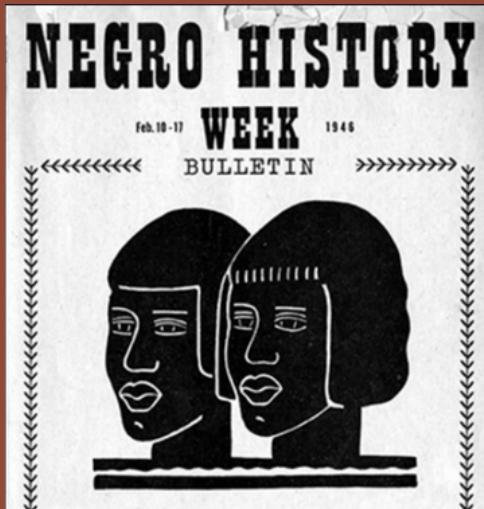




## Promoting Diversity Equity & Inclusion

# COMMEMORATING 100 YEARS OF BLACK HISTORY MONTH



### National Negro History Week Set for Feb. 9 to 16

Renewed Interest in the Celebration Expected This Year, Says Dr. Woodson

WASHINGTON (AP) — Taking on a national aspect, Negro History Week will be celebrated throughout the nation this year during the week of Feb. 9 to 16. Dr. Carter G. Woodson, who in 1915 founded the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History, which sponsors the annual observance, pointed out recently that this year's celebration will be a significant one, with renewed interest.

The historian scorned the methods used today to attain democracy, asserting: "We are holding conferences and passing resolutions and deciding by a majority

In 1926, Dr. Carter G. Woodson—a man born to formerly enslaved parents who went on to earn a Ph.D. from Harvard—issued a challenge to the United States. **He argued that to deny a people their history was to deny them their humanity.** He didn't just want a week of celebration; he wanted a permanent shift in the American consciousness.

The centennial of Dr. Carter G. Woodson's 1926 initiative marks a profound milestone in the American narrative, evolving from a single week into a month-long commitment to historical truth. Woodson understood that reclaiming one's history is a fundamental act of reclaiming one's humanity. By establishing this observance, he sought to move beyond symbolic gestures and permanently weave the stories of Black scientists, leaders, and everyday citizens into the fabric of the national curriculum, ensuring that the inspirations of the past would never be erased.

In 2026, **this anniversary serves as a powerful reminder that Black history is not a separate chapter, but the very spine of the American experience.** Engaging with these stories is more than an act of remembrance; it is a vital exercise in building cultural competency and learning from systemic truths to lead to a more inclusive future.

This year, Campaign Zero is launching community-led celebrations and initiatives that will center around 6 guiding questions. Here are a few of the questions for you to discuss with your teams or community, and you can find the rest online in the link above.

- **How can we support and strengthen efforts to teach, study, and preserve Black history already happening in our local communities?**
- **How can we use Black history to prepare young people with tools and knowledge to navigate our present world well, while also encouraging their commitment to imagining and building a better world for the future?**
- **How do we celebrate the kinds of joy, creativity, and love Black people maintained (in the midst of struggle) that have helped our people survive and thrive over the generations?**

**"Those who have no record of what their forebears have accomplished lose the inspiration which comes from the teaching of biography and history." - Carter G. Woodson**

# BLACK HISTORY MONTH SCAVENGER HUNT

Participate with your team to earn up to 100 points to commemorate 100 years of Black History. All answers are due to Lisa by February 27<sup>th</sup> at 5pm. You don't have to participate in all activities, but the team with the most points wins cupcakes from DB Dessert Company, a Black-owned business with AMAZING desserts!

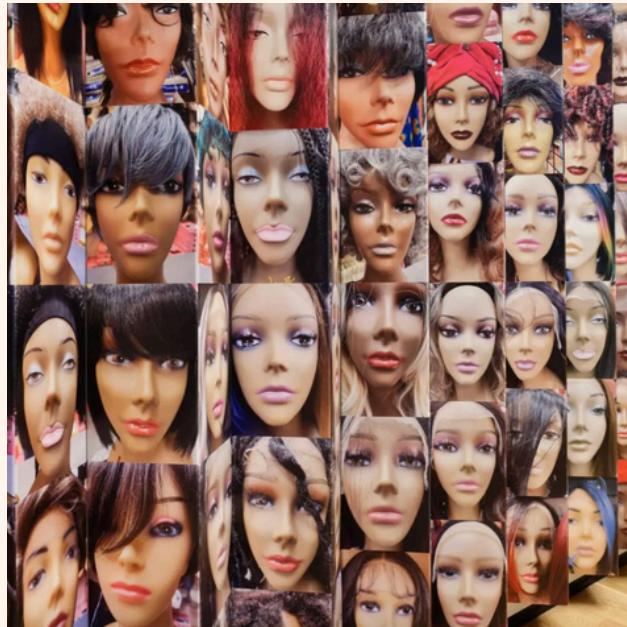
<p>She was the first Black woman to graduate from a law school in Oregon and used her newspaper, <i>The Advocate</i>, to fight for civil rights in Portland for over 25 years.</p> <p><b>Discovery:</b> What was this trailblazer's full name? <b>5 points</b></p>	<p>Before 1940, African American travelers were often barred from downtown hotels. This Portland hotel was the first in the city to cater specifically to Black patrons and served as a hub for the community.</p> <p><b>Discovery:</b> What is the name of this historic hotel? <b>5 points</b></p>	<p>In the 1940s and 50s, North Williams Avenue was known as the "Black Broadway" of Portland. One specific Jazz legend, who grew up in Portland and played the bass, is honored with a mural and a street naming nearby.</p> <p><b>Discovery:</b> Name this legendary musician. <b>5 points</b></p>
<p>In 1948, a massive flood destroyed Oregon's second-largest city, which was home to a huge percentage of Portland's Black population. This event changed the layout of North Portland forever.</p> <p><b>Discovery:</b> What was the name of this "sunken" city? <b>5 points</b></p>	<p>Portland's Black-owned business community is vibrant and essential to our city's economy.</p> <p><b>Discovery:</b> Find a Black-owned business (restaurant, shop, or service) within 3 miles of your Club. <b>5 points</b></p> <p><b>Action:</b> Visit the business as a team and take a selfie in front of it. <b>15 points</b></p>	<p>In 1984, this woman made history by becoming the first Black woman elected to the Oregon State Legislature. She later became the first African American to serve as President Pro Tem of the Oregon State Senate.</p> <p><b>Discovery:</b> What is her name? <b>5 points</b></p>
<p>Founded in 1862, just three years after Oregon became a state, this church is the oldest Black congregation in the PNW. It moved several times as the Black community was pushed from downtown into the Albina district.</p> <p><b>Discovery:</b> What is the name of this church, and where is it located? (Hint: It's an AME Zion church). <b>5 points</b></p>	<p>In the 1970s, this man became a legend in the Portland soccer scene. He was a star player for the Portland Timbers, later became a beloved coach at the University of Portland, and has a field named after him at Delta Park.</p> <p><b>Discovery:</b> Who is this "Father of Soccer" in Portland? <b>5 points</b></p>	<p>Established in 1956, this family-owned business is considered a living piece of history, recognized as the oldest continually operating Black-owned business in the state of Oregon. It stands as a symbol of entrepreneurial resilience in the Albina neighborhood.</p> <p><b>Discovery:</b> What is the name of this business? <b>5 points</b></p>
<p>Many amazing Black authors are from Portland or currently live here.</p> <p><b>Discovery:</b> Name one book by a Black author who is from Portland or currently lives here. <b>5 points</b></p>	<p>The "Dream" Statue: Find a photo of the 8-foot-tall bronze statue of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. located in Portland.</p> <p><b>Discovery:</b> What building is it standing in front of? <b>5 points</b></p> <p><b>Action:</b> Take a team photo in front of the statue. <b>15 points</b></p>	<p>In the past, the soul of Portland's jazz scene was centered in historically Black neighborhoods including the Albina and Williams Avenue neighborhoods</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Record a 15-second video of your team humming a jazz tune. <b>15 points</b></p>

# WHAT TO DO IN PORTLAND THIS MONTH

## **Black History Month at Portland Art Museum**

Throughout February, the Portland Art Museum celebrates Black history, creativity, and cultural leadership through a dynamic series of films, performances, lectures, conversations, and community-centered programs, presented in partnership with local and national collaborators.

Free admission for children 17 and under  
Museum admission is free to everyone on the 1st  
Thursday of every month from 10am to 7pm



## **Albina Music Trust**

### **Locations & times vary**

Albina Music Trust presents a monthlong series of Black History Month events highlighting Albina's musical legacy through performances, panels and archival presentations. The lineup opens with Soul Conversation, a discussion with Albina music elders including Paul Knauls, LaRhonda Steele and Norman Sylvester, followed by "Time Sound: Memories in Albina," a one-time concert directed by Tahirah Memory reflecting on her family's musical history. Additional events include the Black Mystery Month concert, a collaborative show featuring Tony Ozier and Arietta Ward, and a Black Community Television retrospective examining Portland's 1980s Black public-access programming.



## **Cascade Festival of African Films at PCC Cascade; Feb. 7 - March 7; FREE!**

This year's selection of more than twenty films, guides us through an array of perspectives that reflect the continent's artistic ingenuity and expansive storytelling traditions.

Many films explore migration, displacement, and reinvention, unveiling the human longing for safety, purpose, and belonging. Women's voices take center stage, offering intimate, bold, and deeply resonant portrayals of strength, vulnerability, and leadership. Across fiction and documentary, filmmakers also confront questions of authority, societal expectation, justice, and inequity, prompting us to consider how individuals and communities imagine new possibilities amidst challenge. [www.africanfilmfestival.org/2026](http://www.africanfilmfestival.org/2026)

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