The NC African American Heritage Commission believes that celebrating and sharing the history heritage of African Americans goes beyond the month of February. This February, and every month we continue our work to preserve, protect and promote North Carolina's African American history, arts, and culture for all people.

The following is a small collection of resources to assist you in celebrating Black History Month. We encourage you to interact with this toolkit by clicking on corresponding links for items that have been curated to enrich your sense of creativity and community. This 2022 Black History Month Toolkit is a testament to North Carolina’s vibrant culture and brilliant future.

Be sure to Tag and Follow us on social media!
Mark Your Calendars!

NCDNCR Celebrates Black History Month

Calendar Events

2022 Black History Month Event Calendar

Calendar Events

Program Updates
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**2022 Black History Month Toolkit**

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FROM THE CURATOR

My goal was to curate a reading list that celebrates the creativity of African American writers, specifically our ability to write amazing stories about any subject or topic. As I worked on this list, I kept thinking about Jamaica’s national motto, ‘out of many, one people’, which they accepted in 1962 when they gained their independence from the British. This list is my attempt at showing that although African Americans are one people, we have many stories to tell. – Abbigail Glen

NOTE: 3 of the 20 books are not available in audio.
GOD OF MERCY
Fiction by Okezie Nwoka

SEVEN DAYS IN JUNE
Fiction by Tia Williams

THE 1619 PROJECT:
A NEW ORIGIN STORY
Nonfiction by Nikole Hannah-Jones

SOMETHING GOOD
Fiction by Vanessa Miller

BLACK FOOD: STORIES, ART, AND RECIPES FROM ACROSS THE AFRICAN DIASPORA [A COOKBOOK]
Nonfiction by Bryant Terry
BLACKOUT
Fiction by Multiple authors

EARLY DEPARTURES
Fiction by Justin A. Reynolds

WITHIN THESE WICKED WALLS
Fiction by Lauren Blackwood

REVOLUTION IN OUR TIME: THE BLACK PANTHER PARTY'S PROMISE TO THE PEOPLE
Nonfiction by Nikole Hannah-Jones

THINGS WE COULDN'T SAY
Fiction by Jay Coles

YOUNG ADULTS
TAKE BACK THE BLOCK
Fiction by Chrystal D. Giles

GENESIS BEGINS AGAIN
Fiction by Alicia D. Williams

BLACK BOY JOY: 17 STORIES CELEBRATING BLACK BOYHOOD
Fiction by Kwame Mbalia

BEE FEARLESS: DREAM LIKE A KID
Nonfiction by Mikaila Ulmer

J.D. AND THE FAMILY BUSINESS (J.D. THE KID BARBER)
Fiction by J. Dillard
DREAM STREET
Fiction by Tricia Elam Walker

I AM EVERY GOOD THING
Fiction by Derrick Barnes

M IS FOR MELANIN:
A CELEBRATION OF THE BLACK CHILD
Nonfiction by Tiffany Rose

BETTER TOGETHER, CINDERELLA
Fiction by Ashley Franklin

THE 1619 PROJECT:
BORN ON THE WATER
by Nikole Hannah-Jones & Renee Watson

PICTURE BOOK
Did you know that over 300 businesses in North Carolina were listed in the Negro Motorist Green Book? In fact, there were 327.

Since 2017, the NC African American Heritage Commission, completed research on North Carolina’s Green Book sites. The findings have been compiled in this interactive web portal which invites visitors to explore each site in depth through historical vignettes, stories, and images. The project also includes a traveling and virtual exhibition produced to highlight the experiences of African American travelers during the Jim Crow era in North Carolina.

This project was made possible in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services. The views, findings, conclusions or recommendations expressed in this program do not necessarily represent those of the Institute of Museum and Library Services.
Children and parents will love learning their very first ideas about North Carolina in My N.C. from A to Z. This colorful, sturdy board book celebrates pride of place, creates connections to North Carolina's rich African American heritage, and teaches children about human equality and social justice. A perfect first baby or toddler book!
NC INDIE BLACK ARTISTS

FROM THE CURATOR

Independent creators have been making noise in the music industry from North Carolina for decades. The Tarheel State is home to an eclectic mix of Black independent artists and musicians. From the mountains to the coast, this Spotify playlist features some up and coming and established Black indie artists in a variety of genres including R&B, hip hop, country, bluegrass, gospel, spoken word, jazz, and gospel.

– Shameika Rhymes
Watch the 2022 Black History Month video feature titled, 'Ocean City: A Community of Firsts'
Explore the NC Civil Rights Trail - virtually! Check out the sites on the map, including sites that have been awarded as NC Civil Rights Trail markers, in addition to sites of protests, rallies and sit-ins; birthplaces and primary residences of civil rights icons; educational institutions; legal/courthouses; churches and spaces for organization; and visits by civil rights icons.
Three words are repeated on this page: North Carolina, African American, and Heritage.

The North Carolina General Assembly created the African American Heritage Commission (AAHC) in 2008 to “assist the Secretary of Cultural Resources in the preservation, interpretation, and promotion of African American history, arts, and culture.” With this legislation the AAHC has identified African American heritage practitioners, such as curators, docents, and museum directors, as priority service populations. The AAHC was recognized as a division of the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources in 2017, after being housed in the Office of Archives and History and the North Carolina Arts Council. The commission works across the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources to achieve the mission of preserving, protecting, and promoting North Carolina’s African American history, art, and culture, for all people.

OUR MISSION

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