

Black History

ocls.info/blackhistorymonth

Celebrate Through Films: Black History Month

Orlando Public Library, Albertson Room

Fridays, February 3–24, 11 a.m.

Celebrate Black History Month with films that highlight the achievements of black Americans and recognize the central role of African-Americans in U.S. history.

February 3: Ruby Bridges

February 10: The Help

February 17: I Am Ali

February 24: Pride

What I Didn't Learn In School: An Intro to Unknown African-American History

Southeast Branch

Thursday, February 9, 6:30 p.m.

This challenging program seeks to educate participants on aspects of African-American history that are often overlooked. What did Abraham Lincoln really think about African-Americans? Who is William Lynch? And what actually happened in the Red Summer of 1919? Discover the answers to these questions and much more.

Echoes of My Sister's Voices

Eatonville Branch

Saturday, February 11, 11 a.m.

Join Dr. Naima Bush for an exploration of the lives of women trapped by the bondage of slavery. Using music, poetry, storytelling and narrative, Dr. Bush weaves a masterful historical offering that brings these women's voices to life!

Deep In My Heart

Orlando Public Library, Albertson Room

Saturday, February 11, 3 p.m.

This new dynamic musical lecture covers the music and moments of the Civil Rights Movement, while Dr. Naima Bush highlights the historical events that shaped the nation we live in today.

African-American Read-In

Orlando Public Library, Library Central

Sunday, February 12, 2 p.m.

Celebrate African-American literature in poetry, story and song, performed by local luminaries in conjunction with the 27th Annual National African-American Read-In. For more information, visit ocls.info/read-in.

Black Panther: This World Wakanda

Eatonville Branch

Wednesday, February 15, 6:30 p.m.

From 1970s Afrofuturism to contemporary concerns about black liberation, the Black Panther and his world have served to highlight the concerns of black America. This talk explores the ways writers have used the Black Panther's fictive world to explore black concerns with the African Diaspora. Presented by author and urban historian Julian Chambliss, Department Chair of Rollins College's Department of History.

Pride, Power and Protest? Luke Cage and the Black Superhero Question

Chickasaw Branch

Saturday, February 25, 2 p.m.

From comics in the 1970s to a new Netflix series, the role of Luke Cage as the first black superhero in the United States has been a source of anxiety and aspiration. This talk explores the evolution of the original Blaxploitation heroes from the black power roots to his iconic links to the contemporary Black Lives Matter movement. Presented by author and urban historian Julian Chambliss, Department Chair of Rollins College's Department of History.

Talbert Gray: Breaking Barriers

Orlando Public Library, Library Central

Sunday, February 26, 2 p.m.

When Talbert Gray joined WESH-TV in Orlando in 1969, he became the first African-American newsman on a commercial station in Florida. Gray changed media in the south forever by blazing trails and opening doors during his long career in TV, newspapers, magazines and radio. From interviewing celebrities and Civil Rights legends to publishing the first black magazine to celebrate diversity in Central Florida, Gray has compelling stories to tell from his fascinating life as a change-maker. Presented in partnership with the Orange County Regional History Center.

The Beat Goes On: Rap and Hip-Hop Culture

Orlando Public Library, Albertson Room

Tuesday, February 28, 6:30 p.m.

Join us for an ideological, social and historical tracing of rap and hip-hop culture through successive genres of African-American music. Journey from the 19th century to the present-day while endeavoring to extract meaning from this empirical reality. Presented by Professor Don Harrell, University of Central Florida Africana Studies Program.