

# American Baptist Churches of Greater Indianapolis Black History Month Celebration-2024

*Executive Minister-Rev. Dr. Michael Friday*

*Multicultural Ministries Specialist-Shirley Alexander*

**Black History Month** is a national annual observance for remembrance of important people and events in the history of the African Diaspora. It is celebrated annually in February in the United States, Canada and the United Kingdom.

The remembrance originated in 1926 by historian Carter G. Woodson as "Negro History Week." Woodson chose the second week of February because it marked the birthdays of two Americans who greatly influenced the lives and social condition of African Americans: former President Abraham Lincoln and abolitionist and former slave Frederick Douglass.

## **Suggestions for Black History Month Resources and Activities**

Martin Luther King Jr. In His Own Words (indypl.org) – Blog Post

**Barriers & Breakthroughs** - The Long History of Unequal Education in Indianapolis - From Indiana's very beginnings it welcomed neither Black people within its borders nor Black children in its schools. Join the conversation led by historians from the Indiana Remembrance Coalition to learn about the barriers and breakthroughs faced by Black children in Indiana and Marion County.

### **History On Stage - A Presentation from Madam CJ Walker & Ida B. Wells** -

Experience a live performance from two historic ladies: Madam CJ Walker & a Sales Associate, Madam CJ Walker & Ida B. Wells, or Ida B. Wells & Harriet Tubman. After a 45-minute presentation they will answer your questions for 15 minutes.

**Village of Stories** - Bring traditional African stories to life with the rhythm of the drum and the power of interactive learning with Arts for Learning teaching artist, Kahlil the Djeli. Children 3-5 will experience stories, rhythms, and drums to create their very own village of stories! [storytime]

### **2024 Meet the Artists XXXVI Gala Opening Reception**—Saturday Feb 17 - 5:30-10pm

Individuals of all ages are invited to an evening of cultural entertainment. Also view the works of prominent local African American artists during one of the city's premiere cultural events. Works will be on display throughout Central Library from January 31 to March 23, 2024.

### **Virtual Author Talk: Exploring Identity, Love, and Being Black in America in Fiction Writing - A Conversation with Award-Winning Author Jason Mott**

Tuesday, Feb 20 - 4-5pm

Join us as we talk to New York Times bestselling author Jason Mott about his recent novel Hell of a Book. This magnificent work of fiction is deeply honest, at times electrically funny, and is a book that goes to the heart of racism, police violence, and the hidden costs exacted upon Black America.

**The Center for Black Literature and Culture** of the Indianapolis Public Library can be reached at [indypl.org/locations/central-library/center-for-black-literature-and-culture](https://indypl.org/locations/central-library/center-for-black-literature-and-culture)

## Branch Library Celebrations

Activity	Library Location	Date	Time	Ages
History on Stage	West Perry	3-Feb	2-3pm	All Ages; Adults
History on Stage	West Indy	5-Feb	5-6pm	All Ages; Adults
History on Stage	Michigan Road	6-Feb	6-7pm	All Ages; Adults
History on Stage	Fort Ben	12-Feb	6:30-7:30pm	All Ages; Adults
History on Stage	East Washington	13-Feb	6-7pm	All Ages; Adults
History on Stage	Eagle	17-Feb	2-3pm	All Ages; Adults
History on Stage	Warren	19-Feb	5-6pm	All Ages; Adults
History on Stage	Lawrence	20-Feb	6-7pm	All Ages; Adults
History on Stage	Martindale-Brightwood	26-Feb	6-7pm	All Ages; Adults
History on Stage	Franklin Road	27-Feb	4-5pm	All Ages; Adults
Barriers & Breakthroughs	Martindale-Brightwood	1-Feb	2-3:15pm	Seniors; Adults
Barriers & Breakthroughs	Central	6-Feb	10:30-11:45am	Seniors; Adults
Barriers & Breakthroughs	Haughville	13-Feb	6-7:15pm	Seniors; Adults
Village of Stories	College Ave	7-Feb	10:30-11am	Preschooler
Village of Stories	Franklin Road	8-Feb	10:30-11am	Preschooler
Village of Stories	East 38th Street	14-Feb	10:30-11am	Preschooler
Village of Stories	Spades Park	15-Feb	10:30-11am	Preschooler
Village of Stories	Lawrence	21-Feb	10:30-11am	Preschooler
Village of Stories	Beech Grove	22-Feb	10:30-11am	Preschooler
Village of Stories	Martindale-Brightwood	28-Feb	4:30-5pm	Preschooler

IRT Fannie Lou Hamer study guide link here: <https://www.irtlive.com/learn-and-engage/students-and-teachers/study-guides/>