

DEIB DIGEST

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 2

FEBRUARY 2024



"We must never forget that Black History is American History. The achievements of African Americans have contributed to our nation's greatness." — Yvette Clarke, U.S. congresswoman

The 2024 theme for Black History Month is **African Americans and the Arts**.

African American art is infused with African, Caribbean, and the Black American lived experiences. In the fields of visual and performing arts, literature, fashion, folklore, language, film, music, architecture, culinary and other forms of cultural expression, the African American influence has been paramount. African American artists have used art to preserve history and community memory as well as for empowerment. Artistic and cultural movements such as the New Negro, Black Arts, Black Renaissance, hip-hop, and Afrofuturism, have been led by people of African descent and set the standard for popular trends around the world. [Read More Here](#)

Check out the [PBS LearningMedia collections on Celebrating Black History and Culture](#)

Art as a Platform for Social Justice

African American artists — poets, writers, visual artists, and dancers — have historically served as change agents through their crafts.

Drawn from their ancestors' ancient rites of passage and the shared hopes of liberty, Black artists continue to fuse the rhythmic cadence of creative expressions with the pulsating beats of progress. [Read More Here](#)

Education and School-Age Children

More than 65 years after the landmark Supreme Court decision in [Brown v. Board of Education](#) declaring racial segregation in public schools unconstitutional, studies show that public schools across the United States—including in Monroe County—are just as racially segregated as they were in the Jim Crow era.

Read [School District Borders that Reduce or Perpetuate Segregation](#)

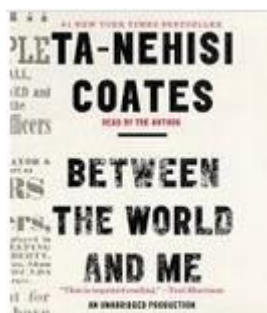
Watch [How America's Public Schools Keep Kids in Poverty](#)

DEI BOOK CLUB February Selection

Between the World and Me by Ta-Nehisi Coates (Tah-nuh-ha-see)

[Find it at the library](#)

Discussion moderated by Mona Isler on Friday, March 1 at 11:00 am in the WXXI Board Room or on Zoom (email me for the invite!)



DEI Learning Journal Prompt

Questions for Self-Reflection:

When was the first time you had a teacher who was not the same race as you? Have you ever?

What were the messages that you received from American history books about cultures other than your own?



READ: [The plight of Black professionals in a white collar world](#)



RADIO

WXXI Classical Daily Hosts

Brenda Tremblay 6:00 – 10:00 am
 Steve Johnson 12:00 – 3:00 pm
 Mona Seghatoleslami 4:00 – 7:00 pm

Feminine Fusion Saturdays at 8:00

2/3 Women of Color: Performers
 2/10 Women of Color: Composers
 2/17 Women of Color: Hispanic & Latinx Musicians
 2/24 One Life: Rhiannon Giddens

Blue Centennial: Celebrating a Century of Gershwin's Rhapsody, Mon 2/12, 3:00-4:00pm. Explore this jazz-age showstopper.

Take Me to the Water, Monday 2/19 at 3:00-4:00pm. An immersive experience that touches on themes from African mythology.

From the Top

2/11 This episode celebrates the 25th Anniversary of the Sphinx Organization
 2/25 This episode celebrates outstanding performances by Black musicians on From the Top through the years.

The Year of the Dragon

The Year of the Dragon: A Joyful Celebration, Saturday 2/10 at 12:00-1:00pm. The Chinese lunar new year of the Dragon is commemorated with traditions and rituals observed in everything from food to clothing. Ancestors are honored, and peace and happiness are bestowed on family and friends. The history, rituals, and traditions of Chinese New Year are celebrated alongside traditional Chinese music in this one-hour special, hosted and produced by Dr. Wanda Yang Temko.



Move to Include is a national initiative that uses the power of public media to promote inclusion. It spotlights people of differing abilities and disability issues – including education, healthcare, housing, recreation, employment and local efforts to support inclusion – through television, radio, news, special events, and social media.

Project Manager Sarah Abbamonte
<https://movetoinclude.us/>

WXXI and *Move to Include* will be participating in the **Festival of Inclusion** on Saturday, February 24 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Nazareth College Training Center. Details [here](#)

Polar Plunge for Special Olympics
 February 4 11:30am
 Ontario Beach Park
<https://polarplunge.net/>

One Take Documentary “All You Hear is Noise” kicked off Dialogue on Disability on January 11 at The Little.



MTI ON TV

Series finale of "Wonders of the World I Can't See"
 February 14, 10pm

MTI On-demand

"Deconstructing Ableism: A Community Conversation"
[YouTube](#) or WXXI Passport

DOD ON AIR

Connections with Evan Dawson: Journalist Emyle Watkins on the language surrounding disability

[How to eliminate barriers to accessible housing and transportation](#)

[Finding child care in Monroe County is a challenge. If your child has a disability, it's even harder](#)

[Previewing the film, "Under the Lights," and discussing what it's like to live with epilepsy](#)

**WXXI Main**

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

WXXI World

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

WXXI Create

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

WXXI Kids 24/7

<https://www.wxxi.org/kids247>

WXXI Passport

<https://www.wxxi.org/kids247>

Ken Burns: Muhammad Ali

Starts Thursday, February 1st at 9pm
Muhammad Ali brings to life the boxing champion who became an inspiration across the globe

<https://www.pbs.org/show/muhammad-ali/>

How it Feels to be Free

Sunday, February 4th at 1pm
The inspiring story of six trailblazing Black women entertainers.

<https://www.pbs.org/video/american-masters-how-it-feels-to-be-free-zzfh8j/>

Shuttlesworth

Monday, February 5th at 9pm
The story of the unknown Freedom Fighter who started a Movement that changed the world.

<https://www.pbs.org/show/shuttlesworth/>

Gospel

February 12th and 13th at 9pm
An exploration of gospel music, the dominant form of African-American religious expression

<https://www.pbs.org/show/gospel/>

Becoming Frederick Douglass

Monday, February 26th at 9:30pm

<https://www.pbs.org/show/becoming-frederick-douglass/>

Two Wars: The Road to Integration

February 27th at 10:30pm
Segregation and the eventual integration of the United States Military

<https://www.pbs.org/show/two-wars-the-road-to-integration/>



Click to see [Now showing](#)

Click to see [Music in the café](#)

Rustin (Special screening January 25)

Bayard Rustin, advisor to Martin Luther King Jr., faces racism and homophobia as he helps change the course of Civil Rights history by orchestrating the 1963 March on Washington. But as an openly gay Black man, he is all but erased from the civil rights movement he helped build. <https://thelittle.org/rustin>

Four Daughters (limited run)

mother and her two youngest daughters recount the tragedy that tore their family apart in this emotionally stirring meta-documentary from Tunisia.

<https://thelittle.org/four-daughters/>

Origin (January 26)

ORIGIN chronicles the tragedy and triumph of Pulitzer Prize winning journalist Isabel Wilkerson as she investigates a global phenomenon of epic proportions.

<https://thelittle.org/origin/>

Black Cinema Series discussion of Origin on Thursday, February 1.

American Fiction (current run)

Jeffrey Wright stars as Monk, a frustrated novelist who's fed up with the establishment profiting from "Black" entertainment that relies on tired and offensive tropes..

<https://thelittle.org/american-fiction/>

James Baldwin's Centennial: If Beale Street Could Talk

Thursday, February 22 7:30 pm

A young woman embraces her pregnancy while she and her family set out to prove her childhood friend and lover innocent of a crime he didn't commit.

Indy Lense Popup: Razing Liberty Square

FREE Monday, Jan. 29 at 6:30pm Liberty City, Miami, was home to one of the oldest segregated public housing projects in the U.S. Now with rising sea levels, the neighborhood's higher ground has become something else: real estate gold.

<https://thelittle.org/libertysquare/>

Cult Classics**Hollywood Shuffle**

Monday, February 5 7:30 pm

An actor limited to stereotypical roles dreams of making it big as a highly respected performer.

Krush Groove

Friday, February 23 7:30 pm

The story of a man who has started a new hip-hop/rap label called Krush Groove.



NEWS

WXXI News

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

Executive Editor Denise Young
News Director Randy Gorbman

CITY MAGAZINE

<https://www.roccitymag.com/>

Editor Leah Stacy

Stories You May Have Missed

[Strong set to open new brain injury rehabilitation unit with emphasis on privacy](#)

[Connections: Author Candacy Taylor on her book, "Overground Railroad"](#)

[City to hire artists for engagement team](#)

[Advocates say caregiver staffing for people with disabilities is a crisis lawmakers must fix](#)

[CITY Movie Review 'All of Us Strangers'](#)

[CITY Best of Rochester Winners](#)

[Drawn in](#)

[Hip-hop don't stop](#)

Don't Miss:

WXXI New Reporter Racquel Stephen's Tiny Mic series on Instagram

<https://www.instagram.com/p/C0mJWZZ0tVu/>

COMMUNITY

Black History Month Celebration Day
Memorial Art Gallery

Saturday, February 18 12:00-5:00 pm

Join us for our Black History Month Celebration Day! With something for everyone, come enjoy storytelling, music, performances, art, fashion, and more! Celebration Series offers

Rochester area families and community members the opportunity to learn more about specific cultures and communities. [Info](#)

Black History Month DeTour
Memorial Art Gallery

Thursday, February 22 6:00-7:00 pm

Celebrate Black History Month with Calvin Eaton from 540WMain, Inc., by looking at Black History in America and learning more about Black arts and culture through MAG's collection! [Info](#)

Brockport's Winter Serenades
St. Luke's Episcopal Church
Sunday, February 18 3:00-4:30 pm
Michael Lasser presents Music of the Harlem Renaissance, featuring vocalists Connie Fredericks-Malone and Reuben J Tapp. Mr Lasser's informal lecture is filled with historic details It combines with Connie and Reuben's powerful vocal renditions to paint a vivid picture of the musical revolution that took place in 1920's Harlem, NYC. [Info](#)

In Conversation with Rochester's Black Leaders: Melanie Funchess
Tuesday, February 27 7:00-8:00 pm
Melanie Funchess is the focus of a new chapbook highlighting the work of Black leaders in Rochester. Join us via Zoom as we hear from Melanie and the book's creative team, essayist Quajay Donnell and photographer Natalia Lauer. [Info](#)

Laser Beyoncé
Strasenburgh Planetarium
Grab your Single Ladies and sing along to the Queen's discography under the dazzling lasers of the Planetarium dome. [Info](#)

10th Annual Bronze
Collective Theatre Fest
MuCCC
February 20-25

A weeks worth of theatrical drama by some of Greater Rochester's African American artists [Info](#)

5th Annual Mardi Gras
Masquerade
Roar Nightclub
Saturday, February 17 6-9
Picture this: masks, costumes, and a burst of purple, green, and gold! It's all about embracing the magic of Mardi Gras. Join us for food, drinks, a live DJ, a silent auction, and performances by the RGMC, the Rochettes, and local drag queens. Prizes will be awarded for the best costumes. [Info](#)

Find many more events in the [CITY Events Calendar](#)