buttons and posters while we talk about activism and advocacy, and show kids how they can share their viewpoints in a positive way. For ages 5 and up. Presented in conjunction with the exhibit For All the World to See.

WHEN: February 24, 2:00 - 3:00 p.m.
SITE: Los Angeles Central Library
      KLOS Theatre
      630 W. 5th St., Los Angeles
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Los Angeles Central Library
INFO: 213.228.7413
       lapl.org/branches/central-library

SYMBOLS IN COPPER
On the final day of Circles and Circuits, participate in a family workshop inspired by the images in the copper matting of Albert Chong’s Throne for the Gorilla Spirits, 1993. Chong’s work uses symbolism to celebrate the diversity of mankind. Meet the artist and make impressions of meaningful symbols in soft copper to create a small frame. For ages 8 and up.

WHEN: February 25, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.
SITE: California African American Museum
      600 State Dr., Exposition Park, Los Angeles
COST: Free
SPONSOR: California African American Museum
INFO: 213.744.7432
       caamuseum.org
PANEL DISCUSSION: CIRCLES AND CIRCUITS I

On the closing day of Circles and Circuits I: History and Art of the Chinese Caribbean Diaspora, join the California African American Museum for a conversation between featured artists Albert Chong, Andrea Chung, and Maria Magdalena Campos-Pons, moderated by Lok Siu, associate professor of Ethnic Studies at UC Berkeley. The discussion will cover the 200-plus year history of the Chinese diaspora in the Caribbean and how art has played a pivotal role in depicting these historically silenced narratives.

WHEN: February 25, 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.
SITE: California African American Museum
       600 State Dr., Exposition Park, Los Angeles
COST: Free
SPONSOR: California African American Museum
INFO: 213.744.7432
camuseum.org
POP-UP ART CART “I HAVE A DREAM” POSTER MAKING
This is a monthly Pop-Up Art Cart for kids. This month we will make an “I Have a Dream” poster to display in the library in celebration of African American Heritage Month.

WHEN: February 26, 4:00 p.m.
SITE: Pacoima Branch Library
13605 Van Nuys Blvd., Pacoima
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Pacoima Branch Library
INFO: 818.899.3188
lapl.org/branches/pacoima
CITY OF LOS ANGELES COMMUNITY EVENTS
2018 AFRICAN AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH CELEBRATION

RADIANT CHILD ART WORKSHOP
This art workshop for kids of all ages celebrates the 2016 Caldecott and Coretta Scott-King award-winning book, Radiant Child, which explores the young life of the late renowned artist, Jean-Michel Basquiat.
WHEN: February 26, 4:00 p.m.
SITE: John C. Fremont Branch Library
6121 Melrose Ave., Los Angeles
COST: Free
SPONSOR: John C. Fremont Branch Library
INFO: 323.962.3521
lapl.org/branches/john-c-fremont

FILM SCREENING - ZORA NEALE HURSTON: JUMP AT THE SUN
A free Monday night documentary film screening. This is a definitive feature-length biography about Zora Neale Hurston. Hurston was the Queen of the Harlem Renaissance in the 1920s. She was one of America's most widely-published novelists in the 1930s.
WHEN: February 26, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.
SITE: Edendale Branch Library
2011 W. Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Edendale Branch Library
INFO: 213.207.3000
lapl.org/branches/edendale

MOVIE SCREENING: LOVING
The story of Richard and Mildred Loving, a couple whose arrest for interracial marriage in 1960s Virginia began a legal battle that would end with the Supreme Court’s historic 1967 decision. Ruth Negga was nominated for a Best Actress Oscar for her portrayal of Mildred Loving. Visit our display of other Oscar-nominated films.
WHEN: February 26, 5:00 - 7:30 p.m.
SITE: Agoura Hills Library
29901 Ladyface Court, Agoura Hills
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Friends of the Agoura Hills Library
INFO: 818. 889.2278
colapublib.org/libs/agourahills
FILM SCREENING: SELMA

The Academy Award nominated depiction of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.’s historical struggle to secure voting rights for all people. This was a dangerous and terrifying campaign that culminated with an epic march from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama in 1964.

WHEN: February 27, 3:00 p.m.
SITE: Panorama City Branch Library
14345 Roscoe Blvd., Panorama City
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Panorama City Branch Library
INFO: 818.894.4071
lapl.org/branches/panorama-city

Kohshin Finley, Listen to the Officer, Oil and mixed media on canvas, diptych, 48” x 48”, 2017
AFRICAN AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH
TEEN TRIVIA COMPETITION
A fun-filled trivia competition celebrating African American History. Refreshments will be served and there will be prizes.

WHEN: February 27, 4:00 p.m.
SITE: Edendale Branch Library
2011 W. Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Edendale Branch Library
INFO: 213.207.3000
lapl.org/branches/edendale

AFRICAN DRUM CIRCLES
Explore the history and benefits of drumming with our special guest performer Chazz. Let’s go on a safari with Chazz as we create jungle sounds with African djembe drums. For children ages 5 to 12 and their families.

WHEN: February 27, 4:00 - 5:00 p.m.
SITE: Pico Rivera Library
9001 Mines Ave., Pico Rivera
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Pico Rivera Library
INFO: 562.942.7394
colapublib.org/libs/picorivera

AFRICAN DRUM CIRCLE
Listen to and learn about the different types of African Drums. Clarence “Chazz” Ross has over 40 years of drumming experience that he will share with us. This is a highly interactive program that children of all ages and their families will enjoy.

WHEN: February 27, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
SITE: Duarte Library
1301 Buena Vista St., Duarte
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Duarte Library
INFO: 626.358.1865
colapublib.org/libs/duarte
AFRICAN DRUM & DANCE
Presented by Chazz and Teresa, a colorful and exhilarating experience into the world of African rhythms, songs, and stories. In celebration of Black History Month, everyone will feel the rhythm of the Serengeti sun in this interactive African Drum and Dance experience. This program is designed for children 5 to 12 years old.

WHEN: February 28, 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.
SITE: La Crescenta Library
2809 Foothill Blvd., La Crescenta
COST: Free
SPONSOR: La Crescenta Library
INFO: 818.248.5313
colapublib.org/libs/lacrescenta

AFRICAN AMERICAN HERITAGE TEEN BOOK CLUB
Join us as we discuss our monthly book selection and have a tasting of books by African American authors to round out our celebration of African American Heritage Month.

WHEN: February 28, 4:00 p.m.
SITE: Los Angeles Central Library - Teen'Scape
630 W. 5th St., Los Angeles
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Los Angeles Central Library - Teen'Scape
INFO: 213.228.7291
lapl.org/branches/central-library

TEEN DOCUMENTARY: FEBRUARY ONE
February is Black History Month and we will be showing the PBS documentary February One: The Story of the Greensboro Four. Four college freshmen staged a sit-in at a Woolworth’s lunch counter. Their non-violent protest exploded into a mass protest that gripped the South and revived action in the Civil Rights Movement. For teens ages 11 to 18.

WHEN: February 28, 4:00 - 5:00 p.m.
SITE: Pico Rivera Library
9001 Mines Ave., Pico Rivera
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Pico Rivera Library
INFO: 562.942.7394
colapublib.org/libs/picorivera
SCREENING AND PANEL: JEWEL’S CATCH ONE

This special presentation of Jewel’s Catch One, a documentary film about one of the country’s first black, gay discos, is followed by a conversation with the director, C. Fitz, and the disco’s owner and film’s protagonist, Jewel Thais-Williams. They will discuss the important role of women of color in the arts.

**WHEN:** February 28, 7:00 - 9:30 p.m.

**SITE:** California African American Museum, 600 State Dr., Exposition Park, Los Angeles

**COST:** Free

**SPONSOR:** California African American Museum

**INFO:** 213.744.7432 caamuseum.org
ALL-STAR MILES DAVIS ALUMNI PERFORMING MILES DAVIS ELECTRIC YEARS

Jazz is in his DNA—drummer Vince Wilburn, Jr. is the nephew of the legendary Miles Davis, the trumpeter, composer, and bandleader who rewrote the course of music forever. As the official caretaker of Davis’ music, Wilburn perpetuates his uncle’s legacy, leading a posse of jazz artists that includes Darryl Jones, John Beasley, and Robert Irving III.

**WHEN:** March 1, 8:00 p.m.

**SITE:** CSUN Valley Performing Arts Center
18111 Nordhoff St., Northridge

**COST:** $33 - $78

**SPONSOR:** CSUN Valley Performing Arts Center

**INFO:** 818.677.8800
valleyperformingartscenter.org
STORY TIME: THE WATER PRINCESS
An interactive storytelling experience as we look, listen, and learn in our exhibition Dining with Kings. Families and children of all ages are invited to discover Princess Gie Gie’s kingdom as she searches for clean drinking water in The Water Princess, by Susan Verde (2016). After reading, a Museum Educator will lead families on a brief exploration of artworks related to the story.  
WHEN: March 2, 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.  
SITE: Fowler Museum, UCLA  
308 Charles E. Young Dr. N., Los Angeles  
COST: Free  
SPONSOR: Fowler Museum, UCLA  
INFO: 310.825.9672  
fowler.ucla.edu

FOWLER ON THE TOWN: BAHIA THROUGH THE SENSES
Originating in 16th-century Brazil, capoeira is a martial art that combines elements of fight, acrobatics, music, dance, and ritual in a fascinating and magnetic way. Mestre Amen Santo will lead three workshops sequentially: Capoeira, Maculele, and Afro-Brazilian dance concluding with a ‘Samba de Roda’ to close the evening with positive energy and movement. Afterwards, taste an Afro-Brazilian acarajé (fritter) provided by Sabor da Bahia. No experience necessary. Geared for ages 13 and up.  
WHEN: March 3, 4:00 - 7:00 p.m.  
SITE: Brasil Brasil Cultural Center  
12453 Washington Blvd., Los Angeles  
COST: Fowler members $55; nonmembers $60  
SPONSOR: The Fowler Museum  
INFO: 310.397.3667  
brasilbrasil.org/events

INTERVIEW WITH THE HIGH PRIESTESS: NINA! AN ORIGINAL MUSICAL PLAY
Interview with the High Priestess: Nina! is a musical play not in the traditional sense, but an integration of music, dialog, and poetry presented in a scaled-down, stark-stage way. The focus is on Nina Simone and the News Reporter sent to interview her for a national black magazine. They meet and at times clash, but, are on the same path at a critical time in the Civil Rights era (1960-1970). A unique way of presenting black historical events that shaped the era, through the prism of Ms. Simone’s music and courage.  
WHEN: March 3, 8:00 p.m.  
SITE: World Stage Performance Gallery  
4321 Degnan Blvd., Los Angeles  
COST: $30  
SPONSOR: Robert J. Carmack -Producer/Director  
INFO: 951.840.7120  
facebook.com/rjcarmack
REVEREND TALL TREE AT THE GRAND ANNEX

Original Blues & American Roots music in the tradition of Little Walter, Howlin' Wolf, and Bo Diddley. Internationally acclaimed singer, songwriter Chris Pierce heads up Reverend Tall Tree.

**WHEN:** March 3, 8:00 p.m.
**SITE:** Grand Annex
434 W. Sixth St., San Pedro
**COST:** $20
**SPONSOR:** Grand Vision Foundation
**INFO:** 310.833.4813
grandvision.org/grand-annex/

POINTS OF ACCESS: ARTISTS IN CONVERSATION

This is the first in a series of panels offering meaningful dialogues about access to, and our understanding of, contemporary art. In four public programs, CAAM and A+P welcome artists, curators, collectors, and administrators to discuss their diverse paths and how they have navigated the art world at each point in their careers. *Points of Access* is designed for individuals at all levels of understanding about contemporary art; no prior knowledge is required, and all are welcome. Moderated by Isabelle Lutterodt, director, Barnsdall Park.

**WHEN:** March 6, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.
**SITE:** Art + Practice
4334 Degnan Blvd., Los Angeles
**COST:** Free
**SPONSOR:** California African American Museum (CAAM) and Art + Practice (A+P)
**INFO:** 323.337.6887
artandpractice.org

THREE ON A RING

Come experience the wedding of the century as successful businessman Carl Jamison prepares to marry his very high class, sophisticated and beautiful fiancé. The estate: on fleek, the ambiance: lovely. How can this day get any better? Just add two unexpected surprises, a player of a best friend and a maid who is secretly plotting against it all and you have a groom of gloom. How will Carl ever find peace on his special day?

**WHEN:** March 9, 10, 11, 30, 31, 8:00 p.m.
**SITE:** Barnsdall Gallery Theatre
4800 Hollywood Blvd., Los Angeles
**COST:** $35 - $45
**SPONSOR:** Cruise Control Productions
**INFO:** 661-802-2598
threeonaring.com
MONK + MONK’ESTRA

Experience Thelonious Monk’s timeless music in a unique cinematic-concert performance featuring multi-GRAMMY®-nominated John Beasley’s big band MONK’esta, rare film footage of Monk, a spoken word performance of Monk’s philosophy of life and music, and brilliant vocalist Dee Dee Bridgewater.

WHEN: March 9, 8:00 p.m.
SITE: Walt Disney Concert Hall
111 S. Grand Ave., Los Angeles
COST: $47 - $126
SPONSOR: LA Phil Presents
INFO: 323.850.2000
laphil.com

Carole J. McCoy, Queen Ancestors, Gold oil, acrylic on black paper, 9” x 12”, 2017
SIGMA GAMMA RHO SORORITY, INC. NATIONAL YOUTH SYMPOSIUM
This symposium is designed to highlight some of the prevalent concerns that impact youth daily. It will address issues pertaining to healthy choices, healthy living, career readiness, financial health, and impactful leaders. All middle and high school youth are invited to attend.

WHEN: March 10, 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
SITE: University of Southern California (USC)
Viterbi School of Engineering
McClintock Hall
3650 McClintock Avenue, Los Angeles
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. Southern California Area
INFO: sgrho1922.org

GIRL POWER PANEL DISCUSSION: SISTAS ARE DOIN’ IT FOR THEMSELVES
Sistas Are Doin’ It for Themselves: A Celebration of Black Women Filmmakers, continues to bring to the public outstanding shorts created by female filmmakers of African American decent. This 25th year adds an upfront and intimate chance for the audience to view and discuss the artistry, passion, and sacrifice involved in the independent filmmaking process with the addition of the daytime “Power Panels” and networking from a woman’s view. This is the only program that has consistently promoted and supported the work of African American women in film for more than two decades.

WHEN: March 10, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon
SITE: Nate Holden Performing Arts Center
4718 W. Washington Blvd., Los Angeles
COST: $25
SPONSOR: Black Hollywood Education & Resource Center (BHERC)
INFO: 310.284-3170
BHERC.org

SISTAS ARE DOIN’ IT FOR THEMSELVES: “A CELEBRATION OF BLACK WOMEN FILMMAKERS”
Sistas Are Doin’ It for Themselves: A Celebration of Black Women Filmmakers, continues to bring to the public outstanding shorts created by female filmmakers of African American decent. This 25th year adds an upfront and intimate chance for the audience to view the artistry, passion, and sacrifice involved in the independent filmmaking process. This is the only program that has consistently promoted and supported the work of African American women in film for more than two decades.

WHEN: March 10, 7:00 p.m.
SITE: Raleigh Studios
5300 Melrose Ave., Hollywood
COST: $20
SPONSOR: Black Hollywood Education & Resource Center (BHERC)
INFO: 310.284.3170
BHERC.org
ENCAUSTIC LANDSCAPES

With artist Pamela Smith Hudson create small landscape paintings using unique papers layered with translucent wax paint and sealed with encaustic, an ancient process of painting with wax. Smith Hudson is a painter, printmaker, and teaching artist based in Los Angeles whose work is currently featured in Charting the Terrain.

WHEN: March 11, 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.
SITE: California African American Museum
600 State Dr., Exposition Park, Los Angeles
COST: Free
SPONSOR: California African American Museum
INFO: 213.744.7432
caamuseum.org
FAMILY JAM: STORYTELLING WITH DENA ATLANTIC
Families and children of all ages are invited to discover Brazil’s cultural heritage as acclaimed storyteller Dena Atlantic performs interactive narratives inspired by our exhibition Axé Bahia.

WHEN: March 11, 2:00 - 3:30 p.m.
SITE: Fowler Museum, UCLA
308 Charles E. Young Dr. N., Los Angeles
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Fowler Museum, UCLA
INFO: 310.825.9672
fowler.ucla.edu

FILM SCREENING - A RAISIN IN THE SUN
Film of the award-winning play about a struggling black family living on Chicago’s South Side and the impact of an unexpected insurance bequest. Each family member sees the bequest as the means of realizing dreams and of escape from grinding frustrations.

WHEN: March 13, 3:00 p.m.
SITE: Panorama City Branch Library
14345 Roscoe Blvd., Panorama City
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Panorama City Branch Library
INFO: 818.894.4071
lapl.org/branches/panorama-city

CHARTING THE TERRAIN: ERIC AND PAMELA SMITH HUDSON
New and recent works by Atlanta-based artist Eric Mack and Los Angeles-based artist Pamela Smith Hudson offer nuanced, abstract perspectives on the West Coast landscape. Both artists create intricate compositions of aerial views that are reminiscent of topographic or satellite maps. Their detailed landscapes portray beaches and forests, sites that have recently endured natural and man-made devastation and rejuvenation. Honing in on their surroundings with geometrical, patterned, and grid-like or undulating forms, Mack and Smith Hudson provide new perspectives on this classical genre while reflecting on resolutions to counter environmental disasters.

WHEN: March 14 - September 9
Tuesdays - Saturdays 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Sundays 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
SITE: California African American Museum
600 State Dr., Exposition Park, Los Angeles
COST: Free
SPONSOR: California African American Museum
INFO: 213.744.7432
caamuseum.org
SHINIQUE SMITH: REFUGE

Multimedia artist Shinique Smith has employed new, used, and personal recycled clothing, fabrics, and objects-items that exist in the realm of what we call belongings-to construct sculptures, paintings, and site-specific installations. Examining the ways these objects resonate on a personal and social scale, Smith’s works operate at the convergence of consumption, displacement, and sanctuary. Refuge proposes that we all belong to each other and have the capacity to build, shelter, and strengthen the ties that hold us together as a people.

WHEN: March 14 - September 9
Tuesdays - Saturdays 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.,
Sundays 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

SITE: California African American Museum
600 State Dr., Exposition Park, Los Angeles

COST: Free

SPONSOR: California African American Museum

INFO: 213.744.7432
caamuseum.org
ARTISTS + CURATORIAL WALKTHROUGH CONDITIONS AND FORMS FOR BLCK LONGEVITY

Tour Conditions and Forms for blck Longevity with artist Adler Guerrier and guest curator Diana Nawi, and Refuge with artist Shinique Smith and deputy director Naima J. Keith prior to the start of Can’t Stop, Won’t Stop, our opening celebration.

WHEN: March 14, 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.
SITE: California African American Museum
600 State Dr., Exposition Park, Los Angeles
COST: Free
SPONSOR: California African American Museum
INFO: 213.744.7432
camuseum.org

MonaLisa Whitaker, Sedona Blossoms, Photography (hand printed color photograph), 8”x10”, 2011
CAN’T STOP, WON’T STOP! - SPRING 2018

Celebrate the opening of our spring 2018 exhibitions. The event includes DJ sets by Huneycut and Suga Shay. There will be good art, people, and food trucks.

**WHEN:** March 14, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

**SITE:** California African American Museum
600 State Dr., Exposition Park, Los Angeles

**COST:** Free

**SPONSOR:** California African American Museum

**INFO:** 213.744.7432 caamuseum.org

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**FILMS BY AXÉ BAHIA ARTISTS**

This program features short films by such artists as Caetano Dias and Ayrson Heráclito, and sheds light on the breadth of their practices beyond the works on view in the exhibition *Axé Bahia*. In *Canto Doce: Pequeno Labirinto (Sweet Song: Small Labyrinth)*, Caetano Dias records the construction of a small labyrinth made of sugar in the *Calçada* train station in Salvador, as well as the reaction of passersby discovering it. In Ayrson Heráclito’s *as mãos do Epô (The Hands of Epô)*, the camera follows a pair of hands dipping into a bowl of *dendê* (palm oil) and depicting the movements characteristic of *orixás* or deities in the *Candomblé* religion.

**WHEN:** March 14, 7:00 p.m.

**SITE:** Fowler Museum, UCLA
308 Charles E. Young Dr. N., Los Angeles

**COST:** Free

**SPONSOR:** Fowler Museum, UCLA

**INFO:** 310.825.9672 fowler.ucla.edu

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**LA HARBOR INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL (LAHIFF)**

15th annual LAHIFF, a four-day non-juried and non-competitive event reflects all the Los Angeles Harbor embraces to entertain, enlighten, and educate honoring film history, highlighting contemporary work, promoting literacy via *Read the Book, See the Movie* – to create a cinematic bridge between the people of the region and the people of the world.

**WHEN:** March 15 - 18
10:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.
Times vary, check website for details

**SITE:** Warner Grand Theatre
478 W. 6th St., San Pedro

**COST:** $10 or less, many programs are free

**SPONSOR:** Supervisor Janice Hahn, District 4; Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA), City of Los Angeles, Tri-Marine Fisheries, Tesoro Foundation, Rancho LPG, BNSF, Council District 15, Los Angeles Maritime Museum

**INFO:** 310.519.0756 laharborfilmfest.com
COALITION OF 100 BLACK WOMEN, LA CHAPTER, ENTREPRENEURIAL TEA

The tea highlights those women in the community that are entrepreneurs. Everyone in the community is invited to attend.

**WHEN:** March 17, 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

**SITE:** Chado Tea Room
1303 El Prado Ave., Torrance

**COST:** $25

**SPONSOR:** Coalition of 100 Black Women, Los Angeles Chapter

**INFO:** 310.529.4777

Adah Glenn, *Flower Mandala Doll*, Mixed Media on Wood, 9” x 12”, 2017
IN CONVERSATION: ERIC MACK AND PAMELA SMITH HUDSON

In conjunction with Charting the Terrain, artists Pamela Smith Hudson and Eric Mack discuss how their creative practices address notions of change in our built and natural environment. Moderated by Vida Brown, visual arts curator, and program manager at CAAM.

WHEN: March 18, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.
SITE: California African American Museum
600 State Dr., Exposition Park, Los Angeles
COST: Free
SPONSOR: California African American Museum
INFO: 213.744.7432
caamuseum.org

ERICKA HUGGINS - RECLAIMING OUR TIME: RADICAL SELF CARE NOW!

Sometimes self-care practice is a lifeline in trying times. That was the case for Ericka Huggins, who was drawn to meditation while in prison. In May 1969, Huggins, and Bobby Seale, both leading members of the Black Panther Party, were arrested on conspiracy to murder charges. While awaiting trial for two years before charges were eventually dropped, Huggins spent time in isolation and in solitary confinement, where she taught herself to meditate as a tool to face the death of her husband, and the separation from their daughter. Hear from Huggins how she continues to incorporate spiritual practice into her community work as a speaker, facilitator, and teacher for change.

WHEN: March 20, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.
SITE: California African American Museum
600 State Dr., Exposition Park, Los Angeles
COST: Free, RSVP required
SPONSOR: California African American Museum
INFO: 213.744.7432
caamuseum.org

LUNCHETIME ART TALK ON KARA WALKER

Lunchtime Art Talks take place every Wednesday at 12:30 p.m. The Hammer’s curatorial department leads free and insightful 15-minute discussions about works of art currently on view or from museum collections. Kara Walker’s art is included in the exhibit Unspeakable: Atlas, Kruger, Walker.

WHEN: March 21, 12:30 p.m.
SITE: Hammer Museum
10899 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Hammer Museum
INFO: 310.443.7000
hammer.ucla.edu
SCREENING: DISGRACE

Disgrace brings J. M. Coetzee’s post-apartheid novel to the screen. It tells the story of a South African university professor (John Malkovich) who moves to his daughter’s Eastern Cape farm when his affair with a student costs him his position. In conjunction with Bread, Butter, and Power, artist Meleko Mokgosi has selected films addressing colonialism, democracy, and liberation across the continent of Africa, themes that he explores through his large-scale episodic painting cycles.

WHEN: March 21, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.
SITE: Fowler Museum, UCLA
308 Charles E. Young Dr. N., Los Angeles
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Fowler Museum
INFO: 310.825.9672
fowler.ucla.edu

Lyle Everett Rushing, *Blind in 1 Eye Can’t See Out of the Other*, Mixed media - acrylic, charcoal, gesso & pastel on wood, 30” x 30”, 2017
SOCIAL JUSTICE STORYTIME
Celebrate diversity, recognize struggle, and enact change. Each month will feature stories and activities surrounding social justice issues, such as immigration, Black Lives Matter, and gender identity. Recommended for ages 4 to 8.

WHEN: March 22, 4:00 p.m.
SITE: Memorial Branch Library
4625 W. Olympic Blvd., Los Angeles
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Memorial Branch Library
INFO: 323.938.2732
lapl.org/branches/memorial

BILLY PORTER - THE SOUL OF RICHARD RODGERS
Billy Porter does not hold back. The powerhouse performer earned a 2013 Tony Award for his performance as the drag queen Lola in Kinky Boots. The busy actor, composer, and director has also put out four solo albums. The most recent, Billy Porter Presents: The Soul of Richard Rodgers, features Porter’s fresh take on the composer’s classics, from My Funny Valentine to Edelweiss.

WHEN: March 23, 8:00 p.m.
SITE: CSUN Valley Performing Arts Center
18111 Nordhoff St., Northridge
COST: $38 - $98
SPONSOR: CSUN Valley Performing Arts Center
INFO: 818.677.8800
valleyperformingartscenter.org

RACE/D: A JOURNAL FOR YOU
In conjunction with Gary Simmons: Fade to Black, a diverse group of emerging and established artists of color will participate in a program devoted to images, texts, and films about cultural erasure and displacement from the new online publication, RACE/d: A Journal for You. The evening will include a screening of two short films by Theresa Hak Kyung Cha, whose work inspired the journal, readings, and discussions with contributors Angel Dominguez, Phung Huynh, Tiffany Lin, Ari Laurel, Paul Pescador, Marton Robinson, and Karen Tei Yamashita.

WHEN: March 24, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.
SITE: California African American Museum
600 State Dr., Exposition Park, Los Angeles
COST: Free
SPONSOR: California African American Museum and USC Roski School of Art and Design, MA Curatorial Practices, and the Public Sphere
INFO: 213.744.7432
caamuseum.org
The Organization of Black Screenwriters (OBS), created to address the lack of black representation, assists writers in creating screenplays/scripts for film and television helping them present their work to the industry. Learn more about OBS and enjoy a performance of scenes written by several promising screenwriters.

**When:** March 24, 2:00 p.m.

**Site:** John C. Fremont Branch Library
6121 Melrose Ave., Los Angeles

**Cost:** Free

**Sponsor:** John C. Fremont Branch Library

**Info:** 323.962.3521
lapl.org/branches/john-c-fremont
CONVERSATIONS BY ARTISTS FOR ARTISTS

Charlene M. Green and Scot Brown continue this series conceived by artist Lisa Soto, originally hosted at Soto Studio in Inglewood. The event brings together creative contemporaries from many artistic genres, including visual, performing, and multidisciplinary practices. Two artists working in different mediums and with distinctly different approaches interview one another and then broaden their conversation to an audience of their peers. Come for a stimulating, nurturing, and supportive environment where creatives can get to know one another and talk shop. A reception with homemade Caribbean food follows.

WHEN: March 25, 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.
SITE: California African American Museum
600 State Dr., Exposition Park, Los Angeles
COST: Free
Limited capacity, RSVP required
SPONSOR: California African American Museum
INFO: 213.744.7432
camuseum.org

FILM SCREENING - LOVING

The story of Richard and Mildred Loving, an interracial couple, whose challenge of their anti-miscegenation arrest for their marriage in Virginia led to a legal battle that would end at the US Supreme Court.

WHEN: March 27, 3:00 p.m.
SITE: Panorama City Branch Library
14345 Roscoe Blvd., Panorama City
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Panorama City Branch Library
INFO: 818.894.4071
lapl.org/branches/panorama-city

LOS ANGELES WOMEN’S THEATRE - AWARDS CEREMONY

The 25th Anniversary Festival celebrates women in performing arts. An awards ceremony will be held in honor of exceptional women who have made contributions in theatre. There will be performances in addition to the awards presentations, including entertainment by Juli Kim, who will perform her dance/performance art piece *The Journey*.

WHEN: March 29, 6:30 p.m.
SITE: Barnsdall Gallery Theatre
4800 Hollywood Blvd., Los Angeles
COST: $50
SPONSOR: Los Angeles Women’s Theatre Festival
INFO: lawtf.org
LOS ANGELES WOMEN’S THEATRE FESTIVAL

LAWTF has produced over 500 multicultural and multidisciplinary solo performers from around the globe. Through theatre, dance, storytelling, and music the festival explores themes of love, sex and #MeToo.

WHEN: March 30 - April 1
Times vary, check website for details

SITE: Electric Lodge in Venice
1416 Electric Ave., Venice

COST: $25 - $30

SPONSOR: Los Angeles Women’s Theatre Festival

INFO lawtf.org

COLLECTIVE ACTION: ARTISTS FOR HOUSING AND HOMELESS RIGHTS

Taking Adler Guerrier’s exhibition as a starting point, Collective Action investigates the housing and homelessness crisis in Los Angeles and San Francisco, while focusing on the role the arts can play in shifting policy and public discourse. This program features a walkthrough of Adler Guerrier: Conditions and Forms for black Longevity; a workshop led by Terra Graziani of the Anti-Eviction Mapping Project from San Francisco; then a workshop led by John Malpede and Henriëtte Brouwers from the Los Angeles Poverty Department.

WHEN: March 31, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

SITE: California African American Museum
600 State Dr., Exposition Park, Los Angeles

COST: Free

SPONSOR: California African American Museum and USC Roski School of Art and Design, MA Curatorial Practices, and the Public Sphere.

INFO 213.744.7432 caamuseum.org
RECOMMENDED READING

In celebration of African American Heritage Month, we present the following reading selections for elementary, middle, and high school readers.

**Bibliography compiled by:** Gabriel Cifarelli  
City of Los Angeles  
Department of Cultural Affairs

**MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR // EARLY READERS**

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY, DR. KING!**

Written by Kathryn Jones  
Illustrated by Floyd Cooper  
Publisher: Simon & Schuster

After getting in trouble at school for fighting with another boy because he wanted to sit in the back of the bus, fourth-grader Jamal gets in trouble again at home when his Grandpa Joe learns about the scuffle. Grandpa Joe explains the story of Rosa Parks and the Montgomery bus boycott to help Jamal understand the history associated with sitting in the back of the bus. Jamal is so impressed with the story that he leads his class in a skit about the historic incident, which they stage in celebration of Martin Luther King Jr.’s birthday.

**MY DREAM OF MARTIN LUTHER KING**

Written and Illustrated by Faith Ringgold  
Publisher: Dragonfly Books

The author tells the story of Martin Luther King, Jr. from the perspective of her own childhood dream. As her dream opens, she sees a world of people carrying bags full of prejudice, hate, ignorance, violence, and fear, and exchanges them for bags of hope, freedom, peace, awareness, and love. Her dreams reflect real and imagined glimpses of the life of Martin Luther King, Jr. to tell the story of his vision and civil rights leadership. By visualizing the story as the author tells it, young readers will be able to understand Dr. King’s mission.

Valerie Ayres Wallick, *Little Reader*, Digital photography, 8” x 10”, 2017
FREE AT LAST: THE STORY OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
Written by Angela Bull
Publisher: DK Children

Free at Last! is a biography of slain civil rights leader Martin Luther King, Jr., who encouraged nonviolent protest to fulfill his dream of an America where people would be judged by the content of their character, not by the color of their skin.

WHO WAS MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.?
Written by Bonnie Bade
Illustrated by Elizabeth Wolf
Publisher: Penguin Workshop

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was only 25 when he helped organize the Montgomery Bus Boycott and was soon organizing black people across the country in support of the right to vote, desegregation, and other basic civil rights. Maintaining nonviolent and peaceful tactics even when his life was threatened, King was also an advocate for the poor and spoke out against racial and economic injustice. Who Was? celebrates the vision and the legacy of a remarkable man.

MARTIN LUTHER KING
Written by Rosemary L. Bray
Illustrated by Malcah Zeldis
Publisher: William Morrow

The life and works of Martin Luther King, Jr. are captured in oversized pages of text and bright folk art in this exceptional book. The text begins by covering Martin’s early life, when his childhood experiences began to shape his sensibilities. The major events of Martin’s life are touched upon, including the day he became aware of and embraced Gandhi’s philosophy of nonviolent protest, and his marriage to Coretta Scott. Every significant civil rights event during Martin’s adult life is detailed, framing a young reader’s understanding of the era and of King’s leadership role.
A TESTAMENT OF HOPE: THE ESSENTIAL WRITINGS AND SPEECHES OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Written by Martin Luther King, Jr.
Edited by James Melvin Washington
Publisher: Harper San Francisco

An exhaustive collection of the speeches, writings, and interviews with the Nobel Prize-winning activist, this book contains Martin Luther King, Jr.’s essential thoughts on nonviolence, social policy, integration, black nationalism, the ethics of love, hope, and more.

A TIME TO BREAK SILENCE: THE ESSENTIAL WORKS OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., FOR STUDENTS

Written by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Introduction by Walter Dean Myers
Publisher: Beacon Press

The first collection of King’s essential writings for high school students and young people. A Time to Break Silence presents Martin Luther King, Jr.’s most important writings and speeches—carefully selected by teachers across a variety of disciplines—in an accessible volume. Arranged thematically, the collection includes nineteen selections and is introduced by award-winning author Walter Dean Myers. Included are some of Dr. King’s most well-known and frequently taught classic works, including “Letter from Birmingham Jail” and “I Have a Dream,” as well as lesser-known pieces such as “The Sword that Heals” and “What Is Your Life’s Blueprint?” that speak to issues young people face today.
CIVIL RIGHTS + SLAVERY // EARLY READERS

I AM HARRIET TUBMAN

Written by Brad Meltzer
Illustrated by Christopher Eliopoulos
Publisher: Dial Books

This friendly, fun biography focuses on the traits that makes our heroes great—the traits that kids can aspire to in order to live heroically themselves. The book focuses on Harriet Tubman’s brave heroism as part of the movement to abolish slavery. As one of the key players in the Underground Railroad, she helped enslaved African Americans escape and find freedom.
A BAND OF ANGELS: A STORY INSPIRED BY THE JUBILEE SINGERS
Written by Deborah Hopkinson
Illustrated by Raúl Colón
Publisher: Atheneum, Simon & Schuster

This is the inspirational story of nine young people who in 1871 brought the Fisk School (later to become Fisk University) back from the brink of financial failure. Ella Sheppard, born into slavery in 1851, travels to Nashville after the emancipation to pursue her dream of attending Fisk. While there, she joins the choir. The group takes their show on the road, singing white songs to white audiences to try to earn money for the struggling school. Just when it seems that the school is going to fail, Ella decides to change the program leading her peers in rousing black spirituals from their slave heritage. The audiences are so moved by the soulful sounds that word spreads and the group, who become known as the Jubilee Singers, becomes an international sensation, saving the school from bankruptcy.

FREEDOM ON THE MENU: THE GREENSBORO SIT-INS
Written by Carole Boston Weatherford
Illustrated by Jerome Lagarrigue
Publisher: Puffin Books

There were signs all throughout town telling eight-year-old Connie where she could and could not go. But when Connie sees four young men take a stand for equal rights at a Woolworth’s lunch counter in Greensboro, North Carolina, she realizes that things may soon change. This event sparks a movement throughout her town and region. And while Connie is too young to march or give a speech, she helps her brother and sister make signs for the cause. Changes are coming to Connie’s town, but Connie just wants to sit at the lunch counter and eat a banana split like everyone else.

IF A BUS COULD TALK: THE STORY OF ROSA PARKS
Written and Illustrated by Faith Ringgold
Publisher: Houghton Mifflin

In an imaginative biographical story, young Marcie boards a bus and experiences an eerie event. The bus has no driver, but it is full of riders who are celebrating Rosa Park’s birthday. The riders tell Marcie the story of Rosa’s life from childhood through the events that followed her courageous refusal to give up her seat on this very same bus. Marcie’s enlightening bus ride climaxes when she actually meets Mrs. Parks, leaving her with a full understanding of why Rosa Parks is known as the mother of the civil rights movement.
**TO BE A DRUM**

Written by Evelyn Coleman
Illustrated by Aminah Brenda Lynn Robinson
Publisher: Albert Whitman

Young Matt and Martha’s daddy tells them about their African ancestors who were so in tune with the earth that they captured its beat and translated it through their bodies onto their drums. When they were torn from their land and brought into slavery, their drums were taken away. But the people never lost their beat. Richly textured mixed-media paintings embellish the thought-provoking message.

**LET’S CLAP, JUMP, SING & SHOUT; DANCE, SPIN & TURN IT OUT!: GAMES, SONGS, AND STORIES FROM AN AFRICAN AMERICAN CHILDHOOD**

Written by Patricia C. McKissack
Illustrated by Brian Pinkney
Publisher: Schwartz & Wade

From Newbery Honor winner Patricia C. McKissack and two-time Caldecott Honor winner Brian Pinkney comes an extraordinary must-have collection of classic playtime favorites. This very special book is sure to become a treasured keepsake and will inspire joy in all who read it. Parents and grandparents will delight in sharing this exuberant book with the children in their lives. Here is a songbook, a storybook, a poetry collection, and much more, all rolled into one. Find a partner for hand claps such as “Eenie, Meenie, Sassafrsney,” or form a circle for games like “Little Sally Walker.” Gather as a family to sing well-loved songs like “Amazing Grace” and “Oh, Freedom,” or to read aloud the poetry of such African American luminaries as Langston Hughes, James Weldon Johnson, and Paul Laurence Dunbar. And snuggle down to enjoy classic stories retold by the author, including Aesop’s Fables and tales featuring Br’er Rabbit and Anansi the Spider.
CIVIL RIGHTS + SLAVERY // MIDDLE READERS

DRED SCOTT: A FICTIONAL SLAVE NARRATIVE BASED ON THE LIFE AND LEGAL PRECEDENT OF DRED SCOTT

Written by Shelia P. Moses
Illustrated by Bonnie Christensen
Publisher: Margaret K. McElderry Books

Born into slavery in Virginia in the late 1700s, Dred Scott had little to look forward to in life. In 1846, Dred Scott and his wife, Harriett took the dangerous and courageous step to sue for their freedom, entering into legal battles that would last for eleven years. During this time Dred Scott would need all the help and support he could get—from folks in the community all the way back to the people with whom he had been raised. With a foreword by Dred Scott’s great-grandson this story chronicles Dred Scott’s experiences as a slave, as a plaintiff in one of the most important legal cases in American history. His is a life that should be known by—and should inspire—all Americans.
**LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING**  
Written by James Weldon Johnson  
Illustrated by Elizabeth Catlett  
Publisher: Walker Books for Young Readers  

Written by civil rights leader and poet James Weldon Johnson in 1899, “Lift Ev’ry Voice and Sing” is sung in schools and churches throughout America. The popular, timeless song is recognized as a testimonial to the struggle and achievements of African American people—past, present, and future.

**MANY THOUSANDS GONE: AFRICAN AMERICANS FROM SLAVERY TO FREEDOM**  
Written by Virginia Hamilton  
Illustrated by Leo and Diane Dillon  
Publisher: Knopf, Random House  

Thirty-four brief, true stories about slavery are powerfully told. Each story relates a small piece of the historical truth about slavery. This book would make a fine classroom text or can be shared with your child to raise his or her awareness of what has gone before.

**NEXT STOP FREEDOM: THE STORY OF A SLAVE GIRL**  
Written by Dorothy and Thomas Hoobler & Carey-Greenberg Associates  
Illustrated by Cheryl Hanna  
Publisher: Silver Burdett, Simon & Schuster  

Young Emily, a slave, dreams of freedom as she learns to read and write. Emily has heard about the Moses who led slaves to freedom. One night, Moses does come to escort her and others to freedom on the Underground Railroad. After a long and suspenseful trip, with slave catchers on their heels, the group is hidden by a Quaker family and then sent on to freedom in Pennsylvania.

**OH, FREEDOM!: KIDS TALK ABOUT THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT WITH THE PEOPLE WHO MADE IT HAPPEN**  
Written by Casey King and Linda Barrett Osborne  
Illustrated by Joe Brooks  
Publisher: Knopf, Random House  

Kids conduct thirty-one interviews with adult friends, family members, and civil rights activists to learn firsthand about the days of the 1960s civil rights movement. Informative chapters thoroughly explore the Jim Crow era, non-violence, black power, and segregation. Three essays, and an important foreword by Rosa Parks, provide background information on various aspects of the era to help add perspective to the interviews.
THE YEAR THEY WALKED: ROSA PARKS AND THE MONTGOMERY BUS BOYCOTT

Written by Beatrice Siegel
Publisher: Four Winds, Simon & Schuster

Rosa Parks’ heroic act of nonviolent resistance, when she refused to give up her seat to a white rider on a bus, sparked the most widely watched civil rights demonstration in the history of the United States. A highly accessible, non-fiction account of the Montgomery bus boycott, this book describes in complete detail the call from black civic leaders to the African American community to unite for the boycott, and the strategies that the community used to hold their position for over a year, until they prevailed.
CIVIL RIGHTS + SLAVERY // HIGH SCHOOL READERS

THE BONDWOMAN’S NARRATIVE
Written by Hannah Crafts; Edited by Henry Louis Gates, Jr.
Publisher: Warner Books

This novel was discovered some years ago, by distinguished Harvard professor Henry Louis Gates, Jr. in an auction catalog. Gates realized that the novel, if genuine, would be the first novel known to have been written by a black woman in America, as well as the only one by a fugitive slave. He bought the manuscript (there was no competing bid) and began the exhilarating task of confirming the racial identity of the author and the approximate date of composition (circa 1855-59). Gates describes this detective work in the introduction to The Bondwoman’s Narrative. He also proposes a couple of candidates for authorship, assuming that Hannah Crafts was the real or assumed name of the author, and not solely a pen name. If Gates is right (his introduction and appendix should convince just about everyone), The Bondwoman’s Narrative is a tremendous discovery, and is well worth reading on literary and historical grounds. As Gates argues, these pages provide our first “unedited, unaffected, unglossed, unaided” glimpse into the mind of a fugitive slave.

INVISIBLE MAN
Written by Ralph Ellison
Publisher: Random House

Invisible Man is a nightmarish novel of a man trying to comprehend the confusion of myth, experience, and inner reactions that control his life. The nameless narrator describes growing up in a black community in the South, attending a Negro college from which he is expelled, moving to New York and becoming the chief spokesman of the Harlem branch of “the Brotherhood,” and retreating amid violence and confusion to his basement lair.

NARRATIVE OF THE LIFE OF FREDERICK DOUGLASS, AN AMERICAN SLAVE: WRITTEN BY HIMSELF
Written by Frederick Douglass
Publisher: Yale University Press

Frederick Douglass was born a slave on a Maryland plantation, but learned to read. Mistreated because he knew too much, he finally escaped from slavery and gained fame as an orator. Published in 1845, just seven years after his escape from slavery, this book provides students with an accessible introduction to the work of Frederick Douglass, as well a vivid first-hand account of life as a slave. Students interested in pursuing the subject are encouraged to read his later autobiography, The Life and Times of Frederick Douglass, published in 1881.
LIFE + CULTURE // EARLY READERS

THE WATER PRINCESS
Written by Susan Verde and Georgie Badiel
Illustrator: Peter H. Reynolds
Publisher: G. P. Putnam’s Sons Books for Young Readers

“I am Princess Gie Gie. My Kingdom? The African sky. The dusty earth. And, someday, the flowing, cool, crystal-clear water. Someday...”

Inspired by the childhood of African-born model Georgie Badiel, who grew up in Burkina Faso. Georgie and the other girls in her village had to walk for miles each day to collect water. This vibrant, engaging picture book sheds light on this struggle that continues all over the world today, instilling hope for a future when all children will have access to clean drinking water.

THE BAT BOY AND HIS VIOLIN
Written by Gavin Curtis
Illustrated by E. B. Lewis
Publisher: Simon and Schuster

Young Reginald is a consummate musician who would rather play his violin than do anything else, much to his father’s chagrin. His father, who manages the Dukes, a losing team in the Negro National Baseball League, decides to recruit Reginald as a bat boy for the team.

Reginald is a disaster as a bat boy, but the team finds his violin music inspirational. As Reginald plays the music of Mozart, Beethoven, and Bach in the dugout during the games, the team begins to perform to new heights. Finally, the Dukes are in the position to win a pennant against the hottest team in the league. Win or lose, Reginald has made a difference, earning the respect of the team and the gratitude of his father.
NATIVE SON
Written by Richard Wright
Publisher: Harper Perennial

Native Son deals with the problems an African American has attaining manhood in a society that conspires against him. The story begins by showing the difficulty of achieving normal human relations in the squalor of a Chicago slum. Bigger Thomas has what appears to be amazing luck when he gets a job as a chauffeur with a wealthy family. However, in fear and confusion, he accidentally kills the daughter. He tries to escape, but is caught and tried for murder. The events seem to be a long nightmare over which Bigger himself has little or no control.

UP FROM SLAVERY
Written by Booker T. Washington
Publisher: Doubleday

Born in 1856, this autobiography describes Washington’s struggles, after the emancipation, to gain an education and found Tuskegee Institute. This addition also includes selections from other slave narratives.
EXPLORE BLACK HISTORY WITH WEE PALS

Written and Illustrated by Morrie Turner
Publisher: Just Us

The Wee Pals, comic-strip characters who first appeared in *Ebony* and *Black World* magazines in 1964, are the vehicle for delivering a dose of African American history to young readers. The accomplishments of over seventy prominent African Americans from all walks of life, including Angela Davis, Jesse Jackson, Thurgood Marshall, and James Farmer, are discussed by the Wee Pals in a series of short comic strips. The format and brevity of each vignette are sure to attract young readers.

I LOVE MY HAIR!

Written by Natashia Anastasia Tarpley
Illustrated by E. B. Lewis
Publisher: Little, Brown

Young Keyana is totally satisfied with her head of thick, soft hair. Even as she endures the sometimes painful combing and brushing process, she understands that her hair is special. It can be woven, braided, or beaded into beautiful styles that she loves, which fills her with pride.

READ FOR ME, MAMA

Written by Vashanti Rahaman
Illustrated by Lori McElrath-Eslick
Publisher: Boyds Mills

This sensitive story about a hard-working single mother and her loving son will touch young readers. Joseph loves to read and checks two books out of the library – one that can read by himself and another, more difficult one for his Mama to read to him. But every day Mama has a reason to avoid reading. On Mondays there was grocery shopping to do; on Tuesday, housecleaning; on Wednesday...

SOMETHING BEAUTIFUL

Written by Sharon Dennis Wyeth
Illustrated by Chris K. Soentpriet
Publisher: Doubleday

A young girl searches for something beautiful in her inner-city neighborhood, surrounded by graffiti, homelessness, broken glass, and trash. Through her neighbors she begins to recognize the small things in life that are beautiful such as good meals, friends, a small neighborhood garden, and the special love of her mother. Her mother has no trouble seeing the beauty in her own child, whose beaming face is seen on the book’s cover.
A young boy named Ashraf lives in Africa, but not the Africa that might come to mind when young readers think about that continent. Ashraf’s home is a big city teeming with skyscrapers, bustling with cars, and alive with the energy of any large metropolitan area. Ashraf’s only view of the wilder side of Africa comes from books, whose pictures of lions, zebras, and crocodiles fascinate him. A young reader’s vision of Africa will broaden with the new knowledge that Africa has more than jungles and wild animals.
LIFE + CULTURE // MIDDLE READERS

BOOK OF BLACK HEROES: POLITICAL LEADERS PAST & PRESENT
Written by Gil Robertson
Publisher: Just Us Books

A wide range of black political leaders from reconstruction through the 2016 elections are introduced via a collection of biographies. The book introduces Municipal Leaders, State Leaders, U.S. Representatives, U.S. Senators, Governors, and the President. Also featured are inspirational quotes from some of the most impactful political icons of the 20th century, a timeline of African Americans in politics and a list of important political terms.

HIDDEN FIGURES YOUNG READERS’ EDITION
Written by Margot Lee Shetterly
Publisher: HarperCollins

An uplifting, amazing true story—a New York Times bestseller. This edition of Hidden Figures is perfect for younger readers. It is the powerful story of four African American female mathematicians at NASA who helped achieve some of the greatest moments in our space program. Before John Glenn orbited the earth, or Neil Armstrong walked on the moon, a group of dedicated female mathematicians known as “human computers” used pencils, slide rules, and adding machines to calculate the numbers that would launch rockets, and astronauts, into space. This book brings to life the stories of Dorothy Vaughan, Mary Jackson, Katherine Johnson, and Christine Darden, who lived through the Civil Rights era, the Space Race, the Cold War, and the movement for gender equality, and whose work forever changed the face of NASA and the country.

COMING TOGETHER: CELEBRATIONS FOR AFRICAN AMERICAN FAMILIES
Written by Harriette Cole
Illustrated by John Pinderhughes
Publisher: Jump At The Sun

African American families are dynamic and powerful. Celebrations play an important part in the fabric of the family. Coming Together is devoted to several of the very special occasions that many African American families honor. Filled with creative ideas for involving the entire family—from young children to grandparents and great-grandparents—this rich book provides everything you need to transform time together into compelling and memorable occasions. Coming Together is brimming with sample menus, easy-to-follow recipes, crafts, activities, and unique ideas to bring the value of these celebrations to life.
THE EDUCATION OF MARY: A LITTLE MISS OF COLOR, 1832

Written by Ann Rinaldi
Publisher: Jump At The Sun

In 1832, Prudence Crandall, a Quaker educator in Connecticut, closed her Canterbury Female Seminary and reopened it as a school for young black women. This novel revolves around the formation of that school and the storm of controversy it created in town. Many historical forces come into play here: the abolitionist movement, endemic prejudice against free blacks, and the brutality of the early factory system.

HER STORIES: AFRICAN AMERICAN FOLKTALES, FAIRY TALES, AND TRUE TALES

Written by Virginia Hamilton
Illustrated by Leo and Diane Dillon
Publisher: Scholastic

Nineteen stories are expertly told about black female folk and fairy characters. This enticing work is dedicated to mothers, grandmothers, and aunts, who have often been the bearers of such stories from generation to generation. Each story is exquisitely illustrated and is punctuated with a short commentary that adds insight into the nature and origin of the tale. Mature children, especially your daughters, will love this immediate classic. (Nonstandard English)
THE MIDDLE OF SOMEWHERE: A STORY OF SOUTH AFRICA
Written By Shiela Gordon
Publisher: Orchard, Grolier
Young Rebecca, who lives in a black township in South Africa, is afraid of being forced out of her home. The government wants to relocate her family and neighbors to a less developed area in order to accommodate expansion for white suburbanites. The villagers protest the attempts to move them, and Rebecca’s father is arrested after a community-wide demonstration. The evils of apartheid come through strongly in this novel of a family’s determination to stay together.

REFLECTIONS OF A BLACK COWBOY:
THE BUFFALO SOLDIERS
Written by Robert Miller
Illustrated by Richard Leonard
Publisher: Silver Burdett, Simon & Schuster
The stories of the African American Buffalo Soldiers, who served in the Ninth and Tenth Cavalries in the nineteenth century, are colorfully told in this entertaining book narrated by Old Cowboy. The Buffalo Soldiers played an important role in opening up the western frontier, yet their stories are not well known. In this book of five short stories, several of these brave soldiers are acknowledged for their historic achievements and battles. The Reflections of a Black Cowboy series also includes a volume on pioneers, as well as one on cowboys and one on mountain men.

STORYTELLER’S BEADS
Written by Jane Kurts
Publisher: Gulliver, Harcourt Brace
Two girls, Sahay and Rachel, are bonded together during their brave journey from their Ethiopian homeland to the Sudan, where they hope to find peace and food. The story takes place during the Ethiopian famine of the 1980s, a time when millions were dying of starvation and internal warfare. The two girls—one Jewish, one Christian—ultimately find that they have more in common than not, once they overlook their different ethnic upbringings and customs, superstitions, and traditions of two distinctly different Ethiopian groups. This book will appeal to young readers of historical fiction.
The Color Purple

Written by Alice Walker
Publisher: Harcourt Brace Jovanovich

Celie is a poor black woman whose letters tell the story of 20 years of her life, beginning at age 14 when she is being abused and raped by her father and attempting to protect her sister from the same fate, and continuing over the course of her marriage to “Mister,” a brutal man who terrorizes her. Celie eventually learns that her abusive husband has been keeping her sister’s letters from her and the rage she feels, combined with an example of love and independence provided by her close friend Shug, pushes her finally toward an awakening of her creative and loving self.
THEIR EYES WERE WATCHING GOD

Written by Zora Neale Hurston
Publisher: University of Illinois Press

Fair and long-legged, independent and articulate, Janie Crawford sets out to be her own person – no mean feat for a black woman in the 1930s. Janie’s quest for identity takes her through three marriages and into a journey back to her roots.

SONG OF SOLOMON

Written by Toni Morrison
Publisher: Knopf

Song of Solomon explores the quest for cultural identity through an African American folktale about enslaved Africans who escape slavery by fleeing back to Africa. The novel tells the story of Macon “Milkman” Dead, a young man alienated from himself and estranged from his family, his community, and his historical and cultural roots. Author Toni Morrison, long renowned for her detailed imagery, visual language, and “righting” of black history, guides the protagonist along a 30-year journey that enables him to reconnect with his past and realize his self-worth.
YELLOW BACK RADIO BROKE-DOWN
Written by Ishmael Reed
Publisher: Avon

Ishmael Reed has put together a collage of American pop culture, ancient Egyptian mythology, and voodoo ideals which becomes, in the reader’s mind, either an incomprehensible mess or hilarious satire. *Yellow Back Radio Broke-Down* is a novel about a black, voodoo cowboy, Loop Garoo, and his exciting adventures. It is a satire on the Western, and the American values that made the Western popular.

EDDIE GREEN: THE RISE OF AN EARLY 1900S BLACK AMERICAN ENTERTAINMENT PIONEER
Written by Elva Diane Green
Publisher: Bear Manor Media

Eddie Green was a pioneering Black filmmaker, movie star, Old Time Radio icon, and composer. In an era when Black entertainers struggled to gain a foothold in show business, he rivaled Oscar Micheaux for honors as a pioneering filmmaker. From poverty to prominence, he accomplished more than most people could dream. Discover Eddie’s rags-to-riches story as told by his daughter. The book received the Foreword INDIES 2016 Bronze Book Award winner.

THE STARS BENEATH OUR FEET
Written by David Barclay Moore
Publisher: Knopf Books for Young Readers

It’s Christmas Eve in Harlem, but twelve-year-old Lolly Rachpaul and his mom aren’t celebrating. They’re still reeling from his older brother’s death in a gang-related shooting just a few months earlier. His path forward isn’t clear—and the pressure to join a “crew,” as his brother did, is always there. When Lolly and his friend are beaten up and robbed, joining a crew almost seems like the safe choice. But building a fantastical project at the community center provides Lolly with an escape—and an unexpected bridge back to the world. A Publisher’s Weekly Best Book of the Year in 2017.
The true story of Phiona Mutesi—a teenage chess prodigy from the slums of Uganda. One day while searching for food, nine-year-old Phiona followed her brother to a dusty veranda where she met Robert Katende. Katende had an improbable dream: to empower kids in the Katwe slum through chess—a game so foreign there is no word for it in their native language. By the age of eleven Phiona is her country’s junior champion, and at fifteen, the national champion. Now a Woman Candidate Master—the first female titled player in her country’s history—Phiona dreams of becoming a Grandmaster, the most elite level in chess. But to reach that goal, she must grapple with everyday life in one of the world’s most unstable countries.

Sources

Amazon.com
Lezley Saar, Celestial Bridge, Monad Series, Acrylic on fabric, 20" x 16", 2014
Both: Linda Ternoir, At left: Adele et Jean-Leon, Ink drawing, 15.5" x 12.5", 2016, At right: Kites, Ink drawing, 15" x 11", 2016
Both: Linda Ternoir

At left: Adele et Jean-Leon, Ink drawing, 15.5" x 12.5", 2016

At right: Kites, Ink drawing, 15" x 11", 2016
The Department of Cultural Affairs is pleased to present the works of these fine writers in the 2018 African American Heritage Month Calendar and Cultural Guide: Cherise Charleswell, Malik Shakur, Phylise Smith, and Valerie Ayers Wallick.
African American cowboys and cowgirls?
I am used to hearing that question asked with so much disbelief
And I follow up with a referral to the Autry Museum of the American West
Where one would find many images of African American cowboys and cowgirls
Along with the images of indigenous American warriors and chiefs
But there is far more to the story of Blacks in the American West

Our City of Angels
Officially and internationally known as Los Angeles
In 1781 it was established
With 26 out of the 46 original settlers being of African descent
And by 1793 - a mulatto man named Juan Francisco Reyes
Became the first mayor of Los Angeles
Share this history, and many remain astonished
Their grade school textbooks never taught them any of this

Thus, when it comes to California and Los Angeles
African Americans can join our indigenous sisters and brothers and state
That we were “here before”
This land became the United States
Before the United States realized that we were whole human beings
Not three-fifths
Before the California Gold Rush
Before Biddy Mason walked 1,700 miles behind a caravan
And before she testified in court in order to win her freedom
Before she became a nurse, businesswoman, and philanthropist
And one of the first African Americans in Los Angeles to purchase land
Before Jim Crow
Before rail lines separated our communities
From other parts of the City
Before being confined to Bruce’s Beach in Manhattan Beach
Or the Inkwell - Santa Monica’s Bay Street Beach

Long before we created a community filled with the sounds of rhythm and blues
And jazz too
Along Central Avenue
The African American experience
African American history
Is integral to the City of Los Angeles
We helped to create the American West

African Americans may now make up 9% of the city’s population
Displaced, and following reverse migration patterns
African Americans numbers in this great city continue to dwindle
But long before this land belonged to the United States of America
People of African descent made their contributions
Pio Pico, a man of African descent, for which Pico boulevard is named for
Was the last governor of California when it was still ruled by Mexico
Only to be followed in 1831 by Emanuel Victoria
Who took oath on January 31, 1831 as California’s “Black Governor”
In a dark place
moments tick by as
I fight back the
tears holding off
memories of her
death that have fallen
to the wayside
for most but lingers
in the pit of my
soul refilling the
distance I've put
between me and it
masculinity won't
allow me to share
this heartache but
the stillness of
grief sits reminding
me of the hurt pain
and its emptiness
Unafraid of my hair, they gaze
at its night like they see stars.

Unafraid of my hair, they comb
as if their hands share my hair’s tongue.

Unafraid of my hair, they caress
it like they stroke new-born babies.

Unafraid of my hair, they shape
its tendrils and bangs into history.

They braid my hair.
Centuries of great-grandmothers, aunts, age-mates
leap into my thirsty scalp.
RED DRESS

BY VALERIE AYRES WALLICK

volunteer collards
stems thicker
leaves bigger ... tastier
dressed
in a ham hock pot liquor
richly seasoned
like a fiery dry rub on a slab of ribs
humming ...
curves sing
in her red dress.
ABOUT THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS

As a leading, progressive arts and cultural agency, DCA empowers Los Angeles’s vibrant communities by supporting and providing access to quality visual, literary, musical, performing, and educational arts programming; managing vital cultural centers; preserving historic sites; creating public art; and funding services provided by arts organizations and individual artists.

Formed in 1925, DCA promotes arts and culture as a way to ignite a powerful dialogue, engage LA’s residents and visitors, and ensure LA’s varied cultures are recognized, acknowledged, and experienced. DCA’s mission is to strengthen the quality of life in Los Angeles by stimulating and supporting arts and cultural activities, ensuring public access to the arts for residents and visitors alike.

DCA advances the social and economic impact of arts and culture through grantmaking, public art, community arts, performing arts, and strategic marketing and development. DCA creates and supports arts programming, maximizing relationships with other city agencies, artists, and arts and cultural nonprofit organizations to provide excellent service in neighborhoods throughout Los Angeles.

For more information, please visit culturela.org or follow us on Facebook at facebook.com/culturela, Instagram @culture_la, and Twitter @culture_la.
DCA FACILITIES (36 TOTAL):

- DCA manages and programs 22 Neighborhood Arts and Cultural Centers including: 9 Arts and Cultural Centers, 4 Performing Arts Theaters, 2 Historic Sites, and 7 Galleries.
- DCA oversees an additional 11 Public/Private Partnership Arts Facilities.
- DCA also manages 3 Prop K facilities in development.

DCA NEIGHBORHOOD FACILITIES

DCA’s neighborhood facilities offer high-quality instruction for young people and adults in the performing, visual, and new media arts. The Arts and Cultural Centers offer after-school and summer arts programs, produce solo and group art exhibitions, create outreach programs for under-served populations, and produce a variety of festivals during the year that celebrate the cultural diversity of the community.

DCA MANAGED ARTS AND CULTURAL CENTERS (9)

BARNSDALL ARTS CENTER AND BARNSDALL JUNIOR ARTS CENTER
Barnsdall Park
4800 Hollywood Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90027
323.644.6295 - Barnsdall Arts Center
323.644.6275 - Barnsdall Junior Arts Center

CANOGA PARK YOUTH ARTS CENTER
7222 Remmet Avenue
Canoga Park, CA 91303
818.346.7099

LINCOLN HEIGHTS YOUTH ARTS CENTER
2911 Altura Street
Los Angeles, CA 90031
323.224.0928

MANCHESTER YOUTH ARTS CENTER
(AT THE VISION THEATRE)
3341 West 43rd Place
Los Angeles, CA 90008
213.202.5508

SUN VALLEY YOUTH ARTS CENTER
( THE STONE HOUSE)
8642 Sunland Boulevard
Sun Valley, CA 91352
818.252.4619

WATTS TOWERS ARTS CENTER AND CHARLES MINGUS YOUTH ARTS CENTER
1727 East 107th Street
Los Angeles, CA 90002
213.847.4646 - Watts Towers Arts Center
323.566.1410 - Charles Mingus Youth Arts Center

WILLIAM GRANT STILL ARTS CENTER
2520 South West View Street
Los Angeles, CA 90016
323.734.1165
DCA MANAGED PERFORMING ARTS THEATERS (4)

Through its professional theater facilities, DCA serves the performing and media arts community by offering below-market theater rentals. In turn, the arts community presents year-round dance, music, theater, literary, and multi-disciplinary performances; supports the development of emerging and established Los Angeles-based performing and media artists; and offers workshops for playwrights and writers of all ages.

**BARNSDALL GALLERY THEATRE**
Barnsdall Park
4800 Hollywood Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90027
323.644.6272

**MADRID THEATRE**
21622 Sherman Way
Canoga Park, CA 91303
818.347.9938

**VISION THEATRE**
3341 West 43rd Place
Los Angeles, CA 90008
213.202.5508

**WARNER GRAND THEATRE**
478 West 6th Street
San Pedro, CA 90731
310.548.7672

Adah Glenn, *Rainbow Rayvision*, Acrylic, marker, and spray paint on canvas, 8" x 8", 2017
Garland Kirkpatrick, One Down: Fix the 115th House, Ink and digital collage, 16” x 20”, 2017
DCA MANAGED HISTORIC SITES (2)

DCA provides conservation services and educational programming and tours for two of LA’s most treasured historic sites, Hollyhock House and the Watts Towers. Conservation efforts are coordinated through DCA’s Historic Site Preservation Office. DCA’s Museum Education and Tours Program coordinates tours and interpretive programs for both young people and adults.

Hollyhock House is Frank Lloyd Wright’s first Los Angeles project. Built between 1919 and 1921, it represents his earliest efforts to develop a regionally appropriate style of architecture for Southern California. Barnsdall Park, including Frank Lloyd Wright’s iconic Hollyhock House, was awarded landmark status in 2007 and listed on the National Register of Historic Places. As the nation’s highest historic landmark designation, the site has been formally recognized for its role in interpreting the heritage and history of the United States.

HOLLYHOCK HOUSE
Barnsdall Park
4800 Hollywood Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 9002
323.913.4031

The Watts Towers, built over 34 years by Simon Rodia, are a Los Angeles icon. Built from found objects, including broken glass, sea shells, pottery, and tile, the Towers stand as a monument to the human spirit and the persistence of a singular vision. The Watts Towers, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, are a National Historic Landmark, a State of California Historic Park, and Historic-Cultural Monument No. 15 as previously designated by the City of Los Angeles Cultural Heritage Commission.

WATTS TOWERS
1765 East 107th Street
Los Angeles, CA 90002
213.847.4646
DCA MANAGED GALLERIES (7)

DCA’s galleries serve to promote the visual arts and artists of the culturally diverse Los Angeles region.

The Los Angeles Municipal Art Gallery (LAMAG) at Barnsdall Park is the City’s primary exhibition venue and is devoted to showcasing the work of local emerging, mid-career, and established artists in group and individual presentation formats.

**LOS ANGELES MUNICIPAL ART GALLERY (LAMAG)**
Barnsdall Park
4800 Hollywood Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90027
323.644.6269

The Barnsdall Junior Arts Center Gallery supports smaller exhibitions, many displaying works created in classes at Barnsdall Park.

**BARNSDALL JUNIOR ARTS CENTER GALLERY**
Barnsdall Park
4800 Hollywood Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90027
323.644.6275

DCA’s Henry P. Rio Bridge Gallery at City Hall showcases the work of young people, adults, and seniors enrolled in City art programs, as well as themed exhibitions celebrating the City’s Heritage Month Celebrations.

**DCA’S HENRY P. RIO BRIDGE GALLERY AT CITY HALL**
200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

The galleries at the Watts Towers Campus include:

**NOAH PURIFOY GALLERY**
**CHARLES MINGUS GALLERY**
**DR. JOSEPH AND BOOTSE HOWARD GALLERY**
1727 East 107th Street
Los Angeles, CA 90002
213.847.4646

Engaging exhibitions can also be viewed at DCA’s gallery at the William Grant Still Arts Center:

**WILLIAM GRANT STILL ARTS CENTER GALLERY**
2520 South West View Street
Los Angeles, CA 90016
323.734.1165
DCA PUBLIC/PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP ARTS FACILITIES:

ARTS AND CULTURAL CENTERS (7)

ART IN THE PARK
5568 Via Marisol
Los Angeles, CA 90042
323.259.0861

BANNINGS LANDING COMMUNITY ARTS CENTER
100 East Water Street
Wilmington, CA 90744
310.522.2015

EAGLE ROCK COMMUNITY CULTURAL CENTER / CENTER FOR THE ARTS EAGLE ROCK
2225 Colorado Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90041
323.561.3044

ENCINO ARTS AND CULTURAL CENTER
(PREVIOUSLY THE CENTER FOR FOLK MUSIC)
16953 Ventura Boulevard
Encino, CA 91316

LANKERSHIM ARTS CENTER
5108 Lankershim Boulevard
North Hollywood, CA 91602
818.752.7568

MCGROARTY ARTS CENTER
7570 McGroarty Terrace
Tujunga, CA 91042
818.352.5285

WILLIAM REAGH - LA PHOTOGRAPHY CENTER
2332 West Fourth Street
Los Angeles, CA 90057
213.382.8133

ABOUT THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES  
DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS

DCA PUBLIC/PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP ARTS FACILITIES:

PERFORMING ARTS THEATERS (2)

LOS ANGELES THEATRE CENTER / THE NEW LATC  
514 South Spring Street, 2nd Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90013  
213.489.0994

NATE HOLDEN PERFORMING ARTS CENTER  
4718 West Washington Boulevard  
Los Angeles, CA 90016  
323.964.9768

GALLERIES (2)

Through an agreement with Los Angeles World Airports, DCA also administers curated exhibitions at both LAX and Van Nuys World Airports, and promotes Los Angeles as a creative and vibrant destination to over 48 million national and international visitors annually.

LOS ANGELES WORLD AIRPORTS PUBLIC ART EXHIBITION PROGRAM (LAX)  
1 World Way  
Los Angeles, CA 90045

VAN NUYS WORLD AIRPORT - SAN FERNANDO VALLEY PUBLIC ART EXHIBITION PROGRAM  
16461 Sherman Way  
Van Nuys, CA 91406

Valena Dismukes, And Rings on My Fingers, Digital photography, 8" x 10", 2015
Chukes, Brotha and Sista, Ceramic, 28” x 15” x 15”, 2017
AFRICAN AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH CELEBRATION 2018

DOWNTOWN YOUTH ARTS CENTER
(FIRE STATION # 23)
225 East 5th Street
Los Angeles, CA 90013

HIGHLAND PARK YOUTH ARTS CENTER
111 North Bridewell Street
Los Angeles, CA 90042

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT OR CONTACT:

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Angela Stedham, Toeyah, Acrylic ink - rice paper, 11" x 16", 2016

Angela Stedham, Waleed Runs, Watercolor and ink - canvas sheet, 12" x 16", 2017
Kohshin Finley. *Two Brothers, In America*, Oil and mixed media on canvas, 57” x 38”, 2017
The City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs gives special thanks to our calendar artists and participating galleries and institutions for generously allowing us to showcase their images in this publication.

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Patrice Fisher, Your Higher Self, Digital photography, 24” x 36”, 2017
African American Heritage Month Celebration 2018

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Courtesy of the
California African American Museum
caamuseum.org

Gary Simmons
Lezley Saar

Courtesy of the
The Ebell of Los Angeles
EbellLA.org

Sharon Butler

Courtesy of the
Fowler Museum
fowler.ucla.edu

Meleko Mokgosi

Inside Back Cover: Meleko Mokgosi, Democratic Intuition, Bread, Butter, and Power, (studio view), 2017. Courtesy of Fowler Museum
Back Cover: Anthony Burks Sr., Natural Beauty Natasha Mayne, Charcoals, pastels, and color pencils on watercolor paper, 42” x 42”, 2017