



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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# City of San Diego Public Library Celebrates Black History Month

**AUTHOR TALK, HUMAN LIBRARY AND CREATIVE WORKS CONTEST PLANNED FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY**

SAN DIEGO – This month, the San Diego Public Library (SDPL) will feature a full schedule of Black History Month programs to celebrate the history, culture and achievements of Black Americans. SDPL is hosting several events for young people and adults, including a creative contest for youth, a “human library” interactive learning experience and an author talk exploring activism, feminism and faith.

**“From storytimes for our youngest patrons to poetry slams and author talks for teens and adults, San Diego Public Library staff has created a diverse and thought-provoking group of programs to celebrate Black History Month,” said Library Director Misty Jones. “We encourage everyone to visit their local library or use SDPL’s online resources to broaden their knowledge about the experiences and accomplishments of Black Americans.”**

Black History Month events at SDPL include:

- **Black History Month Creative Works Contest.**
  - Students in 4<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade can submit an essay, poem, song, visual artworks or other creative work on a Black American historical figure or event in Black American history.
  - All participants receive a gift and the first, second and third place winners receive a cash prize.
- **Black LGBTQ+ Human Book Experience.**
  - Feb. 11, 2023. 3 – 5:30 p.m. at Valencia Park/Malcolm X Library.
  - Hosted by the San Diego Black LGBTQ Coalition, the event will include a poetry slam, music and a human book experience where participants can “borrow” a human book and have a conversation to encourage mutual understanding and connection.
- **Red Lip Theology with Candice Marie Benbow**
  - Feb. 27, 2023. Noon – 2 p.m. at Central Library. Presented by University of San Diego and San Diego Public Library.
  - Presentation and book signing by essayist and theologian Candice Marie Benbow touching on the universal themes of loss, forgiveness, heartache and empowerment.

SDPL will also host several lectures, discussions, film screenings and storytimes at its library locations throughout the month. For a full list of programs, registration information and Black History Month book lists, visit the library's Black History Month [webpage](#).

### **About the San Diego Public Library**

With a vision of being the place for opportunity, discovery and inspiration, the San Diego Public Library is a hub for knowledge and lifelong learning. As the largest library system in the region, it serves a population of more than 1.4 million people. Learn about events at the San Diego Central Library @ Joan A Irwin Jacobs Common and 35 community branch libraries, find links to programs and resources or search for materials in the online catalog at [www.sandiegolibrary.org](http://www.sandiegolibrary.org).

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