


Black History Month 2025

The theme for Black History Month 2025 is "**Reclaim, Reflect, Restore:**" This theme encourages students and educators to **reclaim** narratives that have been erased or marginalized, ensuring that Black voices and histories remain central to our understanding of the past. It invites deep **reflection** on historical and contemporary struggles, empowering learners to make connections between past movements and present-day realities. Finally, it calls us to **restore** the full scope of Black contributions, resistance, and triumphs, fostering a sense of pride, agency, and responsibility in shaping a more just and equitable future. Operating from the spirit of the original intention of Carter G. Woodson, the School District of Philadelphia's Office of Curriculum and Instruction centered all planned events around work being done by African Americans.

FEBRUARY 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Langston Hughes Birthday 1902 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and more than 200 others arrested and jailed after a voting rights march in Selma, Alabama (1965) Quote of the day



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<p>2</p> <p><u>Washington D.C. abolishes slavery in the national capitol (1862)</u></p> <p><u>Quote of the day</u></p>	<p>3</p> <p><u>Jack Johnson becomes first Black heavyweight boxing champion (1903)</u></p> <p><u>Quote of the day</u></p>	<p>4</p> <p><u>Rosa Parks birthday 1913</u></p> <p><u>Author, Political Economist, and Historian C.L.R. James Born in Trinidad 1901</u></p> <p><u>Quote of the day</u></p>	<p>5</p> <p><u>Congressman Thaddeus Stevens offered an amendment to Freedmen's Bureau Bill authorizing the distribution of public land and confiscated land to freedmen and loyal refugees in 40- acre lots that gets voted down in the House of Representatives. (1866)</u></p> <p><u>Quote of the day</u></p>	<p>6</p> <p><u>Bob Marley's Birthday 1945</u></p> <p><u>Harry S. McAlpin became the first African American journalist to be admitted to a White House press conference. (1944)</u></p> <p><u>Quote of the day</u></p>	<p>7</p> <p><u>Inventor & Surveyor Benjamin Banneker began to help lay out Washington D.C. (1791)</u></p> <p><u>Negro History Week, which eventually becomes Black History Month, originated by Carter G. Woodson is observed for the first time. (1926)</u></p> <p><u>Quote of the day</u></p>	<p>8</p> <p><u>Harry S. McAlpin became the first African American journalist to be admitted to a White House press conference. (1944)</u></p> <p><u>Quote of the day</u></p>
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<p>9</p> <p>Alice Walker's birthday 1944</p> <p>Quote of the day</p>	<p>10</p> <p>After 12 days of debate and voting on 125 amendments, the U.S. House of Representatives passed the Civil Rights Act of 1964 by a vote of 290-130.</p> <p>Quote of the day</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Nelson Mandela released from prison after 27 years (1990)</p> <p>Quote of the day</p>	<p>12</p> <p>National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) founded in 1909</p> <p>Quote of the day</p> <p>Equity in Practice: Black History Month Discussion Panel Register Here</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Nashville students launch sit-in demonstrations to demand an end to racial segregation at lunch counters (1960)</p> <p>Black Love Day found in 1993</p> <p>Quote of the day</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Frederick Douglass Day (Born 1817)</p> <p>Black college founded in Augusta, GA in 1867, moved to Atlanta and took the name Morehouse</p> <p>Quote of the day</p>	<p>15</p> <p>New Jersey passes a gradual emancipation act, delaying the end of slavery in the state for decades (1804)</p> <p>Africana Studies Lecture and Workshop Series 21</p> <p>Quote of the day</p>
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<p>16</p> <p>Missouri outlaws the education of Black people and bans the immigration of free Black people into the state. (1847)</p> <p>Quote of the day</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Huey P Newton birthday 1942</p> <p>Quote of the day</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Toni Morrison Birthday 1931</p> <p>Film Screening: “Ain’t No Back to a Merry-Go-Round” Weitzman Center 5:00PM - 7:00PM Register Here Flyer</p> <p>Quote of the day</p>	<p>19</p> <p>John Singleton became the first African American Director to receive an Academy Award Nomination for Boyz N The Hood. (1992)</p> <p>Quote of the day</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Civil Rights Activists Arrested for Organizing Bus Boycott in Montgomery, Alabama (1956)</p> <p>3rd Annual Rosa Parks BDay Celebration</p> <p>Quote of the day</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Malcolm X assassinated 1965</p> <p>Quote of the day</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Artist Horace Pippin Birthday (1888)</p> <p>Octavius Catto Birthday</p> <p>Quote of the day</p>
<p>23</p> <p>W.E.B DuBois birthday 1868</p> <p>Quote of the day</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Entrepreneur, Abolitionist & Inventor James Forten, Sr. died in Philadelphia, PA. (1842)</p> <p>Kentucky refuses to ratify the Thirteenth Amendment abolishing slavery and does not so until 1976 (1865)</p> <p>Film Screening: “Ain’t No Back to</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Hiram Rhodes Revels of Mississippi was sworn in as the first African American U.S. Senator. (1870)</p> <p>Quote of the day</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Jimmie Lee Jackson, a 26 year old Black man, is killed by a white police officer after a police attack a peaceful civil rights protest (1965)</p> <p>Trayvon Martin, a 17 year old boy, is killed in Sanford Florida (2012)</p> <p>Quote of the day</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Congress refuses to seat John Willis Menard of Louisiana, the first Black man elected to the House of Representative s. Menard was the first black to make a speech in Congress. (1869)</p> <p>Quote of the day</p>	<p>28</p> <p>The Arkansas legislature required free blacks to choose between exile and enslavement. (1859)</p> <p>One Philly Black History Oratorical Showcase</p> <p>Quote of the day</p>	<p>1</p>

	<p>a Merry-Go-Round ” Weitzman Center 6:00PM - 8:00PM Register Here Flyer Quote of the day</p>					
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Additional Resources

[Black History Month Events in Philadelphia Website 2025](#)

[Dr. Ed Robinson Black Rhapsody 1970 Spoken Word Album](#)

(Recorded at William Penn School for Girls now called Franklin Learning Center)

[1838 Black Metropolis Website:](#) Includes walking tour information, short educational videos, interactive virtual maps, and much more around local Black Philadelphia History and Culture

Date	Event	Registration Info	Description
02/03/2025	Blackprint20 Proposal Form Release	Proposal form	The Blackprint 20 Summit Proposal Form will be opened for educators, students, and community members to submit session proposals for this landmark gathering, taking place February 13-15, 2026 . The summit will commemorate the 100th anniversary of Carter G. Woodson’s launch of Negro History Week , the foundation of what we now recognize as Black History Month, and it will also mark the 20th anniversary of the School District of Philadelphia becoming the first district in the nation to require African American History as a graduation requirement . Rooted in the theme "Education as the Practice of Freedom," this event will celebrate the power of Black educational leadership, honor the fight

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			<p>for historical truth in classrooms, and create space for conversations on equity, justice, and the future of education. We encourage proposals for workshops, panel discussions, and interactive sessions that explore culturally responsive teaching, historical truth-telling, and the role of education in shaping Black futures. This is an opportunity to be part of a historic moment, contributing to a gathering that not only reflects on the past but also actively builds a more just and liberated future for education.</p>
02/12/2025	Equity Practice: Black History Panel Discussion	Registration Link	<p>Join the DEI Office on Wednesday, February 12th 2025 from 12pm - 1pm for a panel discussion in celebration of Black History month. This discussion will highlight the Black experience and how we can collectively uplift the Black community as a District. Panelists will include School District of Philadelphia staff and Community Advocates.</p>
02/15/2024	21st Africana Studies Lecture and Workshop Series	<p>Register on Power Schools</p> <p>Non-SDP Employee Registration bit.ly/ASLWS21</p>	<p>The 21st Africana Studies Lecture and Workshop Series is a dynamic, virtual professional development event celebrating Black History Month and designed to deepen understanding of Black history, culture, and education. Featuring renowned speakers such as Timothy Welback, Esq., Kyle Morris-Sol, Tavis Sanders, Brittany Alston, and Ādisà Ājāmú, the series will explore themes of cultural resilience, social justice, and innovative teaching strategies. Sessions include thought-provoking topics like the cultural significance of hip-hop, the power of edutainment, uncovering erased histories, and examining worker organizing within the Black Radical Tradition. The event also provides actionable insights for educators to create equitable and inclusive learning environments that empower students. Open to all, this free Black History Month event promises inspiration, engagement, and meaningful learning for educators, community members, and advocates alike.</p>
02/18/2024	Lost Education of Horace Tate Book Club	Registration information coming soon	<p>During the book club sessions, teachers will explore the historical and social contexts surrounding the topics discussed in "The Lost Education of Horace Tate." They will engage in dialogues centered around decolonizing the curriculum, reimagining historical narratives, and amplifying marginalized voices. Through shared reflections, participants will identify</p>

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			practical strategies and resources to incorporate diverse perspectives, promote cultural inclusivity, and challenge systems of oppression within their classrooms.
02/18/2025 & 02/24/2025	https://theweitzman.org/	Registration information coming soon	Join us for a film screening centered around the Civil Rights Movement.
02/20/2025	Rosa Parks Bday Celebration	Register bit.ly/RosaParks3 Flyer	Join us at the School District of Philadelphia's Third Annual Rosa Parks Celebration. This significant event will take place in the Skyline room at the Free Library of Philadelphia Parkway Central Library Branch on February 20, 2025. As we gather to honor the legacy of Rosa Parks, a pivotal figure in the fight for civil rights, it is an opportunity for us to come together as a community committed to fostering inclusivity and understanding. The celebration will feature insightful discussions, impactful presentations, and a shared reflection on the lessons we can draw from Rosa Parks' courageous stand.
02/28/2025	One Philly Black History Oratorical Showcase	Submit Performances bit.ly/PhillyOratorical Flyer	This showcase is brought to you by the Mayor's Office of Education in partnership with the School District of Philadelphia's Department of Social Studies. Submit your recorded performance for a chance to compete, win prizes, and share your voice in this prestigious celebration of academic excellence and cultural heritage!

Daily Quotes

1. The study of history cannot be a mere celebration of those who struggled on our behalf. We must be instructed by history and should transform history into concrete reality, into planning and development, into the construction of power and the ability to ensure our survival as a people. If not, Black History Month becomes an exercise that cuts us further off from reality.
-Amos Wilson

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2. From the nonevent of Emancipation to the afterlife of slavery, Black America has been required to consistently think outside of the state because the state has consistently been our oppressor. The truth of our history tells us that freedom has always been more a concept than a reality. Using the word "freedom" at all to describe Black people's status is dubious and largely inaccurate. For this reason, celebrations like Juneteenth commemoration are complicated cultural events.
-William C. Anderson
3. History is not a procession of illustrious people. It's about what happens to a people. Millions of anonymous people is what history is about.
-James Baldwin
4. Every generation of Black learners must rediscover the beautiful and the terrible realities of Black education for themselves, just as every generation of African Americans must rediscover the legacy of slavery for the first time. This is a fact of Blackness. Such stories are more than events of the past. They constitute living history: a past always sitting in the classroom besides us. Black students' educational strivings have always had to do with more than just the here and now. By necessity, they have been forward- and backward- looking in the same breath.
-Dr. Jarvis Givens
5. Black Americans as a population group can not validly see themselves as one "multicultural" culture among others, but rather as the emerging alternative worldview of America's reconceptualization as a civilization or "world." One must understand the specific role of Black American as prescribed by the "native model" of the nation-state -- a role which in the total degree of intensity is unique to it.
-Sylvia Wynter
6. An exclusive focus on racial injustice without a comprehensive analysis of its links with corporate capitalism greatly distorts the multidimensional character of oppression and also camouflages the true nature of modern racism.
-James Cone
7. And when we call for education, we mean real education. We believe in work. We ourselves are workers, but work is not necessarily education. Education is the development of power and ideal. We want our children trained as intelligent human beings should be and we will fight for all time against any proposal to educate Black boys or girls simply as servants and underlings, or simply for the use of other people. They have a right to know, to think, to aspire.
-W.E. B. Dubois
8. The story of Africans and their descendants conforms to neither the popular nor official narratives of the nation-state, as their experiences are often overlooked, misrepresented, or caricatured, if not erased entirely.
-Dr. Michael A. Gomez

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9. A people without memory is dysfunctional, even though it has available a sophisticated program. The program simply would have nothing to process. A people without a memory or with a false memory is a disabled people. They have nothing to process or more likely they have garbage to process.
-Asa Hilliard
10. To be of Black Study is to be against the ways in which knowledge has influenced how reality--particularly the reality that has applied to Black life--has been presented to us.
-Dr. Joshua Myers
11. For students to understand the twenty-first century, they must understand the centuries of disruption that led us to where we are today. We really have to study the 500 years of world history and the last 500 years of disruption in favor of Europe and the downgrading of other peoples. Once things are placed in their proper historical perspective, they might have a better idea of where the world can go.
-John Henrik Clarke
12. A nation that will keep people in slavery for 244 years will "thingify" them, make them things. Therefore they will exploit them, and poor people generally, economically. And a nation that will exploit economically will have to have foreign investments and everything else, and will have to use its military might to protect them. All these problems are tied together.
-Martin King
13. The only question which concerns us here is whether these "educated" persons are actually equipped to face the ordeal before them or unconsciously contribute to their own undoing by perpetuating the regime of the oppressor.
-Carter G. Woodson
14. The only way people can enhance their vision of the universal is to break out of their cultural and political boxes and encounter another reality. They must be challenged to take seriously another value system. That is, instead of studying only Jonathan Edwards, they must also examine the reality of David Walker. Here truth is expanded beyond the limitations of white culture.
-James Cone
15. No matter where you live in the world, you cannot escape the history and legacy of the oppression of Africans.
-Asa Hilliard
16. In order for us as poor and oppressed people to become a part of a society that is meaningful, the system under which we now exist has to be radically changed. This means that we are going to have to learn to think in radical terms. I use the term radical in its original meaning—getting down to and understanding the root cause. It means facing a system that does not lend itself to your needs and devising means by which you change that system.
-Ella Baker

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17. Unless one lives and loves in the trenches, it is difficult to remember that the war against dehumanization is ceaseless.
-Audre Lorde
18. It is the constant seeking of an outside to white supremacy that might elusively be understood as Black freedom.
-Dr. Jarvis R. Givens
19. It's important, therefore, to know who the real enemy is, and to function, the very serious function of racism, which is distraction. It keeps you explaining over and over again, your reason for being. Someone says you have no language and so you spend 20 years proving that you do. Somebody says your head isn't shaped properly so you have scientists working on the fact that is. Someone says you have no art so you dredge that up. Somebody says you have no kingdoms and so you dredge that up. None of that is necessary. There will always be one more thing.
-Toni Morrison
20. Without memory or history, neither the present nor the future can be interpreted.
-Asa Hilliard
21. The Black community must reclaim its history by unraveling new meanings in old tales so that the past may emerge as an instrument of Black liberation.
-James Cone
22. Our struggles historically, from enslavement to Jim Crow to now, have been embraced by the state under banners of memorial and commemoration. Yet something sinister happens here when museums, schools, and institutes dedicated to the preservation of Black History make that very history into something that the country needed to become what it is now.
23. This assumes, of course, that today is satisfactory and that our struggle is finished or nearly concluded.
-William C. Anderson
24. You cannot advance the interests of your people merely by talking about our greatness for a couple of hours in the afternoon. You're going to have to teach it, day in, day out, and place your students and people in a position so they may learn how to behave and how to resolve their problems.
-Amos Wilson
25. There is also the danger in our culture that because a person is called upon to give public statements and is acclaimed by the establishment, such a person gets to the point of believing that he is the movement.
-Ella Baker
26. When I came out of college into the world of work, I realized that it was quite possible that my plan of training a talented tenth might put in control and power, a group of selfish, self-indulgent, well-to-do men, whose basic interest in solving the Negro problem was personal; personal free dom and unhampered enjoyment and use of the world, without any real care, or certainly no arousing care, as to what became of the mass of American Negroes, or of the mass of any people. My Talented Tenth, I could see, might result in a sort of interracial free-for-all, with the devil taking the hindmost and the foremost taking anything

they could lay hands on.

-W.E.B. DuBois

27. If the attempt to outlaw the collection of racial data, white supremacy can escalate in its present subtle and extra-legal forms: legacy, kinship, friendship, and the accumulated advantages generated by slavery, American apartheid and tradition. African Americans and other "pariah" groups will be locked in an inferior position and status. And since no data will be available, no one can mobilize for change or prove racial preference for whites.

-Barbara Sizemore

28. Our healing as a captive and exploited people lies in our ability to acknowledge our fear of the system that has been constructed to imprison us. Acknowledging that fear is the operating principle. Acknowledgement of the fear will take away its power.

-Dr. Marimba Ani