

THE BLACK FAMILY

REPRESENTATION, IDENTITY, AND DIVERSITY



Program of Events

Winchester Public Schools proudly celebrates Black History Month! As we contemplate this year's theme: **The Black Family: Representation, Identity, and Diversity**, we are reminded of the importance of families in our community, Commonwealth, and Nation.

"The black family has been a topic of study in many disciplines—history, literature, the visual arts and film studies, sociology, anthropology, and social policy. Its representation, identity, and diversity have been revered, stereotyped, and vilified from the days of slavery to our own time. The black family knows no single location, since family reunions and genetic-ancestry searches testify to the spread of family members across states, nations, and continents. Not only are individual black families diasporic, but Africa and the diaspora itself have been long portrayed as the black family at large. While the role of the black family has been described by some as a microcosm of the entire race, its complexity as the "foundation" of African American life and history can be seen in numerous debates over how to represent its meaning and typicality from a historical perspective—as slave or free, as patriarchal or matriarchal/matrifocal, as single-headed or dual-headed household, as extended or nuclear, as fictive kin or blood lineage, as legal or common law, and as black or interracial, etc. Variation appears, as well, in discussions on the nature and impact of parenting, childhood, marriage, gender norms, sexuality, and incarceration. The family offers a rich tapestry of images for exploring the African American past and present." - Association for the Study of African American Life and History

Our robust virtual Black History Month Program of Events is as follows:

To learn more, contact **Carl Rush**, Equity Coordinator, at 540-667-4253,

[Mariano's Celebrates Black History Month with Chef Lamar Moore](#) **COST: FREE** [Register Here](#)

Date & Time

Monday, February 1, 2021

6:30 pm to 7:30 pm

About this Event: Cook and connect with Chef Lamar Moore during Mariano's Celebration of Black History Month. Join Mariano's Tastemaker Lamar Moore on February 1st at 6:30pm

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[Historically Speaking: Four Hundred Souls – A Conversation With Ibram Kendi And Keisha N. Blain](#) Cost: Free. Registration Recommended.

Date & Time

Tuesday, February 2, 2021

7:00 pm to 8:30 pm

About this Event: Renowned scholars Ibram X. Kendi, author of *How to Be an Antiracist*, and Keisha N. Blain, author of *Set the World on Fire* have assembled 90 extraordinary writers to document the four-hundred-year journey of African Americans from 1619 to the present. Entitled **Four Hundred Souls**, each contributor writes about a five-year period of 400 years of American history using essays, short stories, personal vignettes, and fiery polemics. They approach history from various perspectives: through the eyes of towering historical icons, the untold stories of ordinary people, as well as landmarks, laws, and artifacts. An extraordinary, moderated discussion featuring editors Kendi and Blain will focus on historic eras such as Slavery, Reconstruction, Segregation, and their sustained impact on the United States. Contributors Herb Boyd, City University of New York, Kali Nicole, Gross, Emory University, Peniel Joseph, University of Texas, and Annette Gordon Reed, Harvard University will join Prof. Kendi and Prof. Blain in a discussion about the impact of the African American community on social justice trajectory of American History. Mary N. Elliot, NMAAHC curator will moderate.

[Virginia Untold: The African American Narrative Register Here](#) Cost: FREE.

Registration Required.

Date & Time

Friday, February 5, 2021

11:00 am to 11:45 am

About this Event: Virginia Untold: The African American Narrative examines records in the Library of Virginia's collections for hidden histories and often overlooked stories detailing the lives of free and enslaved Black and multiracial individuals in the commonwealth prior to 1870. By connecting a patchwork of historical government and private materials, stories of resilience and determination against incredible legal and social obstacles can emerge. Join local records program manager Greg Crawford and senior local records archivist Vince Brooks for a project overview, digitization update, and tips on using this free digital resource. They'll also share advice on using primary source documents from Virginia Untold in the classroom, in keeping with the recommendations from the Governor's Commission on African American History Education in the Commonwealth.

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[NMAAHC Kids: Joyful Fridays](#) Cost: **FREE**. Registration required.

Date & Time

Friday, February 5, 2021

11:00 am to 11:45 am

About this Event: Joyful Fridays: Hats, Hair and Headwear

Make your own hat. Black creativity and culture can be expressed through hats and hair! Join us to craft hats inspired by Mae Reeves' hats in the NMAAHC collection and talk about how people express themselves through hair styles and headwear during this webinar-style Zoom class.

Designed for: *Children ages 4 to 8 years*

[From the Continent to the Americas: Foodways, Culture and Traditions](#) Cost: **FREE**.

Registration required.

Date & Time

Sat, February 6, 2021

12:00 PM – 2:00 PM EST

About this Event: This event will feature a panel of authors, chefs and historians who will share their work and discuss the important role that food has played in Black family life throughout the diaspora. Panelists include: Gina Paige, CEO and Founder of African Ancestry; Carla Hall, author and celebrity chef; Stephanie Evans, scholar and author, Georgia State University; and Daphne Maxwell Reid, actor (Fresh Prince of Bel Air) and author of "Grace, Soul and Mother Wit" who will join us for this exciting event!

[Black History Month Dinner Series- Fried Tilapia and Sautéed Cabbage](#) COST: **FREE**

[Register Here](#)

Date & Time

Sunday, February 7, 2021

6:00 pm to 7:00 pm

About this Event: Celebrate Black History Month with Addie from Seward Coop for Sunday dinner. Learn how to make delicious fried tilapia with coconut oil and sautéed cabbage.

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[How African American Families Have Been Portrayed in the Media](#) Cost: FREE.

Date & Time

Sunday, February 7, 2021

4:00 pm to 6:00 pm

There will be a presentation and panel discussion on "How African American Families Have Been Portrayed in the Media."

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89392619857?pwd=Y2FOeFNzSmddaU3pUVk4ybWFneGJFdz09>

Meeting ID: 893 9261 9857

Passcode: 591110

[What Actions Should Come from an Indigenous Land and Enslaved Peoples Acknowledgement? \(Online Scholarly Talk\)](#) COST: FREE [Register Here](#)

Date & Time

Tuesday, February 16, 2021

9:00 am to 10:30 am

About this Event: Statements and acknowledgements of indigenous land and local histories of enslaved peoples have been used at various university and professional organization events around the United States in recent years. Over the past year, JMU faculty who are Indigenous, Black, and People of Color and the Center for Faculty Innovation Leadership Team have been co-creating such an acknowledgement that fits a Shenandoah Valley and James Madison University context. Participants in this scholarly talk will hear perspectives from JMU colleagues regarding moving from acknowledgement toward action regarding the [Indigenous Land and Enslaved People Acknowledgement](#).

[Rhythm & Revolution: An Expression of Struggle, Collaboration, and Peace](#) Cost: FREE.

Registration required

Date & Time

Wednesday, February 17, 2021

7:00 pm

About this Event: *R & R: Rhythm and Revolution: Expressions of Struggle, Collaboration, and Peace* will feature the music of soul greats from Aretha Franklin and Mavis Staples to Al Green, Stevie Wonder, The Jackson 5, and the legendary artists of Stax Records. Mixed with jazz, spoken word, and original music from SMA's talented students, viewers will not only feel the

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beat, but will also learn about history makers such as Ida B Wells, Robert Church, and Langston Hughes and their lessons that are as relevant today as they were in the past.

[Virtual Paint Night: Black History Month](#) COST:\$10

Date & Time

Friday, February 19, 2021

7:30 pm to 9:30 pm

About this Event: Black History is to be remembered everyday of the year. It originates in a week-long recognition initiated by Carter G. Woodson in 1926. Now Black History Month has grown and is celebrated internationally. Join the celebration with an evening of painting. Get step by step instruction to create a beautiful canvas painting that celebrates giants in African American history. Enjoy curated music, learn, and create a memento of Black History. **What you will need:** 20x16 Canvas; small round brush size; medium flat brush size, large flat brush size 1 inch; Acrylic Paint: white, black, brown, yellow, blue, red, green, orange, purple; cup of water to rinse brushes; paper towels; a plate to mix paint on; pencil

[African Americans In STEM Wikipedia Edit-A-Thon](#) Cost: FREE

Date & Time

Sunday, February 21, 2021

12:00 pm to 3:00 pm

About this Event: Join the National Museum of African American History and Culture and [BlackComputerHER.org](https://blackcomputerher.org) as we celebrate National Engineering Week and Women's History Month with the African Americans in STEM Wikipedia Edit-A-Thon. Participants will create and edit Wikipedia pages for African American STEM professionals highlighting the impacts on their communities, nation, and the world. The creation and editing of Wikipedia pages will benefit K-12 students and teachers by sharing the narratives of African American STEM professionals, both the past and present.

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[Black History Month Dinner Series- Stewed Okra & Tomatoes with Bacon](#) COST: [FREE](#)

[Register Here](#)

Date & Time

Sunday, February 21, 2021

6:00 pm to 7:00 pm

About this Event: Celebrate Black History Month with Addie from Seward Coop for Sunday dinner.

[The 2021 Virginia Black History Month \(Virtual\) Gala](#) [Register Here](#) Cost: \$25 General \$45 VIP

Date & Time

Saturday, February 26, 2021

6:00 pm to 9:00 pm



About this Event: [Here is the plan!](#) We are asking our guests to pre-order their dinner from a local black owned restaurant, invite the entire family to your home (to include the kids), put on your formal attire and connect on zoom with thousands of other families attending the gala. We will invite national celebrities to make cameo appearances to provide their insight on the current situation. We will also provide the best of black entertainment that will highlight the diversity of the black family. Finally, we will ask hosts from various parts of the nation to participate in the celebration by showing our guests historical African American places from across the globe.

[Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents Book Club](#)

Date & Time

Sunday, February 28, 2021

3:00 pm to 4:15 pm

Join us: meet.google.com/ggw-sejs-mun [Register HERE](#)

About the Event: Join the Winchester Public Schools' Office of Equity for a lively, informative book discussion of Isabel Wilkerson's acclaimed non-fiction book, *Caste*, published in 2020.

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Wilkerson, the Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *The Warmth of Other Suns*, chronicles the formation of an entrenched social hierarchy of human ranking in the United States. Through a deeply researched narrative and immersive stories about real people, Wilkerson reveals how America has been shaped by a hidden caste system. Beyond race, class, or other factors, she argues, a powerful caste system influences people's lives and behavior and the nation's fate. Linking the caste systems of America, India, and Nazi Germany, she explores eight pillars that underlie caste systems across civilizations, including divine will, bloodlines, stigma, and more. She documents how the Nazis studied the racial systems in America to plan their out-cast of the Jews; she discusses why the cruel logic of caste requires that there be a bottom rung for those in the middle to measure themselves against; she writes about the surprising health costs of caste, in depression and life expectancy, and the effects of this hierarchy on our culture and politics. Finally, she points forward to ways America can move beyond the artificial separations of human divisions, toward hope in our common humanity. Beautifully written, original, and revealing, *Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents* is an eye-opening story of people and history, and a reexamination of what lies under the surface of ordinary lives and of American life today.

[Black History Month Dinner Series- Vegetarian Jambalaya and Cornbread](#)

COST: [FREE Register Here](#)

Date & Time

Sunday, February 28, 2021

6:00 pm to 7:00 pm

About this Event: Celebrate Black History Month with Addie from Seward Coop for Sunday dinner.

[Discovering the Pearls: Alpha Kappa Sorority Founder Lucy Diggs Slowe](#)

Hosted by: [Upsilon Epsilon Omega President Kendra Brown and The Ladies of AKA](#)

Date & Time

TBA

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated (AKA) was founded on a mission comprised of five basic tenets that have remained unchanged since the sorority's inception more than a century ago. Alpha Kappa Alpha's purpose is to cultivate and encourage high scholastic and ethical standards, to promote unity and friendship among college women, to study and help alleviate problems concerning girls and women in order to improve their social stature, to maintain a progressive interest in college life, and to be of "Service to All Mankind".

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The Founders of Alpha Kappa Alpha are: Anna Easter Brown, Beulah Burke, Lillie Burke, Marjorie Hill, Margaret Flagg Holmes, Ethel Hedgeman (Lyle), Lavinia Norman, Lucy Diggs Slowe and Marie Woolfolk (Taylor).

Founder Lucy Diggs Slowe was born in Berryville, Virginia . After graduation in 1908, Slowe returned to Baltimore to teach English in high school. During the summers, she started studying at Columbia University in New York, where she earned her Masters of Arts degree in 1915. In 1919, the District of Columbia asked Lucy Slowe to create the first junior high school in its system for blacks and then appointed her as principal. She led the school until 1922, creating the first integrated in-service training for junior high school teachers in the District.

In 1917, Slowe won the American Tennis Association's first tournament. She was the first African-American woman to win a major sports title.

Cooking with Charryse Johnson COST: FREE

Date & Time

TBA

About Event: In recent years, there's been a growing trend of people pursuing healthier meal options — specifically vegan and vegetarian. In fact, according to a recent study, one in four people over the age of 17 years old are vegetarians, with over one million in America practicing and adhering to a vegan lifestyle. Join Charryse as she whips up her completely vegan delights.

From Past to Present: Conversations with Douglas Alumni and Handley Black Student Union COST: FREE Sponsored and Hosted by Handley BSU

Date & Time

TBA

About Event: Civil rights activists and longtime Winchester residents spent their life fighting for freedom and justice for everyone. In this illuminating conversation with Douglas Alumni and Handley BSU, we will discuss the essential importance of voting, and share encouraging words of wisdom for the generation of young people currently navigating our society.