

Missouri History Museum Celebrates Black History Month With Series of Events



February is national Black History Month, an indispensable celebration of the role African Americans have played in shaping the culture of today. The Missouri History Museum is at the forefront of local festivities, hosting a series of related events throughout the month. “It is vital to celebrate Black History Month throughout museums and the country because it forces people to acknowledge the achievements of African American history and culture,” says Shakia Gullette, manager of local history initiatives. “Today, so much of what has become American culture has been influenced by African Americans. From scholarship, music and pop culture, the footprint of the diaspora is evident.” The event series begins with the musical documentary [“Unfinished Business: From the Great Migration to Black Lives Matter,”](#) slated for 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 7, in the Lee Auditorium at the Missouri History Museum.

“‘Unfinished Business’ was conceptualized by Dr. Stephanie C. Boddie, of Baylor University,” Gullette says. “Boddie offers a creative, interactive approach to documenting oral histories of African American elders from historic black churches throughout the country. The elders featured in her presentation share their migration stories, visions of the future and the ‘Unfinished Business’ that holds the key to achieving liberty for all.

“Through Dr. Boddie’s vision, her goal is to blend traditional research and oral histories with film, music and conversation to create the dynamic of a story to help audiences consider their own stories and develop new narratives that open pathways toward more profound racial healing.”

The museum is also hosting a two-part speaker program billed [“Inspiration by Example”](#) following the lives of local black trailblazers, starting with SistaKeeper Empowerment Center founder Tracie Berry McGheat 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 12, followed by [Hazelwood East High School principal Dr. Chauncy Granger at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 19.](#)

COMMUNITY NEWS

Larimore Elementary holds Multicultural Day



Students perform during Larimore Elementary's first-ever Multicultural Day on Dec. 20. Students performed songs and modeled clothing from around the world, put together a marketplace showcasing items from different countries, and sampled many different foods.

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Hazelwood North Middle School gives back to community

Children and families from across the community benefited from the generosity of North Middle School this holiday season.

Students, staff, PTSA members, and parents donated \$3,000 as part of a schoolwide effort to support those in need; the school surpassed its original goal of \$2,000 raised.

Students used the money to buy clothing, toys, and electronics that will benefit the St. Vincent Home for Children and St. Louis Crisis Nursery.

The gifts also will be shared with three local families the school 'adopted' for the holiday season.

The school held a Holiday Give Back assembly Dec. 17 where the gifts were collected and given to representatives of each organization.



Photo courtesy Hazelwood School District

Students load donated gifts into cars to be sent off to community organizations.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Greater North County Chamber of Commerce donates toys to school



Photo courtesy Hazelwood School District

The Greater North County Chamber of Commerce donated toys to Larimore Elementary School on Dec. 20. Pictured (from left) are Larimore Principal Cameron Coleman, Larimore Home School Coordinator Angela Turner and Chamber President/CEO Venus Martz.

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