African American History Month

Celebrate African American History Month with a wide variety of events for every age at your Milwaukee Public Library.

Meet historian Mark Speltz, author of *North of Dixie: Civil Rights Photography Beyond the South* on **Tuesday, February 7, 6-7 p.m.** at Washington Park. Speltz shines a light past the most iconic photographs of the era to focus on images of everyday activists who led grassroots campaigns to protest racial discrimination.

Join the opening celebration of an **African American History Museum** created in collaboration with neighborhood children and Villard Square area schools on **Monday, February 6, 5:30-7 p.m.** at Villard Square. The museum will be open February 6-28.

Celebrate the achievements of **African and African-American Inventors** and learn about becoming an inventor yourself February 7, 5-6 p.m. at Center Street, February 11, 2-3 p.m. at Mill Road, or February 28, 5-6 p.m. at Central.

Gather with family and friends at the **Black History Month Read-In** presented by Ald. Milele A. Coggs and library staff on **Wednesday, February 22, 5:30-7 p.m.** at Martin Luther King.

**Journal Your Family History** on **Monday, February 27, 5:30-6:30 p.m.** with help from staff at Center Street. Journals and pens will be provided.

Pick up a copy of the library’s Calendar of Events for children for a complete listing of children’s and family programming including:

- **African Drum Workshops** presented by the Wisconsin Conservatory of Music at Atkinson, Feb. 13, 4:30-5:30 p.m., at Center Street, Feb. 6, 4-5 p.m. and at Central, Feb. 11, 10:30-11 a.m. for children, and Bucket Drumming for ‘tweens from 2-3 p.m.
- **A History of Jazz in America** with Carol V. Johnson at Villard Square, Feb. 15, 5:30-6:45 p.m.
- **Adventures in African American History** keepsake art presented by Blk-Art, History & Culture at Bay View, Feb. 20, 6-7:30 p.m., and at Washington Park, Feb. 28, 4:30-6 p.m.
- **African American History Month Jeopardy** at Capitol, Feb. 22, 5-6 p.m.
- **African American Scientists** presented by the Science Guy at Mill Road, Feb. 15, 5-5:45 p.m., and at Zablocki, Feb. 8, 6:30-7:15 p.m.
- **Extra Special Story Time** featuring Faith Ringgold’s *Tar Beach* at Atkinson, Feb. 23, 10:30-11:15 a.m.

More information is available online at mpl.org.
Green Home Series at Tippecanoe

Continuing from last year, the Tippecanoe Branch will host a series of Green Home programs focusing on sustainable energy and conservation.

**Sustainable Systems Power Hour** on Monday, Feb. 13 from 6-7 p.m. will present information on a variety of renewable energy sources like solar electric, solar hot water, small wind, geothermal and solar hot air. Find out how you can incorporate these systems into your home to save money and the earth for future generations.

On Monday, March 13, 6-7 p.m., **Planning Your Yard** provides tips on how to layout your backyard garden and create a natural yard that is beneficial for you, your community and the environment.

On the schedule for Monday, April 10, 6-7:15 p.m. is **Neighborhood Beautification**. Representatives from Keep Greater Milwaukee Beautiful and Home Gr/Own will explain how to turn unoccupied areas into green spaces and community gardens and how to organize a neighborhood litter cleanup.

FROM THE

**CITY LIBRARIAN**

**PAULA A. KIELY**

Helping people Read, Learn and Connect is more than just a catchy phrase for our mission statement. It represents more than 100 years of who we are, what we’ve accomplished, and where we’re headed. It’s what put us on the map as a vital institution in Milwaukee and it’s what keeps us relevant in an ever-changing technological atmosphere.

We established new connections with and among our neighbors during our two Library LOUD Days last year, and continue with a wide variety of opportunities to bring people together in 2017.

The ZIP MKE Exhibit will be at Central Library until February 19. If you haven’t had a chance to visit, be sure to drop by and view this unique photographic experiment that resulted in a gallery of images that celebrate the beauty and diversity, not the divisions, of Milwaukee. ZIP MKE “Zipsters” were challenged with representing each of the city’s 27 zip codes in photographs. Bring a friend!

Our cover article lists a range of African American History Month celebrations being held throughout the city for every age. Meet an author, join in an art project, test your knowledge of African-American history, make music, meet your neighbors at one of these great community events.

The popular Happy Birthday, Dr. Seuss event returns March 4 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Central and continues with parties at each of our branch libraries. Hundreds of families join us each year to celebrate the work of an author who inspired generations of new readers by joining us for crafts, stories, live entertainment and visits from the Cat in the Hat and our own Browser, the library lion.

A little too much Boing! Bam! Boom! for you? How about a drop-in chess game at East or a coloring session for adults at East, Tippecanoe or Zablocki? Or maybe you’d rather join the knitting circle with the Bay View Kinnickinnic Knitters or Central’s Skeins of Milwaukee?

Meet a friend, learn a new skill, make a connection with your neighbor at your neighborhood library this year. It’s just one of the many ways we continue to serve our community.
More than just stacks of books and rows of computers, the Milwaukee Public Library is a place where our citizens gather to explore, learn, interact and imagine what could be.

The fourteen Milwaukee Public Library locations are strengthening neighborhoods throughout our city, championing lifelong learning for more than two million visitors each year.

A planned gift creates a lasting legacy of your commitment to making a difference in Milwaukee.

**Your Gift is Important**

Those who remember Milwaukee Public Library in their estate plans will help our community in a variety of ways, including:

- Enhancing MPL’s award-winning preschool, school-age and teen outreach programs.
- Expanding MPL’s library world class collections and state-of-the art digital resources.
- Increasing access to 21st Century technology.
- Empowering adult education and workforce development programs.
- Providing families in distressed neighborhoods with a safe place to learn and grow.
- Funding Extensive business resources and databases.

If you choose to make a planned gift to support the library, please inform Milwaukee Public Library Foundation of your intention. We can then work with you and your family or financial advisor to ensure your gift is used as you intend.

Those who make planned gifts will become lifelong members in the library’s Andrew Carnegie Society.

For More Information or to Make a Planned Gift to Support Lifelong Learning at Milwaukee Public Library please contact:
Patricia Swanson | Milwaukee Public Library Foundation
814 W. Wisconsin Avenue | Milwaukee, WI 53233 | Phone: 414.286.3066
Please Save the Date!

The Spring Literary Luncheon will be held on Friday, May 5th, 2017 at The Wisconsin Club.

The Friends of Milwaukee Public Library, together with Boswell Book Company and the Wisconsin Club, are thrilled to announce Pulitzer Prize-winning and #1 New York Times bestselling author Elizabeth Strout as the featured author for the 2017 Spring Literary Luncheon. Strout will present her new novel Anything is Possible at the event. Details for reservations will follow in the March issue of the Reader. For sponsorship information, please call 414-286-8720.

This annual gala event draws Milwaukee’s most discerning literary enthusiasts. Over the years, the Spring Literary Luncheon has attracted sell-out crowds and world-class authors like Mary Higgins Clark, Ruth Reichl, Sue Monk Kidd, Sara Gruen and Louise Erdrich.

“Strout’s prose propels the story forward with moments of startlingly poetic clarity.” —The New Yorker

MPL Foundation Board Members Mary Sprague and Margy Stratton attend last year’s luncheon with their tables of Book Club friends!

Mayor Tom Barrett joined City Librarian Paula Kiely, author Curtis Sittenfeld, Friends Board President Barbara Franczyk, and Boswell Book Company owner Daniel Goldin.

The Raffle includes prizes such as seats to lunch at the author’s head table, tickets to the Benjamin Franklin Awards Celebration, Bookseller Book Prize Packs and more.
Spring Used Book Sale - Coincides with Dr. Seuss' Birthday Celebration
Saturday, Mar. 4, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. ~ Central Library, 814 W. Wisconsin Ave.
Bookseller Corridor, 1st floor
Featuring a large selection of gently used adult and children's books, comics, magazines, CDs, records, audio books and more. All proceeds from this sale benefit the Milwaukee Public Library. Friends members may enter sales 30 minutes before the public with current membership card. Please use the Eighth Street entrance and present your card. There will be a 2-for-1 sale in the Bookseller Used Book Store during the sale.

During the month of February, the Bookseller will feature a selection of half-priced Black History books.

Next Sale: Saturday, June 17, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Summer Sale at Central Library

Make a Difference for Your Library
The Friends of the Milwaukee Public Library advocate for libraries, literacy, and lifelong learning through annual memberships. To join the Friends or renew your membership, please visit www.mpl.org/friends or call (414) 286-8720.

Tours of historic Central Library are free and open to the public Saturdays at 11 a.m. To schedule a special tour or to learn about becoming a tour guide, please call (414) 286-TOUR.

(Clockwise from top) Curtis Sittenfeld captivated fans of Jane Austen’s classic Pride and Prejudice with her modern retelling, Eligible at the 2016 luncheon. Shannon Sweek, Casey Ripp, Jess Ripp and Mary Westphal mingle during the Social Hour.

Guests Fill the Shelves with titles that are in high-demand at the library by donating new books. Kristine Arndt, Nancy Arndt and Lisa Yewer enter the event and receive their copies of Eligible. Curtis Sittenfeld and Laura Feldmann snap a photo at the book signing.
The Dry by Jane Harper. Mystery.
Agent Aaron Falk is summoned to a funeral by the father of his former best friend. Luke went on a tear and murdered his wife, son and self. His father wants Aaron to look into the situation in a town that has long-held secrets that may best remain hidden.

The Bear and the Nightingale by Katherine Arden. Science Fiction/Fantasy.
Pytor receives a necklace from a stranger at the birth of his daughter, Vasya. When mysterious forces threaten their Russian village, Vasya discovers that, armed only with the necklace, she may be the only one who can keep the darkness at bay.

Heartstone by Elle Katharine White. Science Fiction/Fantasy.
Pride and Prejudice — and dragons. Merrybourne Manor has a gryphon infestation and contracts with a band of Riders, skilled warriors with magical animal mounts, to kill them. The main Rider is a little self-important, and our heroine has a long memory.

Seizing an exclusive opportunity to rent a one-of-a-kind, high-tech house, a damaged young woman falls in love with the enigmatic architect of the house, unaware she is following in the footsteps of a doomed former tenant. Chapters alternate between Emma, the ‘girl before’ and Jane, the ‘girl now,’ leaving readers in constant suspense.

The Fifth Petal by Brunonia Barry. Fiction.
When a teenage boy dies suspiciously on Halloween, chief of police John Rafferty suspects it may be linked to the triple homicide twenty-five years earlier that involved three descendants of Salem Witch Trial victims.

Behind Her Eyes by Sarah Pinborough. Mystery.
In this entrancing thriller, Louise and David meet in a bar, but when he confesses he’s married, they go their separate ways — until Louise finds out David is the new psychiatrist hired by the practice where she works. Adele is trying to keep her marriage alive, but David has tired of her lies. When Adele befriends Louise, the triangle is complete.

The Second Mrs. Hockaday by Susan Rivers. Fiction.
Letters, journal entries and court documents tell the story of Placidia, who, at age 17, marries Major Hockaday, a recent widower with a child. He is recalled to service in the Civil War and she is left to manage the farm and care for his son. When he returns, he finds Placidia has had another child and is accused of adultery and murder.

The Most Dangerous Place on Earth by Lindsey Lee Johnson. Fiction.
Not for the faint of heart! In a wealthy California community, the story opens with the suicide of a middle school boy — an outcast. New teacher Molly is devastated, and at the same time fascinated, with the lives of her privileged students. Fast forward to high school, where both teens and adults fight through life’s usual issues, leaving no one untouched by tragedy.

Her Every Fear by Peter Swanson. Mystery.
Kate Priddy is moving to Boston to swap apartments with her cousin, leaving behind life with an abusive ex. But when her neighbor is murdered, she’s pulled into an even darker situation. Prone to panic attacks, Kate constantly imagines the worst case scenario — and now reality is far more dangerous than anything of which she could conceive.

Contributed by Central Library librarian Jacki Potratz.
CHILDREN’S ROOM

Happy Birthday, Dr. Seuss

Central Library Kick-Off Celebration
Saturday, March 4, 2016, 10 am-1 pm

Join Browser, the Library Lion, and the Cat in the Hat as they “check out” these festivities:
Face painting
Reel in a good time at the Red Fish, Blue Fish pond
Play Seuss’s socks matching games
Hear silly stories in our story nook
Meet live turtles and tortoises in the Yertle the Turtle Pond
Create Seuss-inspired art
Decorate a cookie and take it home to eat
Enjoy singing, dancing and acting out stories at the reading steps

Reading Step Entertainment in the children’s room:
10-10:45 am Sing, dance and groove along with award-winning music duo Jack and Kitty!
11-11:45 am Laugh out loud with nationally known family entertainer Chris Fascione.
12-12:45 pm More singing, dancing and grooving with Jack and Kitty!

10:30 am-12:30 pm Boing! Bam! Boom! Poetry Writing Workshop
Try your hand at writing poems that use words that sound just like the noises they are describing (that’s called onomatopoeia)! Read famous onomatopoeia poems and write your own.

Celebrate In Your Neighborhood!

Magician Rick Allen
Join Mr. Rick for a magical birthday celebration. You might even be chosen to be suspended in mid-air!
Bay View
Monday, Mar 6, 6-6:45 pm
Center Street
Tuesday, Mar 7, 4:30-5:15 pm
Mill Road
Tuesday, Mar 14, 5:30-6:15 pm

Mind, Body and Soul Urban Line Dancing
Mind, Body & Soul Dancers provide step-by-step instructions to urban line dances like the Wobble, the Cha Cha Slide and the Cupid Shuffle.
Villard Square
Tuesday, Mar 7, 5:30-6:15 pm

Fox and Branch
Kick up your heels with fun and lively music!
Capitol
Wednesday, Mar 8, 5-5:45 pm
Tippecanoe
Monday, Mar 6, 6-6:45 pm

Kidsplay presents Thing Three and Thing Four
In “The Cat in the Hat” we meet Thing One and Thing Two. Now meet Thing Three and Thing Four as these misfit Things journey into the wacky world of Seuss!
Forest Home
Wednesday, Mar 8, 6-6:45 pm
Washington Park
Tuesday, Mar 7, 6:30-7:15 pm

Princess of Magic
This “Magicienne” is not your ordinary princess! Marvel and laugh during this interactive magic show that celebrates Dr. Seuss’s birthday with a magical twist.
East
Tuesday, Mar 7, 6-6:45 pm
Zablocki
Saturday, Mar 11, 2-2:45 pm

Ms. Kim’s Amazing Animals
Interact with live animals from small mammals to reptiles!
Atkinson
Tuesday, Mar 14, 4-4:45 pm
Martin Luther King
Monday, Mar 13, 5:30-6:15 pm
Knit One, Purl Two - Unwind at MPL

Knitting circles at Bay View and Central are dedicated to expanding skills through the participation of knitters of all experience levels. Bring your needles and hooks, your yarn and your enthusiasm for conversation and camaraderie with others who knit and crochet. Tap into knitting resources the library has to offer.

**Bay View Kinnickinnic Knitters** meet the first Wednesday of the month from 5:30-7:30 p.m.

**Skeins of Milwaukee** meets in Mozart’s Grove at Central the last Saturday of the month from 1:30-3:30 p.m. (except for May and December).