



BLACK HISTORY MONTH 2021

Naperville 203's [SUCCESS family organization](#) and the Diversity & Inclusion Department proudly celebrate Black History Month. Black History Month is an annual celebration of the achievements of Black Americans and a time for recognizing the central role of Black people in the story of the United States of America.

Founded by historian Carter G. Woodson, Black History Week was first celebrated on Feb. 12, 1926, to commemorate and celebrate the contributions to our nation made by people of Black African descent. The time frame coincides with the birthdays of abolitionist Frederick Douglass and President Abraham Lincoln.

During the U.S. bicentennial in 1976, Black History Week was expanded to a month-long celebration. Since then, February is recognized as National African-American History Month (also known as Black History Month).

We acknowledge that one month is not sufficient in honoring the contributions and achievements of Black Americans. Ultimately, we want all students - regardless of individual characteristics and group memberships - to see themselves meaningfully reflected in the curriculum and to have an opportunity to learn about the experiences and contributions of others. This ongoing work is a part of Naperville 203's [Comprehensive Equity Plan](#), which continues to drive our efforts to ensure that we achieve our district mission for all students

To kick-off this important time, we are sharing information about local and national events in honor of Black History Month. Also, be sure to check out Dr. Leaks's [Twitter](#) account as she documents the amazing happenings in our community to educate, celebrate, and reflect upon black history.

Naperville CUSD 203

Student Workshop: “You are Infinitely Powerful” featuring “Dear Martin” Author, Nic Stone

- **Date/Time:** February 3 at 6:30pm
- **Details:** Drawing on the innate teen characteristics of Personal agency, Openness, Wonder, Elasticity, and Rebellion, Nic Stone calls teens to embrace the power inside them and use it to wreak havoc on the ugliness of the world. This workshop will include a Q&A session (15 mins) as well. This event is for students in grades 8-12.
- **Registration:** <https://bit.ly/37sMaPg>



SUCCESS Annual Black History Showcase

Though the SUCCESS annual showcase had to be canceled due to COVID-19 restrictions, we invite you to watch past Black History Month showcases with your family and we look forward to the return of our annual showcase next year.

- 2020 BHM Video Showcase - [Songs of the Civil Rights Movement](#)
 - Details: SUCCESS school chapters discuss influential songs and artists of the Black culture.
- 2019 BHM Video Showcase - [Unsung Heros](#)
 - Details: Students from across the district present facts, skits, and video clips about the Unsung Heroes of the Black community.

Naperville Public Library

[“Brown Bag Lecture: The Life of Bessie Coleman – First Female Aviator”](#)

- Date/Time: February 4th, 2021 from 1:00pm - 2:00pm
- Details: Bessie Coleman, portrayed by her great niece Gigi Coleman, shares her experiences leading her to become the first African American to earn her international pilot's license and the first black woman in the world to fly an airplane.
- Registration:
https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJUvdeuupzovHdYcu1mvAc42fytw_GwW7TSs

College of Dupage

[“The Black Family: Representation, Identity, and Diversity”](#)

During February 2021, College of DuPage will examine, recognize, and celebrate the black family, which offers a rich tapestry of images for exploring the African American past and present.

- List of Events:
https://www.cod.edu/student_life/resources/csdi/black-history-month/index.aspx

North Central College

[“Langston Hughes Project Event”](#)

- Date/Time: February 4 at 7pm
- Details: There will also be a Q&A following at 8:15pm with the producer of the event.



- Registration:
<https://finearts.northcentralcollege.edu/event/langston-hughes-project-qa-session-dr-ron-mccurdy>

Black History Month Keynote - Dr. Eddie Glaude, Jr.

- Date/Time: February 10 at 5pm via Zoom
- Details: Dr. Eddie Glaude, Jr. is a professor of African-American History at Princeton University.
- Registration:
<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJwvdemgqj4qGdR9bL0ZDX02xwzJU74zUBqG>

Test Your Knowledge: Black History Trivia

Great fun for the whole family! Celebrate the greatness and diversity of Black culture through trivia in a way you've never experienced!

- Kahoot Quiz 1: <https://create.kahoot.it/details/1da9f868-0f74-42a5-9da5-a4033cc30c59>
- Kahoot Quiz 2: <https://create.kahoot.it/details/07e03ab2-a694-424e-b314-31a62fa31312>
- [IT'S BLACKADEMIC](#)
- [AARP Black History Quiz](#)

Amanda Gorman's Poem "The Hill We Climb"

The 22-year-old poet was the latest to follow in a tradition of poets — including Robert Frost, Maya Angelou, Elizabeth Alexander, and Richard Blanco — who have read for incoming presidents. Of this group of esteemed poets, Gorman is the youngest in recent memory to read a poem on Inauguration Day.

Watch Gorman reciting the "[The Hill We Climb.](#)"

Our Mission and Beliefs

S.U.C.C.E.S.S. (School Using Coordinated Community Efforts to Strengthen Students) is a family-led organization, with the support of District 203 leadership, committed to empowering African-American/Black students and other students of color and their families to enhance academic performance, foster family-school connectedness, and ensure that everyone is welcomed, valued, and respected. We welcome anyone who supports our mission.



Naperville Community Unit School District 203 appreciates, affirms, and is inclusive of the range of differences in people and ideas. Cultivating a culture of inclusion exemplifies our belief that an exemplary school district, *"values the dignity and uniqueness of each individual."* We are committed to creating an environment where diversity and inclusion is evident in who we are and what we do. We seek to identify and address inequities and all forms of discrimination and intolerance. We believe it is the responsibility of our school district to offer students a diverse set of experiences and perspectives that will better prepare them to thrive in an inclusive, global community and world.