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Celebrate Black History Month with Orange County Library System

In February, Orange County Library System invites the community to celebrate Black History Month. Events for all ages will highlight the work of Black authors, musicians, inventors and activists. On Sunday, February 5, Orlando Public Library will hold a celebration of African American literature in poetry, story and song, performed by local luminaries in conjunction with the 33rd Annual African American Read-In. Visit ocls.info/african-american-read to learn more.

Eatonville Branch will play host *Woven Stories of Resistance*, a powerful quilt exhibition created by the Charmettes Club of Orlando to share their passion for social justice in celebration of Black History Month. The exhibition will be on display at Eatonville Branch through February, with a reception and panel discussion hosted at the branch from 12–3 p.m. on February 18. For more information, check out attend.ocls.info/event/7657869.

Visit ocls.info/black-history-month for a complete listing of Black History Month events at OCLS.

On February 19, Orlando Public Library hosts author, award-winning chef and former *Top Chef* contestant, Kwame Onwuachi, as part of its ongoing Meet the Author series. Onwuachi will discuss his first cookbook, *My America: Recipes from a Young Black Chef*, which showcases the true diversity of American food. For details, visit attend.ocls.info/event/7049976.

Registration is strongly recommended for all in-person events due to limited capacity. If you have any questions about the information shared below, call 407.835.7323. Visit us online at ocls.info to register, or to view a complete listing of both virtual and in-person library events.

General Events:

African American Read-In

Orlando Public Library, Library Central

Sunday, February 5, 2–3:30 p.m.

Celebrate African American literature in poetry, story and song performed by local luminaries in conjunction with the 33rd Annual National African American Read-In.

Cuisine Corner: Soup Joumou (Haitian Pumpkin Soup)

South Trail Branch

Tuesday, February 7, Noon

Chef Ingrid Alliance of Pinch of my Cuisine shares her recipe for soup joumou – a squash-based soup traditionally prepared for Haitian Independence Day. Registration required.

Sons of The Silent Age: Chaplin, Keaton and Lloyd

Orlando Public Library, Albertson Room

Friday, February 10, Noon

When the Albertson Library opened in 1923, Charlie Chaplin, Buster Keaton and Harold Lloyd each had two movies in theaters. Discover the history and attitude of the age through film 100 years later.

Melrose Meetups: Infrared Photography Photo Walk

Orlando Public Library, Melrose Center

Saturday, February 11, 10:30 a.m.–1 p.m.

Bring your camera and walking shoes and join the Orlando Public Library's Melrose Center photography instructors on a guided photo walk in downtown Orlando. This meetup will begin at the Melrose Center on the second floor, followed by a walk outside to gather images, before arriving back to post-process the images for infrared photography.

Woven Stories of Resistance

Eatonville Branch

Saturday, February 11, Noon–3 p.m.

Join us for a reception and panel discussion to learn about the inspiration behind this powerful quilt exhibition created by the Charmettes Club of Orlando to share their passion for social justice.

The Beatles at Shea Stadium

Orlando Public Library, Library Central

Sunday, February 12, 2 p.m.

Dave Schwensen, author of *The Beatles at Shea Stadium*, will host an interactive experience about the groundbreaking concert that launched the modern era of outdoor stadium shows.

Music in the Library: Wassalou

Orlando Public Library, Library Central

Saturday, February 18, 4 p.m.

Wassalou is an Afropop band that presents a unique talent to the North American cultural landscape. Bringing language, colorful traditional costuming and dance straight out of Africa.

Meet the Author: Kwame Onwuachi

Orlando Public Library, Library Central

Sunday, February 19, 2 p.m.

Author, James Beard Award-winning chef and former *Top Chef* contestant, Kwame Onwuachi, will discuss his first cookbook, *My America: Recipes from a Young Black Chef*. For more information on Onwuachi, visit prhspeakers.com.

Snack & Learn: Black History Bingo

Eatonville Branch

Wednesday, February 22, Noon

Join Casman Mosby with Village Medical in Black History bingo, where we all win by learning the history of African Americans. Snacks will be provided.

Food 101: Classic French Cooking

Orlando Public Library, Albertson Room

Wednesday, February 22, 5:30 p.m.

The Food 101 series introduces you to a new topic every month, examining the historical and social significance of what we eat. In February, learn all about classic French cooking.

Music in the Library: Don Black

Orlando Public Library, Library Central

Saturday, February 25, 4 p.m.

Hear saxophonist Don Black perform. His approach to music, whether it be it blues, jazz or pop is poetic, rhythmic and soulful.

Youth Events:**Alma Thomas Art**

Washington Park Branch

Wednesday, February 1, 4 p.m.

Fairview Shores Branch

Saturday, February 4, 3 p.m.

South Creek Branch

Saturday, February 11, 2 p.m.

West Oaks Branch

Wednesday, February 15, 4 p.m.

Honor African American artist Alma Thomas and create your own colorful abstract work of art. Recommended for ages 6–12.

Teen Volunteering

Hiawassee Branch

Saturday, February 4, 11 a.m.–1 p.m.

Orlando Public Library

Saturday, February 11, 11 a.m.–1 p.m.

High school students will earn two hours of community service by assembling craft kits for the library.

Cuéntame un Cuento

South Trail Branch

Tuesdays, February 4 & 28, 11 a.m.

Chickasaw Branch

Wednesday, February 15, 11 a.m.

Southeast Branch

Monday, February 27, 10:15 a.m.

West Oaks Branch

Tuesday, February 28, 11 a.m.

Virtual

Tuesdays, February 7, 21 & 28, 10 a.m.

Tuesday, February 28, 11 a.m.

Cuéntame un Cuento is an interactive bilingual storytime featuring books and songs in English and Spanish that are suitable for speakers of either language.

STEAM Free Play

South Trail Branch

Mondays, February 6 & 20, 3:30–5 p.m.

Explore and play as we have fun with STEAM-related toys! Kits such as LEGOS and K’NEX are available for anyone to play.

Hello, Neighbor!

Chickasaw Branch

Wednesday, February 8, 11 a.m.

Welcome to our neighborhood of makebelieve. Join us for a gr-r-ific time learning practical skills with stories and interactive activities. Recommended for ages 2–5.

OrisiRisi African Folklore

Eatonville Branch

Saturday, February 11, 11:30 a.m.

West Oaks Branch

Monday, February 13, 10 a.m.

South Creek Branch

Saturday, February 25, 11 a.m.

Share the beauty of African life and culture through a unique folkloric performance filled with drumming, dance and storytelling. Recommended for ages 0–12.

The Dances of Beyoncé

Fairview Shores Branch

Friday, February 17, 4:30 p.m.

Who run the world? Girls! Embrace your inner Beyoncé through dance and learn the iconic moves from some of Beyoncé's most popular songs.

Black History Science Smart

Southeast Branch

Saturday, February 18, 10:30 a.m.

Learn about scientists and inventors who've made us change the way we look at the world. Enjoy facts, trivia and challenges. Recommended for families with children ages 5 and up.

Arabic Storytime

Alafaya Branch

Sunday, February 26, 4:30 p.m.

Listen to storytime in Arabic. Connect with friends and sing the Arabic alphabet song. Participate in circletime, interactive songs, play and craft time.

LEARN. GROW. CONNECT.

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