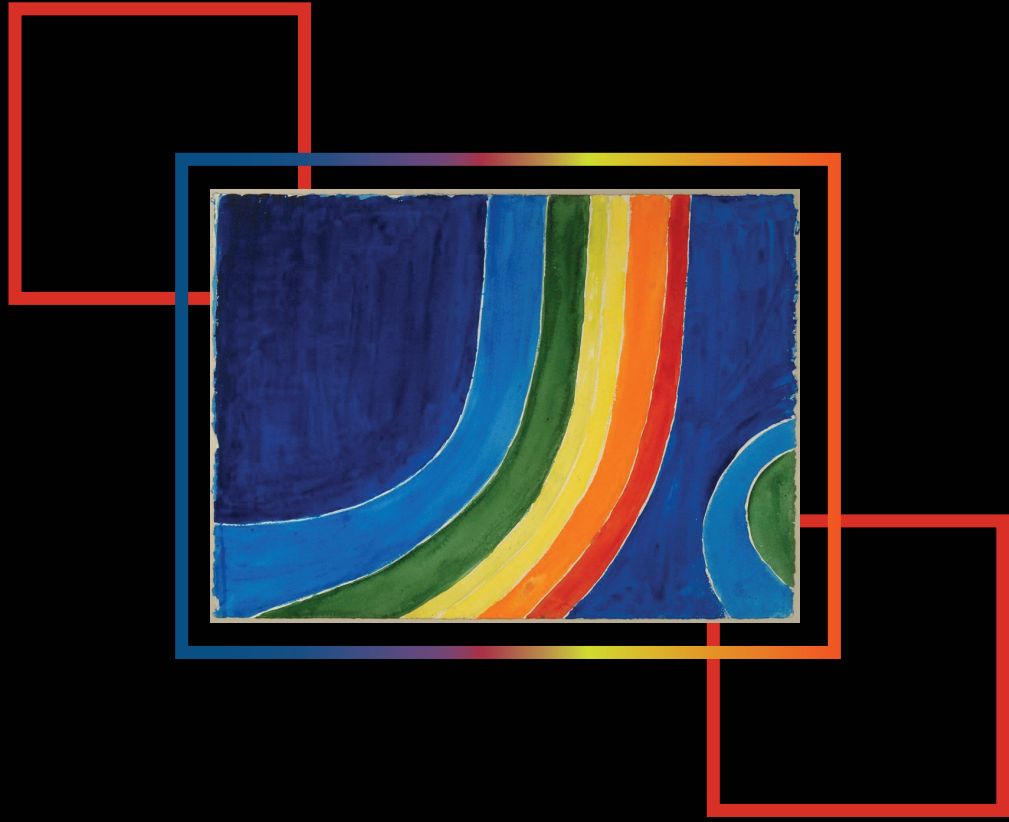


GUIDE TO FREE EVENTS IN WASHINGTON, DC | FEBRUARY 1 - 28, 2025

Black History Month 2025



DC COMMISSION ON THE ARTS AND HUMANITIES
& DC BLACK HISTORY CELEBRATION COMMITTEE

The DC Commission on the Arts & Humanities
and the DC Black History Celebration Committee
are proud to present this guide to events for
Black History Month 2025.
All in-person events are located in Washington, DC

BEFORE ATTENDING AN EVENT

Check with the event organizers for the latest updates regarding admission requirements, postponements, and/or cancellations. Neither the DC Arts Commission or the DC Black History Celebration Committee will be able to provide this information, except for Celebration Committee events.

ON THE COVER:

ALMA THOMAS*, *UNTITLED (RAINBOW)*, 1970, WATERCOLOR ON PAPER, 22 1/2 × 30 IN.
ART BANK COLLECTION.

*Alma Thomas is the first Black woman to have artwork hang in the public spaces of the White House and enter the permanent collection

A BRIEF HISTORY OF BLACK HISTORY MONTH

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

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

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

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

THROUGH MARCH 1

The Negro Motorist Green Book & The Green Book in DC: A Particular Place for Particular People

Wednesday, 11:00am-5:00pm, Saturday, 11:00am-2:00pm

The Great Hall, Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library, 901 G Street NW

dclibrary.org/negro-motorist-green-book

Contact: Monical Miller | monica.miller@dc.gov | (202) 727-0321

Zenith Gallery

12:00pm - 6:00pm

Wednesday - Saturday,

1429 Iris Street NW, Washington, DC 20012

Zenithgallery.com/exhibits/celebrating-black-history-month/

Contact: Margery Goldberg | art@zenithgallery.com

THROUGH MARCH 2

Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibits Service and DC Public Library

Various times

The Great Hall, Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library, 901 G Street NW

dclibrary.org/negro-motorist-green-book

Contact: Margery Goldberg | art@zenithgallery.com

FEBRUARY 1

DC Black History Celebration Committee

Keynote address by Dr. Frank Smith/African American Civil War Museum

11:00am - 2:00pm

Westminster Presbyterian Church, 400 I Street SW, Washington, DC 20024

Dcblackhistory.org | DCblackhistory@gmail.com

FEBRUARY 1

National Capital Parks-East

Walk with Dr. Woodson, An Annual DC Tradition!

11:00am - 12:30pm | Mary McLeod Bethune Council House NHS

1318 Vermont Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20005

<https://www.nps.gov/frdo/planyourvisit/black-history-month-programs.htm>

Zenith Gallery

2:00pm | Wednesday - Saturday 12:00pm - 6:00pm

Hold on I'm Coming Artist Talk

1429 Iris Street NW, Washington, DC 20012

Contact: Margery Goldberg | art@zenithgallery.com

Association for the Study of African American Life and History

Culture for Services, Service for Humanity: A. Phillip Randolph and the Black Freedom Struggle

6:00pm - 7:00pm | [Youtube.com/channel/UC13walFEhshtigjN890_bg](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC13walFEhshtigjN890_bg)

Contact: Louis Hicks | lhicks@asalh.org | (202) 289-5910

Sankofa Video Books & Café'

Armed Struggle Book Launch with Gerald Home

6:00pm - 8:00pm

Sankofa Video & Books, 2714 Georgia Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20001

Sankofa.com

Contact: Makala Scurlock | Sankofa.com@sankofadc | (202) 234-4755

Prince George's Publick Playhouse

8:00pm (\$) | Tribute to Nina Simone & Miriam Makeba w/ Akua Allrich

Prince George's Publick Playhouse, 5445 Landover Rd, Hyattsville, MD 20784

Pgparcs.com/event_list/tribute-to-nina-simone-miriam-makeba-w-akua-allrich

FEBRUARY 2

National Park Service

2:00pm - 2:45pm | Black History Month Fort Tour

NPS, 13551 Fort Washington Rd., Fort Washington, MD 20744

Nps.gov/nace/planyourvisit/calendar.htm

FEBRUARY 4

Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH)

Pen to Screen: Writing and Telling Black History, A Conversation with Julian Breece and Valerie Maholmes

6:00pm - 7:00pm | Virtual | [Youtube.com/channel/UCh13walFEhshtlgjN890_bg](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCh13walFEhshtlgjN890_bg)

Contact: Louis Hicks | lhicks@asalh.org

FEBRUARY 5

Busboys and Poets

The Runners Almanac and Seer

6:00pm | 2021 14th Street NW, Washington, DC 20009

[Busboysandpoets.com/events/th-evt-44841460/](https://busboysandpoets.com/events/th-evt-44841460/)

FEBRUARY 6

Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH)

The Vice President's Black Wife: Julia Chinn and the Story of Black Women's Labor Presentation by Amrita Myers

6:00pm-7:00pm | Virtual | [Youtube.com/channel/UCh13walFEhshtlgjN890_bg](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCh13walFEhshtlgjN890_bg)

Contact: Louis Hicks | lhicks@asalh.org

FEBRUARY 7

National Capital Parks-East

Walking in the Steps of the Bookman

1:00pm - 1:45pm

Mary McLeod Bethune, Council House NHS

1318 Vermont Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20005

[Nps.gov/frdo/planyourvisit/black-history-month-programs.htm](https://www.nps.gov/frdo/planyourvisit/black-history-month-programs.htm)

Church of Scientology National Affairs Office Hosting Youth for Human Rights And Art Impact International Art Exhibition

6:00pm - 8:00pm

Church of Scientology National Affairs Office Fraser Mansion

1701 20th Street NW, Washington, DC20009

[Artimpactinternational.org/dupont-circle-artwalk-feb-2025](https://artimpactinternational.org/dupont-circle-artwalk-feb-2025)

Contact: Beth Akiyama | Publicaffairs-us@churchofscientology.net

FEBRUARY 7

Ford's Theatre

Written Then, Spoken Now: Freedom Was in Sight!

7:00pm - 9:30pm

511 10th Street NW, Washington, DC 20004

Fords.org/event/written-then-spoken-now-freedom-was-in-sight

Contact: Alex Wood | awood@fords.org

FEBRUARY 8

National Capital Parks-East Historic Homes

10:00am - 2:00pm

Black History Month Celebration, Martha's Table at the Commons

2375 Elvans Road SE, Washington, DC 20020

Nps.gov/frdo/planyourvisit/black-history-month-programs.htm

Zenith Gallery

2:00pm, 1429 Iris Street NW, Washington, DC 20012

Zenithgallery.com/exhibits/celebrating-black-history-month/

Contact: Margery Goldberg | art@zenithgallery.com

Art Impact International, Inc. Artists' Alliance at Jarrett Thor Fine Arts Colonial Beach Creative Art Center

6:30pm-8:30pm | Virtual | Eventbrite.com/e/1109781770149

Contact: Carolyn Goodridge | cgoodridge@artimpactinternational.org

National Park Service

2:00pm - 2:45pm | Black History Month Fort Tour

NPS, 13552 Fort Washington Rd., Fort Washington, MD 20744

Nps.gov/nace/planyourvisit/calendar.htm

FEBRUARY 9

National Park Service

2:00pm - 2:45pm | Black History Month Fort Tour

NPS, 13551 Fort Washington Rd., Fort Washington, MD 20744

Nps.gov/nace/planyourvisit/calendar.htm

FEBRUARY 9

The Mid-Atlantic Jazz Festival (MAJF)

Midatlanticjazzfestival.org/

FEBRUARY 11

Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH)

ASALH Book Prize Winner Announcement

6:00pm - 7:00pm | Virtual

[Youtube.com/channel/UCh13walFEhshtlgjN890_bg](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCh13walFEhshtlgjN890_bg)

Contact: Louis Hicks | lhicks@asalh.org

Ford's Theatre

History Talks: Education and Power in Post-Emancipation America

7:00pm - 8:00pm

[Fords.org/event/education-and-power-in-post-emancipation-america/](https://fords.org/event/education-and-power-in-post-emancipation-america/)

Contact: Alex Wood | awood@fords.org

FEBRUARY 13

PEW/African American Holiday Association (AAHA)

Black Love Day

[Positiveenergyworks.com/up-coming-events.html](https://positiveenergyworks.com/up-coming-events.html)

Contact: Ayo Handy-Kendi | ayomeansjoy@yahoo.com

Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH)

The Reshaping of Racial Labor in the Age of A.I., with Golde Owens

6:00pm - 7:00pm

[Youtube.com/channel/UCh113walFEhshtlgjN890_bg](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCh113walFEhshtlgjN890_bg)

Contact: Louis Hicks | lhicks@asalh.org

FEBRUARY 14

National Capital Parks-East

Walking in the Steps of the Bookman

1:00pm - 1:45pm | Mary McLeod Bethune Council House NHS

1318 Vermont Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20005

[Nps.gov/frdo/planyourvisit/black-history-month-programs.htm](https://nps.gov/frdo/planyourvisit/black-history-month-programs.htm)

FEBRUARY 15

Zenith Gallery

Hold on a Change is Coming Artist Talk featuring Sobiya Prince

2:00pm | 1429 Iris Street NW, Washington, DC 20012

Zenithgallery.com/exhibits/celebrating-black-history-month/

Contact: Margery Goldberg | art@zenithgallery.com

Greenbelt Branch Library

Whispers from the Water: Reconnecting Ancestral Memory

1:00pm - 3:00pm | 11 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770

Contact: Lois Rosado | Blackhistoryandculturegb@gmail.com

National Park Service

2:00pm - 2:45pm

NPS, 13551 Fort Washington Rd., Fort Washington, MD 20770

Nps.gov/nace/planyourvisit/calendar.htm

Kolor Me Awesome

Kids Black History Art Class, E Life

3:00pm - 5:00pm | 9033 Central Ave., Capitol Heights, MD 20743

Kolormeawesome.com/

Contact: Karmyn Pittman | admin@kolormeawesome.com

FEBRUARY 16

Asbury United Methodist Church

10:00am - 11:30am | BHM Concert | 926 11th Street NW, Washington, DC

Asburymcde.org | Contact: Reverend Dr. Lanther Mills

Sankofa Video Books & Café'

11:00am - 2:00pm | Kente Weaving workshop, Sankofa Video & Books,

2714 Georgia Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20001

Sankofa.com | Contact: Makala Scurlock

National Park Service

2:00pm - 2:45pm

NPS, 13551 Fort Washington Rd., Fort Washington, MD 20744

Nps.gov/nace/planyourvisit/calendar.htm

FEBRUARY 18

Busboys and Poets

6:00pm | Collecting African American Art
Busboys and Poets: Brookland, 625 Monroe Street NE, Washington, DC 20017
Busboysandpoets.com/events/th-evt-45324423/

Arts Club of Washington

Queer Awakenings Pride Poetry Workshop
6:30pm - 8:30pm | 2017 I Street NW, Washington, DC 20006
Artsclubofwashington.org | Contact: Kim Roberts | Kimroberts.dc@gmail.com

FEBRUARY 21

National Capital Parks-East | *Walking in the Steps of the Bookman*

1:00pm - 1:45pm
Mary McLeod Bethune Council, 1318 Vermont Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20005
Nps.gov/frdo/planyourvisit/black-history-month-program.htm

FEBRUARY 22

Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH)

10:00am - 12:00pm
Black History Author's Book Signing
The Westin Washington Hotel, 999 9th Street NW, Washington, DC 20001
Asalh.org | Contact: Louis Hicks | lhicks@asalh.org

Zenith Gallery

2:00pm | Hold On, Change is Coming | 1429 Iris Street NW, Washington, DC
Zenithgallery.com/exhibits/celebrating-black-history-month/
Contact: Margery Goldberg | art@zenithgallery.com

National Park Service

2:00pm - 2:45pm | NPS, 13551 Fort Washington Rd., Fort Washington, MD 20744
Nps.gov/nace/planyourvisit/calendar.htm

Kolor Me Awesome

3:00pm - 5:00pm | Kids Black History Art Class, E Life
9033 Central Ave., Capitol Heights, MD 20743 | Kolormeawesome.com/
Contact: Karmyn Pittman | admin@kolormeawesome.com

FEBRUARY 23

Greater New Hope Baptist Church

11:00am - 1:00pm

Greater New Hope Baptist Church, 818 8th Street NW, Washington, DC 20001

Gnbc.org | Contact: Michelle Waters | Gnbc@verizon.net

National Park Service

2:00pm - 2:45pm | NPS, 13551 Fort Washington Rd., Fort Washington, MD 20744

Nps.gov/nace/planyourvisit/calendar.htm

FEBRUARY 26

Busboys and Poets & Teaching for Change

6:00pm - 8:00pm | Beyond Heroes and Holidays

Busboys and Poets: 14th & V | 2021 14th Street NW, Washington, DC 20009

Busboysandpoets.com/events/th-evt-44451188/

Busboys and Poets & Clarice Presents' Jazz Jams

7:00pm | Busboys and Poets: Hyattsville

5331 Baltimore Ave., Hyattsville, MD 20781

Busboysandpoets.com/events/th-evt-41826678/

FEBRUARY 28

National Capital Parks - East

1:00pm - 1:45pm | Mary McLeod Bethune Council House NHS

1318 Vermont Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20005

Nps.gov/frdo/planyourvisit/black-history-month-programs.htm

DC Black History Film Festival

5:00pm - 12:00M | Lincoln Theatre, 1215 U Street NW, Washington, DC 20001

Contact: Richard Campbell | richardcampbell2010@gmail.com

FEATURED ON PBS

PBS

From Slavery to Freedom: The Untold Story of America's First Muslims

Features C.R. Gibbs

Youtub.com/watch?v=sGbrp5c4g5Y

For more information and event updates, visit:

dcblackhistory.com
facebook.com/dc.black.history



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