

BLACK HISTORY MONTH EVENTS AT A-STATE



- **TONIGHT (7:30 P.M.):** Online presentation by Dr. Cherisse Jones-Branch, dean of the Graduate School, discussing Black history and her upcoming book
- **FEB. 10 (12 P.M.):** Virtual lunch and learn presentation by LaGanzie Kale, owner of KLEK 102.5 FM in Jonesboro
- **FEB. 11 (6 P.M.):** A lecture discussing the current state of community activism by attorney KenDrell Collins, criminal defense attorney and member of Gov. Asa Hutchinson's Law Enforcement Review Task Force, of Little Rock
- **FEB. 16 (6 P.M.):** Roger McKinney will livestream a guided tour of the Jonesboro Black History Museum
- **FEB. 20 (10 A.M.):** Virtual Living Legends breakfast honors the 2021 Living Legend Award recipients
 - The Living Legend award highlights leadership, advocacy and community support of individuals who have spoken out effectively against oppression, discrimination and inequality with a focus on Black activism and is awarded to former students, staff, faculty and other connections to the A-State community
- **FEB. 24 (12 P.M.):** Virtual lunch and learn presentation by LaTasha Moore, owner of Tasha Teaches Spanish
- **FEB. 25 (6 P.M.):** A lecture presentation by Arkansas Rep. Jamie Scott of North Little Rock discussing the future of activism
- **FRIDAYS:** KLEK's "Let's Talk About" program will host interviews with business representatives to help enlighten students as well as the community about where to #BuyBlack on the Multicultural Center's Instagram live feed (@astatemc)

For more details about Black History Month at A-State, you can visit astate.edu/bhm, or contact Multicultural Affairs, Room 3003 in the Reng Student Union, 870-680-4052 or astatemc@astate.edu.

Groundhog Day Predictions 2021



PHOTO COURTESY OF WEATHER.COM (BARRY REEGER | AP)

Tuesday was the 135th Groundhog Day celebration in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania. Groundhog Club President Jeff Lundy gets his temperature taken by Inner Circle member Dave Gigliotti. The Groundhog Club is, according to their website, "a group of local dignitaries responsible for carrying on the tradition of Groundhog Day every year."



The groundhog, Punxsutawney Phil, saw his shadow Tuesday morning. According to the rules of Groundhog Day, this means we will be seeing six more weeks of winter. The only people who attended this year's Groundhog Day celebration were the Groundhog Club members.

PHOTO COURTESY OF WEATHER.COM (BARRY REEGER | AP)

Things to do on campus during a pandemic

EMMA ALLEN

STAFF WRITER

You might be wondering what there is to do on campus during a pandemic? Arkansas State University has COVID-19 friendly activities that allows students to participate while following social distancing guidelines.

You can attend a basketball game in the First National Bank Arena and cheer on the Red Wolves.

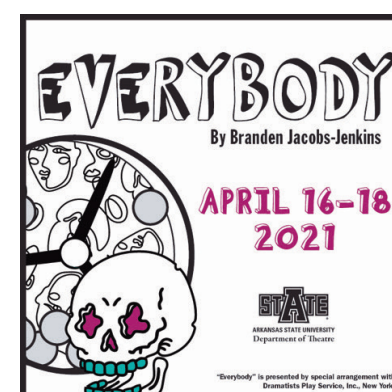
The second floor of the ASU Museum is open weekly to the public Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Starting March 2, the ASU Museum is getting a new exhibit called the Moon Adventure Game. This is a free escape room that allows you to feel what it is like to be an astronaut on the moon, while trying to find ways to survive and make it out before the time is up. This exhibit will be open to the public on March 2 through April 30 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

If you are into working out, the Red W.O.L.F. Center is open Monday- Thursday from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m., Friday from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday from 12 p.m.

to 10 p.m. You can join the Wellness Programs that consist of group fitness classes like Yoga, Spin, Zumba and H.I.I.T. until April 29. If you are seeking a more team-oriented atmosphere, you can also join an intramural or a club sport. There are over 25 different activities with intramural sports, some including basketball, flag football, soccer and volleyball.

The A-State Theatre is hosting two shows this semester. "Everybody" by Brandon Jacobs-Jenkins, will be available on Pay-per-View April 16-17 at 7:30 p.m. and April 18 at 2:00 p.m. There will also be a musical called "Revue: A Musical Retrospective" directed by Brianna Lucas Larson. This musical will take place outdoors at the Fowler Center on April 23-24 at 7:30 p.m. and April 25 at 2 p.m., and will provide socially distanced seating arrangements.

If you are wanting to participate in something more permanent throughout your years at Arkansas State University, there are over 150 different organizations for students to get involved with. Reach out to the registered student organizations contacts on www.astate.edu and sign up for what you are interested in.



"Everybody" by Brandon Jacobs-Jenkins is a modern version of the fifteenth-century morality play "Everyman."

PHOTO COURTESY OF A-STATE THEATRE

Interested in reporting? Join us every Monday at 5 p.m. in room 224 in the Communications Building.

RESPONSIBLE WAYS TO USE YOUR REFUND

It's that time of the semester, when A-State distributes excess financial aid to students in the form of either direct deposit or a check in the mail. Here are just a few ideas on how to use that money responsibly.

- Put it in a savings account
- Pay your bills
- Upgrade your technology (or invest in something you need)
- Purchase a helpful tool for your field of study (camera, program license, etc.)
- Buy a reasonably-priced car
- Pay off debts (credit card, student loans, etc.)
- Use it to take a winter/summer course
- Pay a deposit + first month of rent on an apartment
- Make that doctor or dentist appointment you've been putting off

The history behind Black History Month

ALEX CLARK

LIFE EDITOR

Black History Month started as Black History Week in February 1926.

Carter G. Woodson, an author and historian, recognized that Black contributions to the history field were overlooked or even suppressed by the authors of history textbooks and teachers. In the 1920s, Woodson pushed for Black civic organizations to promote what researchers were uncovering. He even pushed the fraternity he'd been a member of, Omega Psi Phi, to take on this work.

Omega Psi Phi created Black History and Literature Week, later named Black Achievement Week, as a response to this in 1924. While the outreach was

significant, Woodson wanted it to have greater impact, and thus sent out a press release announcing Black History Week in 1926.

The response to Black History Week was immense. Black history clubs started appearing, teachers wanted materials to teach in classes and progressive white people endorsed the movement. Black topics were no longer being ignored and publishing houses rushed to get books on the market and in schools.

WHY IS BLACK HISTORY MONTH IN FEBRUARY?

Black History Month takes place in February because the birthdays of Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass both take place in February. Lincoln and Douglass played im-

portant roles in Black history.

Lincoln was an abolitionist and was an important figure in freeing enslaved people in the United States. His birthday is Feb. 12.

Douglass escaped slavery in Maryland and became a national leader in the abolitionist movement. Douglass is most notable for his autobiography, "Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave" published in 1845. His birthday is Feb. 14.

Black History Week originally encompassed these two birthdays, as Black communities had celebrated them since the men's deaths.

HOW DID WE MOVE FROM BACK HISTORY WEEK TO BLACK HISTORY MONTH?

While Black History Week was established in 1926, celebrations of Black History Month began as early as the 1940s.

By the 1960s, Black communities on college campuses began to replace Black History Week with Black History Month. By 1976, the Association for The Study of African-American Life and History influenced shifts from a week to a month. Every president since has endorsed ASALH's theme for Black History Month.

In an episode of Disney's "The Proud Family," Oscar Proud acknowledged Black History Month and how it is the shortest month of the year.

PHOTO COURTESY OF TUMBLR



THIS WEEK'S POP PICK

"Black Is King" (Disney+, 2020)



PHOTO COURTESY OF DISNEY+

"Black Is King: A Film by Beyoncé" was released on Disney+ July 31.

"Black Is King" is a visual version of the album "The Lion King: The Gift." It is a musical and visual album written, directed and executive produced by Beyoncé.

This piece is a companion to "The Lion King," following a young king's journey through betrayal, love and self-identity.

A young African prince (Folajomi Akinmurele) is exiled from his kingdom following the death of his father. As he grows into a man (Nyaniso Dzedze), he goes on a journey of self-identity, guided by his ancestor (Beyoncé), his childhood love (Nandi Madida) and his subconscious (Stephen Ojo) in order to reclaim his throne.

The African prince's journey is meant to parallel the African diaspora's journey of discovering, reclaiming and celebrating their culture and heritage.

The visual elements in "Black Is King" celebrate African culture and its beauty.

"Black Is King" was nominated at the Grammy Awards for Best Music Film, and its song "Brown Skin Girl" was nominated for Best Music Video. "Brown Skin Girl" won Video of the Year at the Soul Train Music Awards, and another song from "Black Is King" called "Already" won Best Styling in a Video at the UK Music Video Awards.

HOROSCOPES

ALEX CLARK

MYSTIC CORRESPONDENT

<p>ARIES (March 22 - April 19)</p> <p>Things around you may be unstable. Don't let it shake you, hold on to something that keeps you balanced.</p>	<p>TAURUS (April 20 - May 20)</p> <p>When someone offers you help, accept it. Accepting help is a form of self-care.</p>	<p>GEMINI (May 21 - June 20)</p> <p>You may be acting impulsively or even recklessly. Figure out what is causing you to feel unfulfilled.</p>	<p>CANCER (May 21 - July 22)</p> <p>Don't default to the easiest way of doing things. Putting in some extra work will pay off.</p>
<p>LEO (July 23 - Aug. 22)</p> <p>Stop pushing yourself so hard. The weight of your responsibilities will become too much.</p>	<p>VIRGO (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22)</p> <p>Things might feel hopeless right now, but keep going. This is only temporary.</p>	<p>LIBRA (Sept. 23 - Oct. 22)</p> <p>Don't ignore your intuition. Put a little extra thought into decisions before doing anything impulsive.</p>	<p>SCORPIO (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)</p> <p>Take a break and catch your breath. Re-motivate yourself before working on projects.</p>
<p>SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)</p> <p>If you aren't progressing, it means you need a break. Don't go until you get burnt out.</p>	<p>CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)</p> <p>If you are struggling to share your love with others, make sure you are giving enough to yourself.</p>	<p>AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)</p> <p>Don't resist change. You need to let go of some things that make you comfortable to move forward.</p>	<p>PISCES (Feb. 19 - March 21)</p> <p>Think through your decisions. If you don't, you might bring unwanted changes into your life.</p>