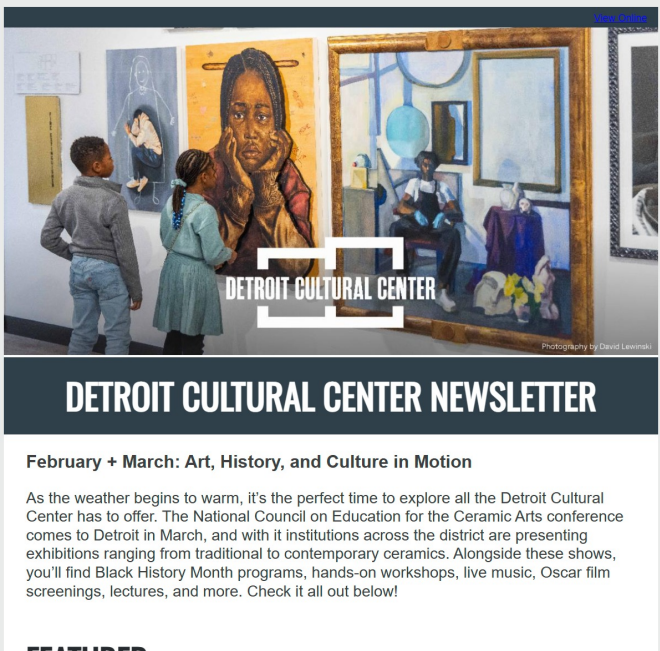




DETROIT CULTURAL CENTER NEWSLETTER

February + March: Art, History, and Culture in Motion

As the weather begins to warm, it's the perfect time to explore all the Detroit Cultural Center has to offer. The National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts conference comes to Detroit in March, and with it institutions showcasing everything from traditional to contemporary ceramics. Alongside these shows, you'll find Black History Month programs, hands-on workshops, live music, Oscar film screenings, lectures, and more. Check it all out below!

FEATURED



Celebrate Black History Month in the Cultural Center

February is coming to a close, so don't miss the Black History Month programs happening across the Cultural Center! We've highlighted a few standout events in this month's newsletter. If you can explore additional programming at each institution through links below:

- Detroit Historical Museum
- Detroit Institute of Arts
- Detroit Public Library
- University of Michigan Detroit Center
- The Wright

Looking for exhibitions celebrating Black history and culture? Visit the DIA's *Reimagining African American Art*, explore *Freedom's Bell* at the Detroit Historical Museum, or stop by The Wright's *Black and Beautiful* show. The show highlights legends from Diana Ross to Marvin Gaye.

[LEARN MORE](#)

ON VIEW



Image courtesy of Wayne State University

Fluid State of Land

WSU Art Department Gallery
On Now

Presented as part of the NCECA National Conference, this exhibition examines land, ownership, and legacy through contemporary works that challenge dominant narratives of America. Centering Detroit's layered history, the artist explores memory, migration, and the fluid state of place and identity.

[LEARN MORE](#)

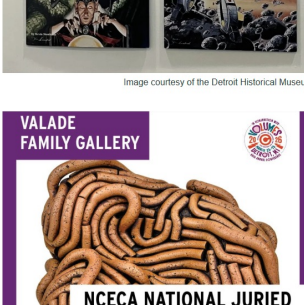


Image courtesy of the Detroit Historical Museum

National R&B Hall of Fame

Detroit Historical Museum
On Now

Explore a pop-up exhibition celebrating the legacy of rhythm and blues, founded by iconic artists and influencers who shaped the genre. Featuring iconic performance costumes and memorabilia, the show highlights legends from Diana Ross to Marvin Gaye.

[LEARN MORE](#)



Image courtesy of the Detroit Historical Museum

Worlds of Palladium

Detroit Historical Museum
On Now

This new exhibition celebrates Detroit-founded Palladium Books and the city's tabletop role-playing community. Through art, artifacts, and oral histories, discover how local creators helped shape gaming culture from niche hobby to mainstream phenomenon.

[LEARN MORE](#)



Image courtesy of The Scarab Club

NCECA National Juried Student Exhibition

College for Creative Studies
Opening March 6

Presented in conjunction with the 2025 NCECA conference in Detroit, this juried exhibition features innovative ceramic works by emerging artists from across the country. The show is the first of its kind, showcasing the next generation of talent shaping contemporary clay. Reception: March 28, 5PM - 8PM.

[LEARN MORE](#)



Image courtesy of The Scarab Club

Body Shop

The Scarab Club
Opening March 12

Presented in conjunction with the NCECA conference, Body Shop explores contemporary interpretations of the human body through sculpture, painting, and performance. The show examines themes of repair and transformation. Conference reception: March 20, 5PM - 8PM.

[LEARN MORE](#)

THINGS TO DO



Image courtesy of the Detroit Institute of Arts

Oscar Shorts Red Carpet Premiere

Detroit Institute of Arts & The Scarab Club
February 20, 5PM - 7PM

Walk the red carpet at The Scarab Club before the Oscar-nominated Live Action and Animated Short Films screening at the Detroit Film Theatre. Tickets are \$150 and include food & beverage, drinks, reserved seating, and admission to the 7PM show.

[LEARN MORE](#)

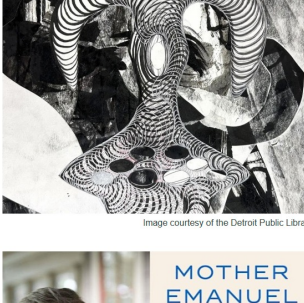


Image courtesy of the Chicago Public Arts Group

Detroit Black Power Murals Project

University of Michigan Detroit Center
February 25, 3PM - 4PM

Explore a pop-up exhibition documenting Detroit's early outdoor murals that emerged after the 1967 Uprising. Through research and oral histories, the project preserves this legacy and invites community members to share memories and shape its next chapter.

[LEARN MORE](#)

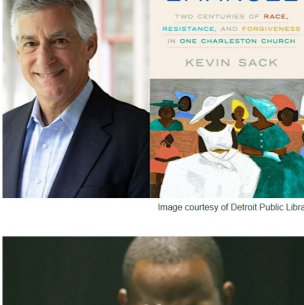


Image courtesy of the Michigan Science Center

Laser K-Pop Demon Hunters

Michigan Science Center
On Now through February 22

Experience Laser K-Pop Demon Hunters in the Michigan Science Center's IMAX Dome Theater during its new winter break. Dazzling laser effects transform the film into a high-energy spectacle in an immersive, high-energy show.

[LEARN MORE](#)

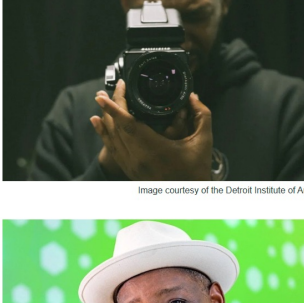


Image courtesy of the Detroit Historical Museum

Paths to the Past

Detroit Institute of Arts
February 21, 11AM - 12:30PM

Part of the museum's Black History Month program, this lecture explores the family's connection to the Ford-Pitts-McCord. The talk explores research strategies and genealogy as an act of remembrance and resilience.

[LEARN MORE](#)



Image courtesy of The Scarab Club

Slow Making: Come Stitch at the Scarab Club

The Scarab Club
February 21, 2PM - 3PM

Bring your knitting, stitching, mending, or other handmade project and create alongside fellow makers in a relaxed, meditative setting. This open studio session offers space to slow down, work quietly, and connect through the simple act of making.

[LEARN MORE](#)



Image courtesy of the Detroit Institute of Arts

Gallery Talk: Considering Paintings in the Collection

WSU Elaine L. Jacob Gallery
February 21, 2PM - 3PM

Join curator Christopher Stackhouse for a guided tour of the gallery's collection. Paintings & Objects from the University Art Collection. Stackhouse will share insights into the curatorial approach and selected works on view.

[LEARN MORE](#)



Image courtesy of the Detroit Institute of Arts

Author Talk: Journalist Kevin Sack on the AME Church Sack on the AME Church

Detroit Public Library - Main
February 21, 6PM - 7PM

Journalist Kevin Sack discusses his latest book *AME Church: The Centennial of Black Resistance and Forgiveness*. In conversation with Wallace Brown, LCC, Sack explores the history and legacy of Emanuel AME Church. Copies will be available for sale from Source Bookellers.

[LEARN MORE](#)



Image courtesy of the Detroit Institute of Arts

Building Detroit's Living Collage

Detroit Institute of Arts
February 21 & 22, 12PM - 4PM

Join Detroit artist Doris Davis for a hands-on workshop transforming personal memories and photographs into a collective collage. Inspired by the film *My Every Inch of Detroit*, participants will help build a shared visual story of the city.

[LEARN MORE](#)



Image courtesy of The Scarab Club

The Clyde Burroughs Lecture Series w/ Dr. Hubert Massey

The Scarab Club
February 25, 3PM - 5PM

Join The Scarab Club for an evening of dinner and dialogue featuring renowned faculty artist Dr. Hubert Massey. Part of the City of Detroit's Lecture Series, the program explores American art history through the lens of contemporary artists. Lecture only: \$35. Lecture w/ dinner: \$80.

[LEARN MORE](#)



Image courtesy of the Detroit Public Library

Let's Learn About York: Story Time w/ the Michigan DNR

Detroit Public Library - Main
February 26, 10AM - 11:30AM

Join the Michigan Department of Natural Resources for a special story time about York, the African American explorer who played a vital role in the Lewis and Clark expedition. For kids of all ages.

[LEARN MORE](#)

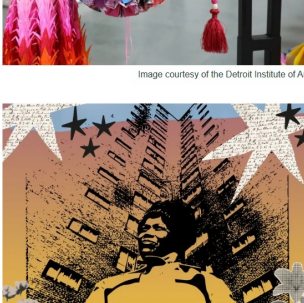


Image courtesy of the University of Michigan

100 Years of Black History in Detroit

University of Michigan Detroit Center
February 26, 4PM - 6PM

Join UMDC and Detroit historian Jason Jordan for a Black History Month program exploring a century of Black history in the city and the people who shaped its legacy.

[LEARN MORE](#)



Image courtesy of the College for Creative Studies

Afrofuturism in the Making

College for Creative Studies
February 26, 10:30AM - 1PM

CCS alumni gather for a dynamic conversation on creativity, career pathways, and shaping the future of art and design. Moderated by Wayne Brown, the panel is followed by a GSA and brunch reception.

[LEARN MORE](#)

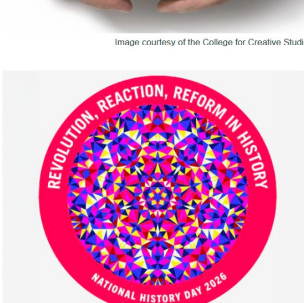


Image courtesy of the Detroit Institute of Arts

Celebrating a Century of Courage: Co-Creating & Co-Existing

Detroit Historical Museum
February 26, 2PM - 3PM

Part of the *On the Shoulders of Giants* Black History Month series, students from the Center of the Woodrow Wilson Society lead dialogue and storytelling inspired by Wilson's legacy.

[LEARN MORE](#)



Image courtesy of the Detroit Public Library

Power, Protest, and Progress: Detroit's Labor Movement

Detroit Public Library - Main
February 26, 2PM - 3PM

Local historians and university professors present a four-part program exploring key moments and figures in Detroit's labor history, from the Black church and unions to the legacy of the Pullman Porters.

[LEARN MORE](#)

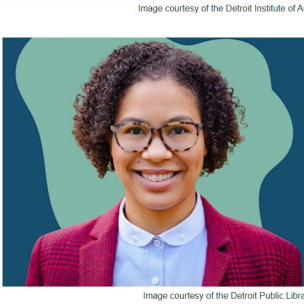


Image courtesy of the Detroit Institute of Arts

Hinamatsuri: Japanese Girls Day

Detroit Institute of Arts
March 1, 10AM - 3PM

Celebrate Hinamatsuri with traditional tea ceremonies, live doll displays, Japanese flower arrangements, and koto music at the DIA. Organized by Japan Cultural Development, this annual event honors Japanese culture and community in Detroit.

[LEARN MORE](#)



Image courtesy of the Detroit Historical Museum

With Love & Flowers: A Tribute to Detroit's Black Matricians

Detroit Historical Museum
March 1, 1PM - 4PM

Presented by Black Bottom Archives, this hands-on Women's History Month program honors Detroit's Black matricians through collage, flower, and storytelling. The gathering celebrates the struggles and leaders whose love and labor shaped the city.

[LEARN MORE](#)

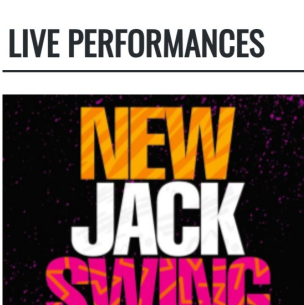


Image courtesy of the College for Creative Studies

Lunch & Learn Featuring CCS Professor Jeremy Noonan

College for Creative Studies
March 1, 11:30AM - 12:30PM

In Hybrid Practices: Integrating Ceramics, Textile Design & Art, Professor Jeremy Noonan explores his interdisciplinary work across fiber, ceramics, surface design, and emerging digital-assisted processes.

[LEARN MORE](#)



Image courtesy of National History Day

Michigan History Day

Detroit Historical Museum
March 7, 10AM - 5PM

Michigan History Day is a statewide educational program that encourages students to explore Michigan history through original research projects. Students will showcase their work, centered on this year's theme, *Revolution, Reaction, and Reform in the History*. Winners advance to the state competition in April.

[LEARN MORE](#)

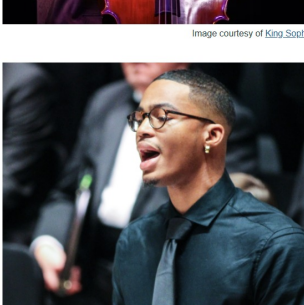


Image courtesy of the Detroit Institute of Arts

Women's History Month Educator Workshop

Detroit Institute of Arts & Detroit Historical Museum
March 14, 9:30AM - 1:30PM

Educators explore field trips, classroom resources, and professional development opportunities at the DIA and Detroit Historical Museum. This collaborative workshop highlights the contributions of women to Detroit's history.

[LEARN MORE](#)



Image courtesy of the Detroit Public Library

Author Talk: Black Business in Detroit w/ Dr. Kendra Boyd

Detroit Public Library - Main
March 15, 3PM - 5:30PM

Dr. Kendra Boyd discusses her book *Freedom Enterprise: Black Entrepreneurship and the Black Capitalism in Detroit*, tracing the rise and evolution of the city's historic Black business community. The talk explores the challenges, opportunities, and the fight for economic justice.

[LEARN MORE](#)



Image courtesy of the College for Creative Studies

Industry EXPO: Illustration & Entertainment Arts

College for Creative Studies
March 15, 9AM - 5PM

Industry professionals share insights into animation, gaming, concept art, and illustration through presentations and panel discussions. Part of the Toyota Lecture Series, the event highlights the local journey and emerging trends in creative entertainment arts.

[LEARN MORE](#)



Image courtesy of The Wright

Third Thursday: New Jack Swing Back II BLK

The Wright
February 15, 6PM - 8PM

February's Third Thursday celebrates the music, style, and cultural impact of New Jack Swing with live performances in the Wright Museum Rotunda. Featuring Drew Keys and special guest artists, the evening honors Black joy, innovation, and Detroit-rooted artistry.

[LEARN MORE](#)

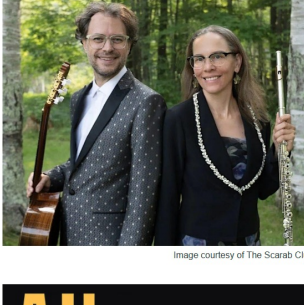


Image courtesy of King Sophia

Friday Concert Series: King Sophia

Detroit Public Library - Main
February 25, 5PM

Multidisciplinary artist King Sophia brings a genre-blending performance rooted in blues, funk, and avant-garde traditions. Known for her singing and improvisation, their work centers Black Indigenous Queer identity and celebrates radical joy through sound.

[LEARN MORE](#)



Image courtesy of Wayne State University

Legacy & Light: A Choral Celebration of Black History

WSU Gretchen C. Valdez Jazz Center
February 26, 7:30PM

In celebration of Black History Month, the Wayne State University Concert Chorus and Choral Union present a evening of historic hymns and the legacy of Black artists and historical figures. Through powerful choral storytelling, the program uplifts voices that have shaped history and culture.

[LEARN MORE](#)

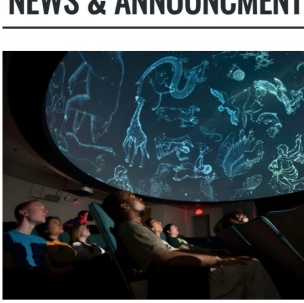


Image courtesy of the Detroit Public Library

Jazz from the Cellar

WSU Elaine L. Jacob Jazz Center
February 23, 5:30PM & 8:00PM

Join The Wright Jazz Festival for a free live taping of Jazz from the Cellar. The show features the Aya Salovei Trio, followed by a performance by the Detroit Jazz Society.

[LEARN MORE](#)



Image courtesy of The Wright

The Wright Performances We The Just and the Blind

The Wright
February 27 & 28, 7:30PM

Marc Benin Joseph and Daniel Bernard Rostomian present *We the Just and the Blind*, a multimedia performance exploring racial profiling and the process of individual complex. Blending music, spoken word, dance, and striking visual projections. Tickets: \$20.

[LEARN MORE](#)



Image courtesy of the Helene Museum of Michigan

PERSIS?

WSU Helene Gateway
February 27, March 1

This immersive production from Wayne State's student-led dance-theatre collective Persis: Theatricality, blends dance and devised theatre to examine power, freedom, and the systems we create to shape our world. Selected performances include post-show conversations with artists and community members. Tickets: \$15.

[LEARN MORE](#)



Image courtesy of The Scarab Club

Folias Duo & String Trio

The Scarab Club
March 4, 3PM - 5PM

Part of The Scarab Club's Chamber Music series, Folias Duo returns with a flute and guitar program featuring a new repertoire of contemporary jazz, world influences. The concert also features a newly performed live setting by members of the Detroit Opera Orchestra. Advance tickets start at \$25.

[LEARN MORE](#)



Image courtesy of the Helene Museum

Alkyone in Concert

Helene Museum of Michigan
March 15, 6PM - 8:30PM

The Helene Museum welcomes internationally acclaimed Greek singer-songwriter Alkyone to the DIA for a special performance of her ethereal blend of indie-pop and folk. A 550-post-show reception and meet-and-greet awaits a preview of the upcoming *Alkyone* album release, with proceeds benefiting the Helene Museum.

[LEARN MORE](#)



Image courtesy of the Helene Museum

Local Highlight: Chatterbox Kitchen & Cocktails

Inside the Park Shenton, 15 N. Kirby Street

Spice the evening in the Cultural Center Shop by Chatterbox Kitchen & Cocktails, a beloved farm-to-table, seasonal fare and warm, welcoming atmosphere—right here in the heart of the Cultural Center. It's the perfect place to gather before or after a performance, lecture, or gallery visit.

[LEARN MORE](#)

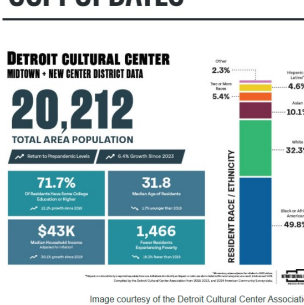


Image courtesy of CCPI Updates

CCPI UPDATES

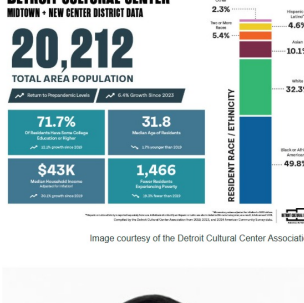


Image courtesy of the Detroit Cultural Center Association

Midtown + New Center Census Update

Earlier news! Recently released 2024 neighborhood-level census data shows that Midtown and New Center populations have rebounded to pre-pandemic levels, growing 0% from 2022. Midtown household income, while poverty rates declined—contributing last month's positive momentum and signaling a strong outlook for the Cultural Center district.

[View our full census data fact sheet here.](#)



Image courtesy of the Councilwoman Renata Miller

Welcoming Councilwoman Renata Miller to the Cultural Center

We recently met with newly elected District 5 Councilwoman Renata Miller and Community Liaison at the Cultural Center and surrounding neighborhood. We also aim to enhance the visitor experience by providing a welcoming environment, inclusive programming, and accessibility for all.

[View our full census data fact sheet here.](#)

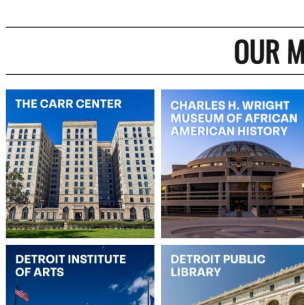


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