

## DEIAB DIGEST

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Accessibility and Belonging

VOLUME 4, ISSUE 4

April 2025

Check out our DEIAB webpage <https://www.wxxi.org/program-guides/deiab/>



### Earth Month

Earth Month takes place during April every year. It's a time to raise environmental awareness and create consciousness around the issues that affect mother nature during this time of crisis.

Every April, leaders and environmental activists from all over the world join hands to create sustainable development and offer climate solutions, to minimize our carbon footprint and prevent further harm to our planet's natural resources.

Earth Day is an annual event on April 22 to demonstrate support for environmental protection. First held on April 22, 1970, it now includes a wide range of events coordinated globally by EARTHDAY.ORG (formerly Earth Day Network) including 1 billion people in more than 193 countries.

The theme for Earth Day 2025 is **OUR POWER, OUR PLANET**, inviting everyone around the globe to unite behind renewable energy, and to triple the global generation of clean electricity by 2030. How? By joining us in Earth Action Day, encouraging all to take action—educate, advocate, and mobilize. Pledge an 'Earth Action' on social media. Find ways to support here <https://www.earthday.org/>

### Earth Day at Seneca Park Zoo

April 19 – All Day

Join us to celebrate the 55th anniversary of Earth Day at Seneca Park Zoo [Schedule](#)

### DEIAB LEARNING

History of Discrimination in Transportation/Antecedentes de discriminación en el transporte

**How highways wrecked American cities**  
How American Highways were used as tools to demolish Black neighborhoods and helped promote segregation. [Watch](#)

**The Montgomery bus boycott and the women who made it possible**  
A podcast about the women who organized to make the Montgomery Bus Boycott possible. [Listen](#)

**the Green Book**  
A travel guide that helped make travel safer for Black motorists in the Jim Crow era. [English](#) [Spanish](#)

**What can the transcontinental railroad teach us about anti-Asian racism?**  
[English](#) [Spanish](#)

### DEIAB SPOTLIGHT Roberto Felipe Lagares



**Position:**  
Multimedia Reporter

**How long have you worked at WXXI:** Half a year

**Describe your job in 5 words:** Storytelling through cameras – and words.

**Favorite cookie:** Brown butter oatmeal chocolate chip walnut

**Favorite restaurant:** Roux, I love food so this is but a glimpse of what I enjoy

**What are you reading or watching:**  
Reading: True Believer by Nicholas Sparks; Watching: Brooklyn 99, Severance.



### EDUCATION/FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

<https://www.wxxi.org/education/>



### Spring is Here! Explore with PBS KIDS!

Videos to Watch & Activities to do. [View the Collection](#)  
[Nature Activities: From Screen to Green](#)



### Rochester Teen Film Festival 2025

WXXI and the Little Theatre invite entries for the Rochester Teen Film Festival, a collaborative, juried media competition for youth in the Greater Rochester region and beyond [Info](#)



**Indie Lens Pop-Up: Free for All: The Public Library** Thursday, April 10 at Central Library 2:00-6:00 pm. A film that looks at how public libraries shaped the country. [More info](#)

**Indie Lens Pop-Up: Matter of the Mind: My Alzheimer's** Monday, April 28 Little Theatre 1 6:30 pm. An intimate portrayal of three families confronting the unique challenges of Alzheimer's [More info](#)

# COMMUNITY

More events in the [CITY Events Calendar](#)

## The Cracked Nut

NTID Panara Theatre

Fri April 4, Sat, April 5, Sun April 6

A reimagined Rendition of the classic ballet, *The Nutcracker*, directed and choreographed by RIT and NTID Dance

Professor, Marc Ellis Holland [Tickets](#)

585-475-4121 [arenas@rit.edu](mailto:arenas@rit.edu)

## Gallery Obscura: 2024–25 Flower City Arts Center's Studio 678 Photo Club

Eastman Museum through May 11

Creative works by students who are a part of the Flower City Arts Center's Studio 678 Photo Club. [Info](#)

## Ajjiingiluktaaqutugut (We Are All Different)

A short documentary structured in eight sections that builds to form a remarkable statement about Indigenous identity.

March 3 – June 1

Eastman Museum, Multipurpose Hall

[More info](#)

## First Friday with Garth Fagan Dance

Friday, April 4 7:30-9:30 pm

Garth Fagan Dance Studio Theatre

Free [Info](#)

## Social Emotional Learning and the Neurodivergent Student

Thursday, April 10 7:30 pm

Henrietta Public Library

For Parents and caregivers of neurodivergent students in grades 1-6 who attend independent schools or who are homeschooled. [Info](#)

## Healthy Baby Network Second Annual Black Maternal Health Walkathon

Saturday, April 12 10:00a-2:00p

Marketplace Mall Food Court

Learn about resources with a walk for wellness, mini-health fair, yoga, and vendors [Info](#)

## Action For A Better Community Night

April 16 7:00 pm

Comedy at the Carlson

Join Action for a Better Community for a night of comedy in celebration of the agency's 60 years of service to the Rochester community! [Tickets](#)

## Citizen Writers: Poetry in the Present

Reality by Writers & Books

Saturday, April 19 and 26 10:30a-12p

Phillis Wheatley Community Library

Participants will read, discuss, and write, centering the concept of "citizen writers" and their responsibilities.

[Register](#)

## Social Transformation: A National Conversation

Poetry in Prisons, Unions, Elementary Schools, and the Streets

Wednesday April 23 7:00-8:30 pm

Virtual

Tune into a lively discussion among social poetics practitioners." [Info](#)

## Mondays at Geva: Pure Native

Monday, April 28 6:00-8:00 pm

Geva Theatre

A FREE evening of culture, community, and celebrating Indigenous excellence.

## MCC Annual Scholars Day

Wednesday, April 30 7:00pm

MCC Robin and Tim Wentworth Arts Building

Visiting Scholar Clint Smith, a staff writer for the Atlantic and the #1 New York Times bestselling author of *How the Word is Passed* [Info](#)



Click to see [Now showing](#)

Click to see [Music in the café](#)

## The Annihilation of Fish

Fri April 4 7:30pm, Sat April 5 1pm

A woman who believes a dead composer is in love with her falls for a man who constantly fights an imaginary man [Info](#)

## World of Animation: Tekkonkinkreet

Sunday, April 6 at 7pm

Two penniless orphans, Black and White, struggle to survive on the mean streets of Treasure Town. [Info](#)

## Goodbye Horses: The Many Lives of Q Lazzarus

Wednesday, April 9 at 7:30pm

A feature documentary about Diane Luckey, also known as Q Lazzarus.

## Black Cinema Series

Compensation

Friday, April 11 at 7:30pm

An ambitious portrait of the struggles of Deaf African Americans and the complexities of loving relationships. [Info](#)

## Family Flicks: The Prince of Egypt

Monday, April 14 at 7pm

The strong bond between two brothers is challenged when their chosen responsibilities set them at odds. [Info](#)

## Foragers

Wednesday, April 16 at 7:00pm

Foragers depicts the dramas around the practice of foraging for wild edible plants in Palestine/Israel with wry humor and a meditative pace. [Info](#)

## 95 Years of The Little: Close-Up

Thursday, April 17 at 7:30pm

The true story of Hossain Sabzian, a cinephile who impersonated Iranian director Mohsen Makhmalbaf to convince a family they would star in his so-called new film. [Info](#)

## Misericordia

Opens April 11

Returning to Saint-Martial for his late boss's funeral, Jérémie's stay with widow Martine becomes entangled in a disappearance, a threatening neighbor, and an abbot's shady intentions. [Info](#)

## The Wedding Banquet

Opens April 18

A gay man makes a deal with his lesbian friend: a green-card marriage for him, in exchange for in vitro fertilization treatments for her. [Info](#)

## The Little's 95th Anniversary Celebration

Tuesday, April 29 6:00-8:00 pm

Strathallan City View Ballroom

An evening of reflection, celebration, and a look towards the future. Proceeds from this event will directly support operational needs and the endowment of The Little. [Tickets](#)



## NEWS

### WXXI News

Executive Editor Denise Young

WATCH Connections with Evan Dawson live on YouTube weekdays Noon- 2pm

### CITY MAGAZINE

Editor Leah Stacy

### Stories You May Have Missed

Monroe County's digital equity program continues with free online learning, laptops and Wi-Fi access

Festival of Inclusion expands access to disability services in Rochester

Penfield school board cancels its March meetings after receiving threats

State commission visits Rochester to ask residents what they think reparations might look like

Survey seeks perceptions of discrimination and hate in Rochester

Connections: 'In This Moment' series expands its reach

Connections: Youth access to horses and the true history of cowboys

A student's assault allegations reveal reporting gaps in Rochester schools  
Note: This story includes descriptions of sexual violence

Connections: Business conferences respond to criticism of DEI

Trillium Health is preparing for potential cuts to federal HIV prevention funding

Local LGBTQ+ community braces against national anti-trans rhetoric and executive orders

A traffic stop put Rochester in the spotlight over sanctuary cities. And tore apart a woman's family

CITY: Young photographers bring their vision to the George Eastman Museum

CITY: The karmic cycle of clothing

CITY: Keep it cool

CITY: The power of positive masculinity

CITY: Dancing toward a better climate future



Move to Include is a national initiative that uses the power of public media to promote inclusion. Project Manager Sarah Abbamonte [Move to Include](#)

### April is World Autism Awareness Month!

Autism is a neurologically-based developmental disability that lasts throughout a person's lifetime. It is a spectrum disorder that is characterized by social and communication challenges, sensory impairments, restricted behaviors and interests, and associated medical issues. Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) varies widely in severity and symptoms and may go unrecognized, especially in mildly affected children or when it is masked by other more prominent disabilities.

[Learn more](#) about Autism from our community partner, AutismUp!

### ReelAbilities Film Festival and Industry Summit

Move to Include is proud to partner with ReelAbilities to present their annual film festival and industry summit.

April 3 - 9, 2025

Use code "rffmovetoinclude" to receive 20% off passes and general admission tickets. [Info](#)

### NTID Edmund Lyon Memorial Lecture Series with Troy Kotsur

Thursday April 24 2025 at 6:30 pm  
Panara Theatre, LBJ Hall, Rochester Institute of Technology

### Indie Lens Pop-Up: Matter of the Mind: My Alzheimer's

Monday, April 28 Little Theatre 1 6:30  
An intimate portrayal of three families confronting the unique challenges of Alzheimer's [More info](#)

### What We're Watching:

#### American Experience Change, Not Charity: The Americans with Disabilities Act

The dramatic story of the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) in 1990. [Watch](#)

### Inclusion Desk

Connections: Helping families with medically fragile children

Rochester and Monroe County have formed a Deaf Equity Council

The latest in research and treatment for Parkinson's disease

Local disability advocate Jensen Caraballo dies at 34

How does it feel to be involuntarily committed? NY advocates condemn Gov. Hochul plan

### Independent Lens

#### Matter of Mind: My Parkinson's

Sunday April 27 at 3pm on WXXI-TV  
Three people navigate their lives with determination in the face of Parkinson's disease. [Info](#)

### ASD Band: The Movie

Monday April 28 9:00 pm WXXI-TV  
A talented group of musicians on the autism spectrum who are pushing the boundaries of autism acceptance one heart pumping song at a time. [Info](#)



TV

[WXXI Main](#) [WXXI World](#) [WXXI Create](#)  
[WXXI Kids 24/7](#) [WXXI Passport](#)

### Two Wars: No Mail, Low Morale

Saturday, April 5th at 5:30pm

Tells the story of the 6888th (the Six-Triple-Eight) Central Postal Directory Battalion a group of 824 women who served in the Women's Army Corps. [Info](#)

### The Cure for Hate

Monday, April 7th at 9pm

Tony McAleer is a former skinhead and Holocaust denier who went on to become a founding member of the anti-hate activist group Life After Hate. [Info](#)

### Independent Lens "We Want the Funk"

Tuesday, April 8th at 9pm & Saturday, April 12th at 3pm

A syncopated voyage through the history of funk music, spanning its African and early jazz roots, to the early work of James Brown and the rise of Parliament Funkadelic, through today. [Info](#)

### Never Drop the Ball

Friday, April 11th at 3pm

Discover a time when Major League Baseball was born, but the color line divided the field. [Info](#)

### Great Performances "The Magic of Spirituals"

Friday, April 18th at 10pm

Glimpse behind the curtain at Kathleen Battle and Jessye Norman's famed concert. [Info](#)

### NOVA "Critical Condition: Health in Black America"

Wednesday, April 30th at 9pm

This two-hour feature documentary produced by acclaimed Oscar-nominated filmmaker Stanley Nelson traces the roots of systemic racism in our medical system and the biological impacts of discrimination on the body to understand why Black Americans experience such disproportionately poor health outcomes - and did long before COVID-19 highlighted the devastating health disparities in our country.

### WXXI WORLD

#### AfroPop "Freedom Hill"

Monday, April 7th at 7pm

Princeville, NC, once the all Black town of 'Freedom Hill,' faces flooding and erosion. [Info](#)

Check out more programming on WORLD [here](#)



RADIO

### CELEBRATING 50 YEARS ON 91.5

<https://www.wxxiclassical.org/>

### WXXI Classical Daily Hosts

Brenda Tremblay 6:00 – 10:00 am  
Steve Johnson 12:00 – 4:00 pm  
Mona Seghatoleslami 4:00 – 7:00 pm

### WRUR Daily Hosts

9-12 Opening Tunings - Scott Regan  
4-6 Route Afternoons - Hannah Maier  
Full schedule [here](#)

### Words and Music of Black America

Wed April 16, 12:00-1:00pm.

In recognition of National Poetry Month, host Andrea Blain presents a special program pairing music and texts by Black composers and poets that raise issues of civil rights, social justice, racial divides and freedom in diverse and sometimes surprising ways. [Info](#)



### Piano Recital - Rochelle Sennet

Mon, Apr 21st, 2025, 7:30 PM

Hatch Recital Hall [Tickets](#)

### Seasons of Change - Curtis Stewart

Tue, Apr 22nd, 2025, 7:30 PM

Hatch Recital Hall [Tickets](#)

### Gateways Brass Collective - Live From Hochstein

Wed, Apr 23rd, 2025, 12:00 - 1:00 PM

The Hochstein School [RSVP](#)

### Paul Burgett Lecture and Community Conversation with Dr. Louise Toppin

Wed, Apr 23rd, 2025, 7:00 - 9:00 PM

Hatch Recital Hall [Tickets](#)

### Gateways Festival Orchestra

Thursday, April 24 7:30 pm

Anthony Parnter conducts.  
Kodak Hall [Tickets](#)

### Gateways Festival Orchestra

Live simulcast from Carnegie Hall

Sunday 4/27, 2:00

Hosted by WQXR [Listen](#)

### In the Key of Z

a new 6-part digital-first series produced by WXXI, and hosted by Steve Johnson, explores this question through the eyes of five students whose devotion to their craft defies generational trends.

[Meet the musicians and more](#)

[Connections: Young musicians on the new series. 'In the Key of Z: Classical'](#)

### Performance Upstate

Soprano Kearstin Piper Brown brings Harriet Tubman to life in a world premiere April 7 8:00pm [Info](#)

[South African cellist Abel Selaocoe fosters dialogue across time and cultures in a new album](#)

[Opera star and Rochester area native Renée Fleming resigns from Kennedy Center position](#)

### From the Top: Tiny Desk Concert

There is no greater day each year at the Tiny Desk when they host young musicians from the organization called From the Top. And the three teenaged artists they've gathered here will renew your faith in the future of music.