FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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The Louisville Free Public Library celebrates African American History Month with programs throughout February

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (January 21, 2020) – The Louisville Free Public Library will offer more than 50 free programs honoring African American history in February, including book discussions, history talks, craft projects, lectures, film screenings, trivia, and more. Programs that feature a local perspective on African American history include Black Freedom, White Allies, & Red Scare (Portland Library, February 10, 6 p.m.), The Soulful Sounds of Derbytown (Jeffersontown, February 17, 6:30 p.m.), The Figures of Louisville’s Eastern Cemetery (Western, February 25, 6 p.m.), the Women, Confinement & Race in the Gilded Age Fast Class (Main Library, February 20, 6:30 p.m.), and more. The Friends of the Shawnee Library will also host a special Black History Celebration, featuring speaker Aukram Burton (Shawnee, February 15, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.) discussing his more than four decades of photography documenting his journey through the African diaspora.

Book discussions will cover African American memoirs and novels from Ta-Nehisi Coates, Toni Morrison, Colson Whitehead, John Lewis, Maya Angelou, Esi Edugyan, Tayari Jones, and more. Library branches will also host a number of screenings of documentaries and feature films this month, including the return of the African American Film Series every Sunday afternoon at the Main Library. Presented in partnership with the University of Louisville’s Office of Diversity and Inclusion, the series features thought-provoking and award-winning films followed by discussions with experts from UofL and the community.

The month-long celebration continues for children, teens, and families too with a variety of educational and creative programs, including special storytimes, drum circles, and dance parties. All-ages programs include a How Well Do You Know Black History trivia event (Newburg, February 6, 6 p.m.) Drum Power Family Storytime with Joan Brannon (Southwest Regional Library, February 1, 11 a.m.); Family Art Night (Iroquois, February 6, 6:30 p.m.) and the 6th Annual African American Read-In (Main, February 24, 6:30 p.m.), featuring dramatic readings and performances presented by members of Louisville’s creative community.
The Library’s African American History Month programming is just one piece of LFPL’s commitment to lifelong learning. To learn more, or to find the complete list of free programs, visit LFPL.org/AAHMonth.

AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH PROGRAMS AT THE LIBRARY

Adults

150th Anniversary of the 15th Amendment
Saturday, February 1, 10:30 a.m. – 12 p.m., Western Library

Drum Power Family Storytime with Joan Brannon
Saturday, February 1, 11 a.m., Southwest Regional Library

Now Discussing…. Between the World and Me by Ta-Nehisi Coates
Saturday, February 1, 2 p.m., Newburg Library

Raisin in the Sun film screening
Saturday, February 1, 2-4 p.m., Southwest Regional Library

African American History Film Series: Free State of Jones
Sunday, February 2, 2 p.m., Main Library

Ordinary People, Extraordinary Courage Documentary Screening
Monday, February 3, 6 p.m., Portland Library

Book Discussion: Hidden Figures by Margot Lee Shetterly
Tuesday, February 4, 2 p.m., Western Library

Book Discussion: Parable of the Sower by Octavia Butler
Tuesday, February 4, 6:30 p.m., Shawnee Library

Book Discussion: Washington Black by Esi Edugyan
Wednesday, February 5, 6:30 p.m., Highlands/Shelby Park Library

Writing Workshop: Black Writer Showcase
Wednesday, February 5, 6:30 p.m., Shively Library

I Am Ali film screening
Thursday, February 6, 4:30 p.m., Portland Library

How Well Do You Know Black History?
Thursday, February 6, 6 p.m., Newburg Library

Between the World and Me by Ta-Nehisi Coates
Saturday, February 8, 10:30 a.m., Crescent Hill Library

**African American History Film Series: Best of Enemies**
Sunday, February 9, 2 p.m., Main Library

**Black Freedom, White Allies & Red Scare**
Monday, February 10, 6 p.m., Portland Library

**Graphic Novel Discussion Group: Hip-Hop Family Tree**
Monday, February 10, 7 p.m., Main Library

**Book Discussion: March by John Lewis, Andrew Aydin, and Nate Powell**
Tuesday, February 11, 10:30 a.m., Shively Library

**Book Discussion: Kindred by Octavia Butler**
Tuesday, February 11, 1:30 p.m., Iroquois Library

**Early Birds Book Discussion: The Known World by Edward P. Jones**
Thursday, February 13, 10:00 a.m., Northeast Regional Library

**Black History Celebration with Friends of Shawnee Library**
Saturday, February 15, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m., Shawnee Library

**Selma Film Screening**
Saturday, February 15, 2 p.m., Southwest Regional Library

**African American History Film Series: BlackKkKlansmen**
Sunday, February 16, 2 p.m., Main Library

**The Impact of Ali**
Monday, February 17, 6 p.m., St. Matthews Library

**Soulful Sounds of the Derbytown**
Monday, February 17, 6:30 p.m., Jeffersontown Library

**Book Discussion: I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings by Maya Angelou**
Monday, February 17, 7 p.m., Northeast Regional Library

**Mystery Book Discussion: Bluebird, Bluebird by Attica Locke**
Tuesday, February 18, 2 p.m., Main Library

**Falls City Book Club: The Bluest Eye by Toni Morrison**
Tuesday, February 18, 7 p.m., Falls City Taproom, 901 E. Liberty Street

**Mayor’s Book Club: My Sister the Serial Killer by Oyinkan Braithwaite**
Wednesday, February 19, 1 p.m., Main Library
Book Discussion: *Behold the Dreamers* by Imbolo Mbue
Wednesday, February 19, 2 p.m., Middletown Library

Book Discussion: *Push* by Sapphire
Wednesday, February 19, 4 p.m., Fairdale Library

Book Discussion: *The Underground Railroad* by Colson Whitehead
Wednesday, February 19, 7 p.m., Bon Air Library

Book Discussion: *An American Marriage* by Tayari Jones
Thursday, February 20, 1 p.m., St. Matthews Library

Women, Confinement & Race in the Gilded Age Fast Class
Thursday, February 20, 1 p.m., Main Library

*I Am Ali* Film Screening
Saturday, February 22, 2 p.m., Newburg Library

History Hour: George Washington Carver
Saturday, February 22, 2 p.m., Shawnee Library

African American History Film Series: *When They See Us*
Sunday, February 23, 2 p.m., Main Library

Book Discussion: *Homegoing* by Yaa Gyasi
Monday, February 24, 6 p.m., Fairdale Library

Black Classical Composers
Monday, February 24, 6:30 p.m., Portland Library

6th Annual African American Read-In
Monday, February 24, 6:30 p.m., Main Library

Be Kind Rewind Club
Monday, February 24, 7:30 p.m., Southwest Regional Library

The Figures of Louisville’s Eastern Cemetery
Tuesday, February 25, 6 p.m., Western Library

Booked for Lunch: *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* by Rebecca Skloot
Wednesday, February 26, 1 p.m., Crescent Hill Library

Louisville’s Scattered African American Communities
Thursday, February 27, 2 p.m., Main Library
The African in America
Saturday, February 29, 1 p.m., Iroquois Library

Fences Film Screening
Saturday, February 29, 2 p.m., Southwest Regional Library

MixTape Club!: Black History Month
Saturday, February 29, 2:30 p.m., Bon Air Library

Teens

Drum Power Storytime with Joan Brannon
Saturday, February 1, 11 a.m., Southwest Regional Library

Spider-Man: Into the Spiderverse screening
Saturday, February 1, 1:30 p.m., Portland Library

Raisin in the Sun film screening
Saturday, February 1, 2-4 p.m., Southwest Regional Library

I Am Ali film screening
Thursday, February 6, 4:30 p.m., Portland Library

How Well Do You Know Black History?
Thursday, February 6, 6 p.m., Newburg Library

Teen Book Discussion: Moonstruck: Magic to Brew written by Grace Ellis
Thursday, February 13, 3:30 p.m., Fairdale Library

Beautifully Spoken
Thursday, February 20, 5 p.m., Portland Library

Heritage & Hip Hop
Thursday, February 20, 5 p.m., Western Library

I Am Ali Film Screening
Saturday, February 22, 2 p.m., Newburg Library

Black Superhero Showcase
Monday, February 24, 5 p.m., Bon Air Library

Black Superhero Showcase
Saturday, February 29, 1:30 - 3 p.m., Portland Library
6th Annual African American Read-In
Monday, February 24, 6:30 p.m., Main Library

Children & Families

**Drum Power Storytime with Joan Brannon**
Saturday, February 1, 11 a.m., Southwest Regional Library

*Spider-Man: Into the Spiderverse* screening
Saturday, February 1, 1:30 p.m., Portland Library

**Music Mondays: Black History Dance Party**
Monday, February 3, 6:30 p.m., Shawnee Library

**Black Girl Magic Storytime**
Tuesday, February 4, 7 p.m., Highlands/Shelby Park Library

*I Am Ali* film screening
Thursday, February 6, 4:30 p.m., Portland Library

**How Well Do You Know Black History?**
Thursday, February 6, 6 p.m., Newburg Library

**Family Art Night**
Thursday, February 6, 6:30 p.m., Iroquois Library

**My Jazzy Valentine Storytime**
Friday, February 14, 2 p.m., Main Library

**Shawnee Explorers: Paint Like the Masters**
Monday, February 17, 3:30 p.m., Shawnee

**African Folk Tale Traditions Play & Learn Lab**
Monday, February 17, 6:30 p.m., South Central Regional Library

**Jazz Preschool Storytime**
Thursday, February 20, 11 a.m., Shively Library

**African American Inventors Family Storytime**
Saturday, February 22, 10:30 a.m., Jeffersontown Library

**Bet You Can’t Eat Just One! The Story of George Crum**
Saturday, February 22, 2 p.m., Southwest Regional Library

*I Am Ali* Film Screening
Saturday, February 22, 2 p.m., Newburg Library

**Black Superhero Showcase**
Monday, February 24, 5 p.m., Bon Air Library

**Black Superhero Showcase**
Saturday, February 29, 1:30 - 3 p.m., Portland Library

**6th Annual African American Read-In**
Monday, February 24, 6:30 p.m., Main Library

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*Louisville Free Public Library connects the residents of Louisville and Jefferson County to knowledge and information at our library locations and on the web at [LFPL.org](http://LFPL.org). Come on in, the whole world’s inside.*