

The Skillman Foundation Presents

# GOOD STUFF

for kids & families

Celebrate African American History Month at your Local Library

The month of **February** has been designated as **Black History Month**, which is the remembrance of important people and events in **African American** history. ♦ It is celebrated annually in the United States and Canada during this time, while in the United Kingdom, it is held in the month of October.

The **Detroit Public Library** and some of its branches have planned exciting events during the entire month of **February**. ♦ Following is a list of the fun, and a little history to boot. ♦ All events are free and open to the public!

**Chandler Park Branch** - 12800 Harper, 48213 - 313.852.4284. ♦ The **Chandler Park Branch** was named for the area it serves. ♦ This Branch opened in its present location on **March 23, 1957**. ♦ The branch sits on property donated by the **City of Detroit Parks and Recreation Department**.

*Event planned:* **Living History Program: Re-enactment of the lives of Frederick Douglass and Harriet Tubman** - **Thursday, February 28, 6 p.m. - 7 p.m.** ♦ Excellent for the entire family.

**Duffield Branch Library** - 2507 West Grand Boulevard, 48206 - 313.224.6456. ♦ The **Duffield Branch** was named after **Divie B. Duffield**, who served as a member and president of the **Detroit Library Commission 1904-1915 and 1920-1935**. ♦ It opened to the public on **November 24, 1916**, and was one of the library branches built with Carnegie funds.

*Event planned:* **28th Annual Albert H. Mallory Famous Black Heroes Oratorical Essay Contest** - **Saturday, February 23, 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.** For children in grades 3rd to 6th.



**Main Library** - 5201 Woodward - 313.833.1000. ♦ The **Detroit Public Library (DPL)** is the largest library system in the state of Michigan. ♦ The Main Library and its 23 neighborhood branches make it one of the most valuable and accessible public institutions in metropolitan Detroit. ♦ It was opened in its present location on **March 21, 1921**.

*Events planned:*

• **Teen Forum Featuring Author Dana Davison** - **Tuesday, February 19, 2 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.** Join the discussion of issues plaguing teens today. ♦ **Children's Library**. ♦ Registration Required.

• **African Cooking presented by Diane Gassaway** - **Saturday, February 23, 2:30 p.m. - 4 p.m.** All ages welcome.

• **Celebration Sing-a-Long** - **Wednesday, February 27, 6 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.** Audience sing-a-long featuring African American musical favorites. ♦ **Music & Performing Arts**.

**Redford Branch** - 21200 Grand River, 48219 - 313.578.8000. ♦ This Branch was named for the area in which it serves. ♦ It opened at its present location **February 16, 1981**. ♦ The building was designed by the architectural firm of **Sims-Varner**.

*Event planned:* **What African American History Month Means to Me** - **Saturday, February 16, 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.** Students will make a collage depicting their meaning of this month.

**Richard Branch** - 9876 Grand River, 48204. - 313.870.5057. ♦ Opened **February 5, 1923**, the **Richard Branch** was named in honor of the pioneer rector of **St. Anne's Roman Catholic Church, Gabriel Richard**, who was also one of Michigan's earliest educators, the first vice president of the **University of Michigan** and the first bishop-designate of the **Detroit diocese**.

*Event planned:* **Ain't I a Woman? The Life and Times of Sojourner Truth** - **Wednesday, February 20, 4 p.m.-5 p.m.** A dramatization of **Sojourner Truth** by **Madelyn Porter**.

**Sherwood Forest Branch** - 7117 W. Seven Mile, 48221 - 313.578.7587. The **Sherwood Branch** opened in **February 20, 1951**. ♦ The branch was named for the area of the city which it serves, which in turn, was named for the English forest which was legendary seat of operations of **Robin Hood**.

*Events planned:*

• **African American Storytelling Extravaganza: Remembering Our Roots** - **Saturday, February 16, 2 p.m. - 3 p.m.** Join storyteller **Madelyn Porter** as she tells dynamic stories.

• **African American Cinema** - **Saturday, February 23, 2 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.** Enjoy the inspiring true story of **Ruby Bridges'** struggle for a better education. ♦ Refreshments will be served.

**Wilder Branch** - 7140 E. Seven Mile, 48234 - 313.852.4285. ♦ This branch was named after **Laura Ingalls Wilder**, author of many children's stories of pioneer life. ♦ **Wilder** opened on **February 6, 1967**.

*Events planned:*

• **Why We Cook What We Cook: African American Foodways** - **Tuesday, February 26, 6 p.m.** This history of African American cooking. ♦ Enjoy samplings of food by noted chef **Gregory Calvert**.

For more events, visit  
[www.detroitpubliclibrary.org](http://www.detroitpubliclibrary.org)

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