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City African-American Network



Opportunity Builds Diversity

**Black History Month 2020 Theme:
African Americans and the Vote**

BLACK HISTORY MONTH 2020

AFRICAN AMERICANS and THE VOTE

1870

OREGON DOES NOT PASS 15TH AMENDMENT GRANTING VOTING RIGHTS TO BLACK MEN

1926

OREGON REPEALS EXCLUSION LAW ALLOWING BLACK PEOPLE TO LIVE IN THE STATE

1927

OREGON ALLOWS BLACK PEOPLE TO VOTE

2001

OREGON REMOVES RACIST LANGUAGE FROM CONSTITUTION

2020

MORE THAN 25 BLACK ELECTED OFFICIALS IN OREGON

City African American Network (CAAN) invites you to attend:

2020 Black History Month Proclamation and Reception

City Hall Council Chambers & Atrium
January 29th, 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Voter registration, art, entertainment, and food!

CAAN will be collaborating with Multnomah County Elections Division to launch voter registration and provide information to community members. This is an important exercise specifically to ensure that community members, who are eligible to vote, are afforded the opportunity to vote.

There are historical and current attempts to disenfranchise the Black community in not exercising their right to vote (civic duty). As City employees, it is our responsibility to encourage and facilitate civic engagement, of which the right to vote is paramount.

We need to ensure that community members are registered to vote so they can exercise their right under the constitution.



Black History Month Proclamation
Wednesday, January 29, 4-6 PM
City Hall, 1221 SW 4th Ave

This year's event will kick off with the proclamation at City Hall followed by the

reception and the voter registration kick-off. The proclamation will feature two amazing leaders, **Mercedes Muñoz, Oregon Teacher of the Year** and **Shannon Olive, Founder of WomenFirst Transition & Referral Center.**



Black History Month Lunch & Learn

Tuesday, February 11 at 11:30 AM
Commonwealth Building, Portland Housing
Bureau 421 SW 6th Ave, 5th Floor

Come and engage with city staff at this community forum highlighting the exceptional community engagement strategies and projects.



Social Hour

Thursday, February 27 at 4:30-6:30
PM
Commonwealth Building, 421 SW
6th Ave, 13th Floor

End Black History Month by engaging with community leaders and professionals over refreshments.

Upcoming Community Events



You are cordially invited to the Black Futures Ball where everyone is royalty and YOU are the special guest. Dress to impress and come prepared to have the most fun ever. And, get ready to slay the runway during the Kiki Ball after-party lead by Debris Olivier. This event will be at The Armory at Portland Center Stage. More info on Instagram: @thehouseofolivier

Black History Festival NW 2020 Events

**For more information on the events listed, please visit the website of Black History Festival NW at www.blackhistoryfestival.org*

January 31 BHF2020 Reception Party & Art Installation*| IFCC

View the work of and talk to local artists from the Pacific Northwest as we reveal the art that will be housed at the Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center for the entire month of February.

February 1 Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Founder's Day Luncheon | Sheraton Portland Airport

Hosted by Portland Alumnae Chapter with keynote speaker Dr. Paulette C. Walker, the 25th National President. To purchase tickets, visit www.portlanddeltas.org

February 1 Gospel Roots* | Mt. Olivet

Join artists, churches, choir members from Portland, Washington, and California and special guest artists as we conclude the festival kickoff with a culmination of gospel sounds from the early 1900s to modern-day.

February 1 Black History Month Scavenger Hunt* | Various Locations

In partnership with Prosper Portland, join in the fun discovering pieces of Portland's past and present Black community. Cash prize for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners.

February 1 Festival Kickoff with Trainer Tyra and Nikki Brown Clown*

For the dancer in you, join Trainer Tyra and Nikki Brown Clown in the festival kickoff.

February 2 Pieces of Vanport*

Join cast members at St. John's library to hear Pieces of Vanport from the full-length play written by Shalanda Sims and originally produced at Jefferson high school in 2013.

February 3-7 Youth Displays and Conversation* | Area Libraries

In partnership with Multnomah County Library, Portland Association of Teachers and high school Black Student Union groups, educational displays will be housed in various libraries for all to see the entire month of February. Great for school field trips. Afterward, join the youth for a candid conversation about the current cultural climate in their lives.

February 5 Rock the Mic Night*

Come out and support local artists and leaders as they share with the community.

February 6-16 14th Annual Who I am Celebrating Me Production*

This play, created fifteen years ago by Portland native Shalanda Sims and performed by youth and adults from the Portland metropolitan area, takes audience members on a historical journey through the Black experience, examining and exploring systems put in place since 1619 and the often overlooked and silenced strength, resourcefulness, resilience, brilliance, triumph, and contributions made to propel America forward.

February 9 Sunday Dinner Mixers* | Various Locations

Hosted by local caterers, it's a community dinner, a time to fellowship with friends, meet

new people, have a meaningful conversation and good food. First-come, first-served.

February 12 Rock the Mic Night*

Come out and support local artists and leaders as they share with the community.

February 14 Storytime with Nikki Brown Clown* | Rockwood Library

Join the library and Black History Festival NW in a story hour featuring Nikki Brown Clown. This story hour is a culturally creative blend of picture books infused with music and movement to a range of African American music. This will be an interactive experience and participation is encouraged!

February 14-16 Been Ready Production*

Performed by Rejoice Diaspora Dance Company. Been Ready brings together our five personal experiences navigating conflicts that are inherently imbued with layers of race, gender, and bias. With an inward focus, we find what makes us ready.

February 29 Black Futures Gala

For more information visit <https://blackhistoryfestival.org/>

City African American Network is an approved affiliation of the Diverse and Empowered Employees of Portland (DEEP) www.portlandoregon.gov/deep/CAAN



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