

BLACK HISTORY MONTH 2015

BIRMINGHAM PUBLIC LIBRARY



Black History Month Programs at the Birmingham Public Library 2015

All events are free and open to the public.

From Page to Stage Production – The Life of Jackie Robinson

The Birmingham Public Library, in partnership with the Birmingham Children's Theatre and Junior League of Birmingham, invite you to attend From Page to Stage: Play to Win — A Readers' Theater Workshop for Children at select libraries in February.

In anticipation of the upcoming Birmingham Children's Theatre performance of *Play to Win*, a musical on baseball great Jackie Robinson, BPL will host free workshops at several of its area libraries.

Children, ages 7 to 12, will learn how storybook characters come alive through the magic of theater. JLB members will coach children and introduce them to similar literature located in the library.

Each child will receive two free tickets (one child and one adult ticket) to see the *Play to Win* production on either Saturday, February 7 or Saturday, February 14.

Play to Win is a bright, snappy one-hour musical about the man who broke the color barrier in professional baseball. Although it is aimed at young audiences, all ages will enjoy this portrayal of Jackie Robinson's determination to be the best despite seemingly insurmountable odds.

Workshop space is limited, so contact participating libraries to register a child for the workshop.

Page to Stage Libraries and Dates Are As Follows:

East Lake: Saturday, January 24 at 2:30 p.m.

Pratt City: Saturday, January 24 at 2:30 p.m.

Avondale: Sunday, January 25 at 2:30 p.m.

Five Points West: Sunday, January 25 at 2:30 p.m.

Southside: Saturday, January 31 at 2:30 p.m.

West End: Saturday, January 31 at 2:30 p.m.

Central: Sunday, February 1 at 2:30 p.m.

Springville Road: Sunday, February 1 at 2:30 p.m.



Note: Once students participate in the library program, their show tickets are ONLY good for the Saturday, February 7 or 14 performances at 2 p.m. at the Birmingham Children's Theatre, which is inside the BJCC. Call 458-8181 or visit www.bct123.org for more information about the musical.

Avondale Library, 509 40th Street South • 226-4000

“Behind the Mic”

**Book Signing with Author and Former Radio Personality Roe Bonner
Monday, February 2, 6 – 7:30 p.m.**

Former Birmingham WENN radio personality Roosevelt “Roe” Bonner will discuss his new book “Behind the Mic,” which chronicles important events in the history of the legendary Birmingham radio station. One of the station's former owners was Birmingham millionaire A.G. Gaston. Ideal for adults and families.

Genealogy for Beginners and Intermediates

Monday, February 9, 6 – 7:30 p.m.

Learn the basics of genealogy and family history research, including how to use the Ancestry website and online resources, with this workshop. Ideal for adults and families.

Toby Richards and Adinkra Symbols

Monday, February 16, 6 – 7:30 p.m.

Birmingham artist Toby Richards will discuss the Adinkra symbols used by the Ashanti people of Ghana. She will also lead a craft. Ideal for adults and families. Registration is required.



Offerings of Black History with Miles College’s Theatre Program

Monday, February 23, 6 – 7:30 p.m.

Enjoy stories and songs that illustrate African-American history. Ideal for adults and families.

Central Library, 2100 Park Place • 226-3600

On the Battlefield for Equality and Justice

February 1 – 28

Prints depicting African-American Civil War soldiers and Buffalo Soldiers will be on display on the first floor of the East Building. Several pieces are by world-renowned Civil War artist Don Stivers. This exhibit was made possible by U.S. Army veteran Roderick Royal.

Intro to Genealogy

Tuesday, February 3, 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Learn what the Southern History Department can do to help you uncover some of your family roots in this introductory class, which will be held on the first floor of the Linn-Henley Research Library. For more information, call 226-3665 or send an email to askgenlocal@bham.lib.al.us. Note: These classes are held the first Tuesday and third Sunday of the month.

Local Authors **EXPO** AND BOOK FAIR

Local Authors Expo and Book Fair Saturday, February 7, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Discover new books on mystery, romance, the civil rights movement, cooking and more at this annual book event, will feature nearly 100 authors selling their books and other products. Workshops for authors, aspiring authors and families are planned.

- At 10 a.m. in Arrington Auditorium, Birmingham attorney and author Keith Lee will discuss common legal issues for authors and self-publishers.
- At 11:30 a.m. in the Story Castle, Doctor Osborn, a magician, will present a children's program "Reading is Magic."
- At 1 p.m. in Arrington Auditorium, Marie A. Sutton, author of "The A.G. Gaston Motel in Birmingham: A Civil Rights Landmark," will discuss how to make history come alive on the page.

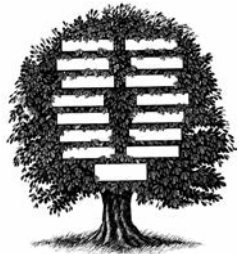
The expo will be on the first floor of the East Building. The author workshops will be held in the Arrington Auditorium, fourth floor of the Linn-Henley Building. Books-A-Million will also be on hand to discuss the company's print-on-demand program known as the Espresso Book Machine. For more information, contact Jared Millet at 226-3727 or jaredm@bham.lib.al.us.

Black Heritage Genealogy Fair Saturday, February 14, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Discover your past and more during this annual fair, which will be presented by the Birmingham African-American Genealogy Study Group Inc. Exhibits will be open from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Audience participants will present a Readers' Theatre from 1 to 3 p.m. A representative with the Alabama chapter of the Buffalo Soldiers will speak and art professor William E. Colvin will present an art exhibit. All events will be in Arrington Auditorium. For more information, call Josephine Martin at 901-6387 or John Lanier Jr. at 533-3502.

Intro to Genealogy Sunday, February 15, 2:30 – 3:30 p.m.

Learn what the Southern History Department can do to help you uncover some of your family roots in this introductory class, held on the first floor of the Linn-Henley Research Library. For more information, call 226-3665 or send an email to askgenlocal@bham.lib.al.us. *Note: These classes are held the first Tuesday and third Sunday of the month.*



The Life and Times of George Washington Carver

Wednesday, February 18, 3:30 p.m.

Elinor and Winfield Burks will use hands-on demonstrations to explore Carver's creations. Ideal for children and teenagers. Held in the Story Castle, second floor. For more information, call the Youth Department at 226-3655.



Fun with Little-Known Black History Facts

Wednesday, February 25, 3:30 p.m.

Stop by the Story Castle and discover Black History fun facts with Elinor and Winfield Burks. For more information, call the Youth Department at 226-3655.

Beyond the Basics of Genealogy - Organizing Your Genealogy Research

Saturday, February 28, 10 a.m.

When you're facing piles of paper and digital dilemmas in your genealogy research, a class like this can help you get organized. Held in Arrington Auditorium. Registration is requested. Contact the Southern History Department at 226-3665 or email askgenlocal@bham.lib.al.us.

Future classes on different topics will be held on April 25, June 13 and August 29. The October 17 session will address connecting to your Alabama slave and slaveholder ancestors.

East Ensley Library, 900 14th Street Ensley • 787-1928

African-American Databases: African-American History Online

Monday, February 2 and 16, 3:30 – 4:45 p.m.

Learn how to use library databases to find high-quality information about topics related to African-American history. Ideal for teenagers, but adults are welcome.

Diabetes Education Classes

Tuesday, February 3 and 10, 3 – 4:30 p.m.

If you've been diagnosed with diabetes or have borderline diabetes, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services are offering these free diabetes self-management education classes. Learn how to control your blood sugar, blood pressure and cholesterol levels. Healthy eating tips and more will be discussed. Ideal for adults. Call 970-1600, ext. 3508 or send emails to maxine.starks@hcqis.org for more information.



African-American Databases: Oxford African American Studies Center

Monday, February 9 and 23, 3:30 – 4:45 p.m.

Use library databases to find high-quality information on the lives and events that have shaped African-American and African history and culture. Ideal for teenagers, but adults are welcome.

Magic City Crossings

Wednesday, February 25, 3:30 – 6 p.m.

Race relations and more will be discussed in this metro Birmingham dialogue project based on Birmingham native and former Saturday Night Live writer Tanner Colby's award-winning book, "Some of My Best Friends Are Black: The Strange Story of Integration in America." Project will be led by REV Birmingham's Community Affairs Committee, The Bethesda Life Center and Joyce Vance, U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Alabama.



Ensley Library, 1201 25th Street, Ensley • 785-2625

Madame C.J. Walker: A System of Natural Beauty and Culture

Wednesday, February 11, 3:30 – 4:30 p.m.

Learn more about Madame C.J. Walker and the "Walker System" with Elinor and Winfield Burks. Discover how some of Walker's products were made and the impact she had on the African-American culture. Ideal for families.

Five Points West Library, 4812 Avenue West • 226-4015

Movie Time

Friday, February 13, 11 a.m.

Come see a movie about an African-American family visiting Birmingham in 1968 for a family reunion.

Magic City Crossings

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Race relations and more will be discussed in this metro Birmingham dialogue project based on Birmingham native and former Saturday Night Live writer Tanner Colby's award-winning book, "Some of My Best Friends Are Black: The Strange Story of Integration in America." Project will be led by REV Birmingham's Community Affairs Committee, The Bethesda Life Center and Joyce Vance, U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Alabama.

Black History Month Concert

Saturday, February 28, 3 p.m.

Celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Black History Month Concert series by attending "Nostalgic Musical Notes," featuring vocalist J. D. "Hawk" Jackson and "The Clutch" band with Timothy Huffman.

Inglennook Library, 4100 40th Terrace North • 849-8739

I Have a Dream Vision Board Project

Monday, February 9, 3:15 - 4:15 p.m.

Participants will create vision boards that outline their dreams. Ideal for families.

Black Inventors Trivia

Monday, February 16, 3:30 p.m.

Participants will be tested on their knowledge of black inventors. The winner will receive a prize..

Read it Forward with "The Watsons Go to Birmingham, 1963"

Monday, February 23, 3:30 p.m.

Stop by the Inglenook Library to get your free copy of "The Watsons Go Birmingham, 1963," an award-winning book by Christopher Paul Curtis. Once you finish reading the book, look for the Read it Forward tracking number at the back of the book. Enter the book's tracking ID number at www.bplonline.org/programs/ReadItForward/2013/. Then, give the book to someone else. Remember your tracking number so you may follow the book's travels. Books shared through this program have gone around the globe. Get in on the fun and share the joy of reading. This program is for third graders and up.

Black History Month Movie

Friday, February 27, 3 p.m.

See what happens when the Watsons of Flint, Michigan visit Birmingham, Alabama in the summer of 1963. This made-for-TV movie is based on a popular book by Christopher Paul Curtis.

North Avondale Library, 501 43rd Street North • 592-2082

A Day in the Life of Harriet Tubman

Wednesday, February 4, 1 – 2 p.m.

Travel back in time to learn about Harriet Tubman's many journeys along the Underground Railroad. All ages are welcome.



Black History Cool Facts and Trivia

Wednesday, February 11, 10:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Spend the morning learning cool facts and test your knowledge on Black History Month trivia. For all ages.

North Birmingham Library, 2501 31st Avenue North • 226-4025

Story Time Stew

Thursdays, February 5, February 12, and February 26 • 10:30 a.m.

Enjoy African-American folktales during Story Time Stew.

Tweens & Books

Wednesday, February 18, 4 p.m.

Check out Tweens & Books by African-American Authors.



African-American Music for Story Time Stew
Thursday, February 19, 10:30 a.m.

Cause for Celebration

Monday, February 23, 6 p.m.

North Birmingham Library Celebrates Black History Month with entertainment and light refreshments.

African-American Tales

Wednesday, February 25, 4 p.m.

Stop in for African-American Tales around the library.

Trivia for Teens

Thursday, February 26, 4 p.m.

African-American brain tease trivia for teens.



Powderly Library, 3301 Jefferson Avenue Southwest • 925-6178

Black Month History Trivia

February 1 – 28

Test your knowledge about Black History Month facts in this quiz with 25 questions. Prizes drawn at the end of the month for correct answers.

Movie Time

Friday, February 20, 10 a.m.

The 1964 civil rights march from Selma to Montgomery motivated Congress to pass the Voting Rights Act of 1965. See history come to life in this 1999 made-for-television movie, which stars Junee Smollett and Yolanda King. Popcorn will be served.



Wenonah High School Choir

Thursday, February 26, 4 p.m.

Let the Wenonah High School Choir lift your spirits during this special Black History Month concert.

Pratt City Library, 509 Dugan Avenue • 791-4997

North Birmingham Storytellers

Wednesday, February 4, 10 – 11 a.m.

Bring out the kiddies for this pre-school story hour.

Cut, Shave, Edge Up - The Black Barbershop Experience

Tuesday, February 10, 3:45 – 5 p.m.

Pratt City barbershop owner Willie Hunt and other barbers discuss their lives behind the clippers.

National African-American Read-In

Monday, February 16, 8 a.m.

Pratt City Library will join South Hampton Elementary School students as they participate in the National African-American Read-In by reading Sharon Draper's "November Blues." The annual event was created to make literacy a significant part of Black History Month.



March for Mardi Gras

Tuesday, February 17, 3:30 – 4:30 p.m. (Time subject to change. Call library to confirm.)

Grab your Mardi Gras beads, colorful attire and decorative masks for this Mardi Gras kickoff, complete with music from jazz greats such as Louis Armstrong. Get ready for moon pies and umbrellas.



Country Girls In the City

Thursday, February 19, 2 – 3:15 p.m.

Have you ever wondered the meaning behind certain country idioms, how hayrides got their start or the significance of family reunion traditions? Pratt City Library employees Lenarria Creer and Fannie Jolly and library patron Sandra Williams will share their wisdom in this program.

Delayed But Not Deterred: The Prom That Segregation Couldn't Stop

Wednesday, February 25, 4:30 – 5:30 p.m.

In 1963, seniors at Birmingham's Western-Olin High School (now Jackson-Olin High School) were prohibited from having a prom after participating in some of the city's civil rights movement marches that year. Never forgetting what happened, classmates pulled together to put on a prom in 2013 – the 50th anniversary of Birmingham's civil rights movement. Brenda Hong and some of her classmates will share their stories.

Meet the Mileans

Thursday, February 26, 5 – 7 p.m.

Miles College graduates share their time at a school that helped propel them to successful careers.

Founded in 1898, this historically black college continues to play a major role in the community. Sandra Crawley, North Birmingham regional coordinator and a Miles College graduate, will serve as the facilitator.



**MILES
COLLEGE**

Smithfield Library, #1 Eighth Avenue West • 324-8428

Birmingham, 1963

Thursday, February 12, 10 a.m.

Birmingham foot soldiers Gwendolyn Sanders-Gamble and Janice Kelsey will discuss how the New York Fire Department issued a commendation in July 2014 in support of Birmingham foot soldiers and citizens targeted in brutal fire hose attacks in Kelly Ingram Park in 1963.

At the Movies

Friday, February 13, 3:30 – 4:45 p.m.

Take a trip back to the 1970s as you watch Michael Jackson, Diana Ross, Richard Pryor and Lena Horne star in this 1978 musical remake of the popular “Wizard of Oz” film. For all ages.



Mighty Times: The Legacy of Rosa Parks

Monday, February 23, 3:30 – 4:30 p.m.

Explore Rosa Parks’ role in the Montgomery Bus Boycott in this 40-minute documentary. Light refreshments will be served. For grades 5 through adults.

Southside Library, 1814 Eleventh Avenue South • 933-7776

I Have a Dream

February 2 – 28

Help decorate the Southside Library’s Freedom Wall by writing out your dream for the future. For all ages.

Springville Road Library, 1224 Old Springville Road • 226-4083

Black History Bingo

Tuesday, February 10, 4 p.m.

Famous African-Americans pictures will be shown and students must identify their names on Bingo cards. Prizes awarded to the winners.



Black History Projects In a Snap

Tuesday, February 17, 4 p.m.

Tonya Clarke will demonstrate how to use African-American History Online and African-American Studies Center databases to find the best information to complete Black History Month homework projects. How to research people and topics and how to correctly cite work for good grades will be addressed.

Movie Time

Tuesday, February 24, 4 p.m.

Enjoy a film about baseball great Jackie Robinson, the first African American to play in Major League Baseball. He signed with the Brooklyn Dodgers in 1947. He helped the Dodgers win the World Series in 1955.

Titusville Library, #2 6th Avenue Southwest • 322-1140

Titusville Black History Trivia Game

February 15-20, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Submit your completed entry and be eligible for a prize. Ideal for adults and teens.

Spark a Reaction - Black History Topics

Wednesday, February 19, 4 p.m.

Teens will discuss and give their opinions about black history topics and their future. Light refreshments will be served. Ideal for teens.

Movie Time

Tuesday, February 24 at 4 p.m.

A teenager from Detroit, Michigan is knocked unconscious and finds himself transported to 1822, where he must adjust to living as a slave in South Carolina. In order to return to his own time period, he must help fellow slaves. Light refreshments will be served. Ideal for teens.



Offerings of Black History with the Miles College Theatre Program

Wednesday, February 25, 4 p.m.

The Miles College Theatre Program, under the direction of Chaletia Williams, will present prose, poetry and song in this annual program.

West End Library, 1348 Tuscaloosa Avenue Southwest • 226-4089

The Spirit of Harriet Tubman

Thursday, February 12, 3:30 p.m.

Meet master storyteller Abayomi Goodall as she shares Harriet Tubman's experiences from slave to soldier. Ideal for children and families.

Woodlawn Library, 5709 First Avenue North • 595-2001

The Men of Mississippi

Monday, February 9, 3:30 p.m.

Men such as Emmett Till and civil rights leader Medgar Evers left an impact on not only on Mississippi, but the world. Stop in to catch the documentary, "Free At Last: Civil Rights Heroes," on how these men and others helped spark change during the civil rights movement. Light refreshments will be served. Ideal for all ages.

Adinkra Symbols with Toby Richards

Monday, February 23, 3:45 – 4:45 p.m.

Complete a work of art, using Adinkra stamps and proverbs. Also, learn about the Adinkra symbols of the Ashanti people of Ghana. Good for all ages. Workshop is limited to 20. Registration is required. Call 595-2001.

Wylam Library, 4300 Seventh Avenue • 785-0349

I Have Dreams

Wednesday, February 11, 3:30 p.m.

Create a vision board of the dreams you have for your life. Martin Luther King Jr.'s words will be our inspiration. Ideal for all ages.



Book Discussion

Wednesday, February 18, 11 a.m.

Book discussion of "Freshwater Road" by Denise Nicholas. This is the story of a young black woman from Detroit and how she bravely volunteered to spend the summer of 1964 in rural Mississippi. It is a true coming-of-age story set in one of the most troubling times of our history. Ideal for adults.

Brush Up On Your Computer Skills at BPL

All computer classes will be held in Central's Regional Library Computer Center, fourth floor of the Linn-Henley Research Library, 2100 Park Place. Registration is required. To register or to see a complete schedule, visit www.rlccbpl.wordpress.com. If you register for a class and cannot make it, please call 226-3680.

Learn How to Do Catalog Searches on African-American Authors and Titles

Monday, February 2, 2:30 – 3:30 p.m.

Explore the various ways to search the library's catalog. Searching by title, author, subject, keyword, genre and format will all be covered.

How to Find Funding for Your Nonprofit

Monday, February 16, 1 p.m.

Learn how to locate grants for your nonprofit organization in this hands-on session, using the Foundation Directory Online Professional database.

Learn the Basics About Patents

Monday, February 16, 2:30 - 3:30 p.m.

Are you interested in inventing? Learn why you need a patent and how to search for a patent in this hands-on session. Registration is required.

Job Searching Tips with Jack Norris

Tuesday, February 24, 1 p.m.

Career counselor Jack Norris will cover a variety of topics related to the job search process, including resume building, interview skills, networking and keeping a positive attitude. Q&A will follow.



Find a Job Using Alabama's Joblink Database

Tuesday, February 24, 2:30 p.m.

Join the Business, Science & Technology Department's staff as they show how to navigate Alabama's Joblink database. This dynamic job search tool will allow you to post your resume and find jobs around Alabama.

BPL is proud to present programs and services throughout the year. If you like what you have experienced with us, please consider making a donation to BPL through the BPL Foundation. Visit www.bplonline.org/donate or ask your branch representative.

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WWW.BPLONLINE.ORG

Birmingham Public Library Locations

Preserving the Past, Exploring the Future

Avondale Library

509 South 40th Street
Birmingham, AL 35222
205-226-4000

Central Library

2100 Park Place
Birmingham, AL 35203
205-226-3600

East Ensley Library

900 14th Street, Ensley
Birmingham, AL 35218
205-787-1928

East Lake Library

#5 Oporto-Madrid Blvd
Birmingham, AL 35206
205-836-3341

Eastwood Library

4500 Montevallo Road
Birmingham, AL 35210
205-591-4944

Ensley Library

1201 25th Street, Ensley
Birmingham, AL 35218
205-785-2625

Five Points West Library

4812 Ave W
Birmingham, AL 35208
205-226-4013

Inglenook Library

4100 40th Terrace N
Birmingham, AL 35217
205-849-8739

North Avondale Library

501 43rd Street N
Birmingham, AL 35222
205-592-2082

North Birmingham Library

2501 31st Ave N
Birmingham, AL 35207
205-226-4025

Powderly Library

3301 Jefferson Ave SW
Birmingham, AL 35221
205-925-6178

Pratt City Library

509 Dugan Ave
Birmingham, AL 35214
205-791-4997

Smithfield Library

#1 8th Ave W
Birmingham, AL 35204
205-324-8428

Southside Library

1814 11th Ave S
Birmingham, AL 35205
205-933-7776

Springville Road Library

1224 Old Springville Road
Birmingham, AL 35215
205-226-4081

Titusville Library

#2 6th Avenue SW
Birmingham, AL 35211
205-322-1140

West End Library

1348 Tuscaloosa Ave SW
Birmingham, AL 35211
205-226-4089

Woodlawn Library

5709 1st Ave N
Birmingham, AL 35212
205-595-2001

Wylam Library

4300 7th Ave, Wylam
Birmingham, AL 35224
205-785-0349

www.bplonline.org

BPL Holiday Closing Dates for 2015

New Year's Day

Thursday, January 1

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Monday, January 19

Good Friday

Friday, April 3

Easter

Saturday, April 4 and Sunday, April 5

Memorial Day

Monday, May 25

Fourth of July

Friday, July 3 and Saturday, July 4

Labor Day

Sunday, September 6 and Monday, September 7

Staff Day

Thursday, October 15 (Libraries Closed to the Public)

Veteran's Day

Wednesday, November 11

Thanksgiving Day

Thursday, November 26 through Sunday, November 29

Inventory Day

Thursday, December 17 (Libraries Closed to the Public)

Christmas

Thursday, December 24 through Saturday, December 26

New Year's Day

Friday, January 1, 2016

Notes