Join the Black History Awareness Committee as we engage our campus community yearlong with events related to Black History. As we all know, Black History is more than a month of engagement, it is 365 days a year. Each year for Black History Month there is a theme. This year’s theme is *The Black Family: Representation, Identity, and Diversity* where we explore the African diaspora, and the spread of Black families across the United States. We invite students, faculty, staff, and the greater Lansing community to join us during our virtual gatherings, discussions, and engage via social media.

If you would like to dive deeper, take the challenge to research on your own! There is an abundance of content online that highlights the history of the African diaspora and the black experience. Further, see what your favorite local organizations and publications are doing to celebrate Black History year-long. Check out this page for a list of podcast, book, and film suggestions.

[Engage 365](#)
[5 Podcasts for Your Listening](#)
[18 Crucial Books to Read](#)
[Crucial Films to Watch](#)
Engage 365

We know 28 days is not long enough to fully embrace and celebrate Black History. Take the challenge to dive deeper by learning and celebrating black stories. Add a new book to read or film to your watchlist maybe try a new podcast. Even further, engage in conversations that speak to the experiences of African Americans.

5 Podcasts for Your Listening

What's CODE SWITCH? It's the fearless conversations about race that you've been waiting for! Hosted by journalists of color, our podcast tackles the subject of race head-on. We explore how it impacts every part of society from politics and pop culture to history, sports, and everything in between. This podcast makes ALL OF US part of the conversation — because we're all part of the story.
Learning your history makes you - and your people - stronger. As Black people, we know we’re left out of the history books. That the media images are skewed. That we need access to experts, information, and ideas so we can advance our people. Black History Year connects you to the history, thinkers, and activists that are left out of the mainstream conversations.

Objects hold history. They’re evocative of stories stamped in time. As part of The Washington Post's coverage of the Smithsonian's new National Museum of African American History and Culture, people submitted dozens of objects that make up their own lived experiences of black history, creating a "people's museum" of personal objects, family photos and more. The Historically Black podcast brings those objects and their stories to life through interviews, archival sound, and music.
The Black History Buff podcast is a fun and thrilling journey through time. Covering the full historical tapestry of the African Diaspora, you’ll hear tales covering everything from African Samurai to pistol-wielding poets. More than just a podcast, the show is a bridge that links communities throughout the African diaspora and enlightens and empowers its friends.

French for "Black History", Noire Histoire is a podcast that features Black history facts, literature, and motivational stories. “Join Natasha McEachron as she celebrates Black pride, excellence, and power all 366 days of the year,” the description reads. You’ll hear in-depth stories about the history of important Black figures like poet Phillis Wheatley, journalist Claudia Jones, and surgeon Dr. Daniel Hale Williams, along with book reviews and insight from guest speakers.
This special episode Thirty years ago, Marlon Riggs’ documentary *Color Adjustment: A History of African American Portrayal on Television* traced 40 years of race relations through the lens of prime-time entertainment scrutinizing television’s racial myths and stereotypes. Dr. Julian C. Chambliss from Michigan State University and Lansing Township Supervisor Diontrae Hayes revisit some of the topics discussed in the documentary as well as critique some modern-day shows on their portrayals of African Americans.
BLACK HISTORY AWARENESS 365

18 Crucial Books to Read

- *Friday Black* by Nana Kwame Adjei-Brenyah
- *Uncomfortable Conversations With a Black Man* by Emmanuel Acho
- *The Bluest Eye* by Toni Morrison
- *Across That Bridge: A Vision for Change and the Future of America* by John Lewis
BLACK HISTORY AWARENESS 365

Crucial Films to Watch

- **Accidental Courtesy** - Kanopy (free)
- **All In: The Fight for Democracy** - Amazon Prime
- **American Skin** - Available for rent on Amazon Prime, Google Play, & YouTube
- **Anita: Speaking Truth to Power** - Kanopy (free), Amazon Prime
- **Black America Since MLK: And Still I Rise** - Kanopy (free)
- **Black Panther** - Disney+
- **Becoming** - Netflix
- **Finding the Gold Within** - Kanopy (free)
- **Fruitvale Station** - Netflix
- **Hidden Figures** - Disney+
- **I Am Not Your Negro** - Kanopy (free)
- **John Lewis: Good Trouble** - HBO Max
- **Just Mercy** - HBO Max
- **The Kalief Browder Story** - Netflix
- **Ken Burns: The Central Park Five** - Kanopy (free)
- **Loving** - Netflix
- **Malcolm X** - HBO Max
- **One Night in Miami** - Amazon Prime (free to prime members)
- **PBS: The Black Church** - Premiering on 2/16 & 2/17 - PBS
- **Quest: An Intimate Portrait of an African-American Family** - Kanopy (free)
- **Selma** - Available for rent on Amazon Prime, Google Play, & YouTube
- **Small Axe Series** - Amazon Prime (free to prime members)
- **Sounder** - Amazon Prime (rent)
- **The Talk: Race in America** - Kanopy (free)
- **The Thirteenth** - Netflix
- **Time** - Amazon Prime
- **Truth Justice: Bryan Stevenson’s Fight for Equality** - Kanopy (free)
- **When They See Us** - Netflix