



FOR QUESTIONS OR MORE INFORMATION:

Please call 757.393.8983 or visit PortsVaEvents.com



- Children's Museum of Virginia - 221 High Street*
- Portsmouth Art & Cultural Center Art Annex - 400 High Street*
- Portsmouth Colored Community Library Museum - 904 Elm Avenue*
- Portsmouth Main Library - 601 Court Street*

**BLACK
HISTORY
2022=NOW!**

**PRESENTED BY PORTSMOUTH MUSEUMS
AND THE PORTSMOUTH PUBLIC LIBRARY**

JANUARY • FEBRUARY

BLACK HISTORY NOW 2022

In our seventh annual season, the Portsmouth museums and Portsmouth libraries will commemorate African American heritage with our series of events, programs, lectures, family activities, and more. Topics relate to current museum exhibitions and highlight local people and history. For all the details on dates, times, and places visit: ChildrensMuseumVirginia.com, PortsmouthArtCenter.com, PortsmouthNavalShipyardsMuseum.com, and PortsVaAfricanAmericanHeritage.com, and PortsmouthPublicLibrary.org. (Unless otherwise noted, all events are free and open to the public.)

**Rooting for the Home Team:
Portsmouth's Black Baseball Players,
Promoters, and Parks
Beginning January 15
Portsmouth Colored Community
Library Museum**

In the post-World War II era, "Baseball was king" in the sports world of Hampton Roads, especially in the African American community. Discover the joy of baseball among Portsmouth's Black community in the mid-20th century by learning about some of its best known players, teams, and ballparks at this new exhibit at the Portsmouth Colored Community Library Museum.

**Meet Negro Leagues Legend Sam Allen
Saturday, January 15 | 1:30 pm
Portsmouth Art & Cultural Center Annex**

Journey back in time to the era of segregated baseball with Sam Allen, who played left field with Negro League teams Kansas City Monarchs, Raleigh Tigers, and Memphis Red Sox before serving with the U.S. Army's 82nd Airborne Division. Allen, a Norfolk resident, is a national treasure joining us to reminisce about his experiences with our national pastime both on and off the field.

**Celebrate Martin Luther King Day
Saturday, January 15 | 10 am to 4pm
Portsmouth Main Library**

Drop in the library to make a peace dove in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. All ages are welcome.

**Ms. Martha Reads
Saturday, January 22nd | 10:30AM & 2:30PM
Children's Museum of Virginia**

Ms. Martha Razor presents "The Donkey Who Lost His Memory" a children's story and puppet show written by a Portsmouth student. Guests will have the opportunity to hear and participate in the story and then create their own stick puppet to take home.

**JAVA & DJEMBES: African Percussion
Workshop Featuring Coffees & Chocolates
from the African Continent
Saturday, January 29 | 1:30 – 3:00 pm
Portsmouth Art & Cultural Center Annex**

Participants will enjoy coffees and fine chocolates from Africa while learning percussion rhythms from master musician Kamiruri Kelly of the Day Program. Price: \$10 per person. Ages 17 and up. To register please go online to www.portsmouthartcenter.com or call 757 393-8543.

**Celebrate Black History Month
February 1 – 28
Portsmouth Main Library**

Participate in our Black History Trivia Contest. Hint: answers are on the bulletin board. Kid-friendly.

**Celebrate Black History Month
February 1 – 28
Children's Museum of Virginia**

Discover African American scientists and their significant contributions during the month of February. Their profiles will be featured throughout the 2nd floor and experiments related to their work will be highlighted in S.T.E.M. Studio each weekend.

**Caribbean Dreaming
Wednesday, February 2 2022 | 10:30 am
Portsmouth Main Library**

Explore the world of Caribbean Steel Drums through a historical and musical demonstration and learn how drums were outlawed on many Caribbean islands and how they came to be made from steel. A unique sound and art form was created by these politics. Learn how the people of the Caribbean became independent and at the same time developed an art of their own.

**The Architecture of Democracy in a
Landscape of Slavery: An Illustrated
Presentation by Dr. Louis P. Nelson,
University of Virginia
Saturday, February 5 | 1:30 pm
Portsmouth Art & Cultural Center Annex**

The University of Virginia is closely associated with Thomas Jefferson, and is an architectural testament to the enlightened visions at that time, while also being a location where slavery was practiced. Dr. Nelson of the University of Virginia will present on the uses of architecture and landscape within this national landmark, and the intersection of these two realities, exploring Thomas Jefferson's architectural designs and how they may reflect Jefferson's own views of slavery.

**TUSKEGEE AIRMEN: The First TOP GUNS
Saturday, February 12 | 1:30 pm
Portsmouth Art & Cultural Center Annex**

In May of 1949, the US Military was still segregated. The U.S. Air Force held the first Gunnery Meet in Las Vegas NV, where five "fighter groups" sent their best pilots and crews to compete, including the all African American 332nd Tuskegee Airmen fighter group. Come hear the details of this little known and fascinating story presented by Howard and Richard Baugh, two sons of decorated WWII fighter pilot Lt. Col. Howard Lee Baugh.

**Engineer Loammi Baldwin, Urban Slavery,
and the Construction of Dry Dock #1 at
Gosport Shipyards
Saturday, February 19 | 1:30 pm
Portsmouth Art & Cultural Center Annex**

When Dry Dock #1 at today's Norfolk Naval Shipyards was built in the 1830s, the labor necessary to complete it included enslaved stonecutters who were paid for their expertise. Hiring out skilled slaves caused controversy, but not for the reasons you might think. Discover more about this fascinating piece of Shipyards history when Dr. Linda Upham-Bornstein, Teaching Lecturer in History at Plymouth State University, Plymouth, NH, presents her research, first published in the journal *Labor* in 2007.

**African American History Expo
Saturday, February 26 | 2 pm – 4 pm
Portsmouth Main Library**

Celebrate African American history and music. We will have displays of handicrafts, music from Porte Towne Magic, and speaker Jack Gary, Director of Archaeology for the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation. Mr. Gary will discuss the excavations at the First Baptist Church in Williamsburg. The First Baptist Church of Williamsburg was organized in 1776 by a group of courageous slaves and free blacks who wanted to worship God in their own way. Come and hear some of the fascinating history of this early African American congregation.