



Black History Month 2023 Events

Black History Month is a time to celebrate Black people and their triumphs while also taking pause to acknowledge racist history and current systems that enable racism to continue today. Here are some events in Vancouver and across BC to look out for this month

Week of: February 1-4

February 4: Vancouver Public Library is hosting the [Black Joy and Achievement in Cinema](#), a day of recent films highlighting hip-hop, urban fashion, and hustle featuring some of the biggest names.

If you are looking for some leisure reading, check out [JSTOR Daily editor's favorite stories](#) for Black History Month.

Week of: February 5-11

February 7: UBC will host a [multi-day event](#) with Afro-Italian hip-hop artist and activist Amir Issaa.

February 9: The Surrey Archives will host a virtual session led by the guest speaker Yasin Kiraga Misago, who will tell us about Surrey's [African diaspora story](#).

February 10, 11 AM: Special BCCDC Grand Rounds with [Angela Kaida](#), Jillian Anderson, Josephine Etowa, Zainab Jerrett and others

- Creating a [Data Visualization Dashboard](#) of the African, Caribbean, and Black Community PHAC-funded COVID-19 (APCI) Study, see attached poster.
- Join via [Zoom](#) using Meeting ID: 62086320636 and Password: 705620

Week of: February 12 - 19

February 15, 6:30-7 PM: Family Story time [event](#), reading of “*Viola Desmond Won’t Be Budged!*”

- Join BCCDC’s Cherlyn Cortes and Zahra Abdulla for an all-ages interactive and inspiring storytelling event with James Etheridge, a Black Deaf storyteller, and will be delivered in American Sign Language.
- Zahra and James will read “*Viola Desmond Won’t Be Budged!*” by Jody Nyasha Warner and illustrated by Richard Rudnicki. This is an empowering story about racial discrimination and Black Canadian history. Cherlyn will lead a short Q+A after the reading
- Held virtually [over Zoom](#)

February 16 – February 26: [Vancouver Mural Festival's Winter Arts](#) features art, music and poetry by some local Black artists.

February 16, 6PM: Cinema Thinks the World: [Rewind & Play \(1969\) film screening and discussion](#)

- Cinema Thinks the World is proud to present a special screening of *Rewind and Play* for Black History Month, and will be followed by a discussion/Q&A of the film, led by local experts and scholars from UBC

February 16, 12 PM: [Conversation with Sheila Murray](#), author of *Finding Edward*, a novel that tells the story of a man who moves from Jamaica to Toronto in 2012, and experiences being racialized in a new land.

February 16, 5 PM: [OUT OF THE SUN: On Black History and Storytelling](#) with award-winning Canadian author Esi Edugyan

February 17 – 19: [ISSAMBA Showcases](#)

As part of Issamba's Black History Month-long celebration, internationally acclaimed artiste, Mamadou Diabate with Percussion Mania, NAXX BITOTA alongside LEFLOFRANCO will take us on the musical experience of a lifetime in Victoria, Nanaimo and Vancouver

Victoria show: 17 February

Nanaimo show: 18 February

Vancouver show: 19 February

Week of: February 20 - 26

February 21, 5 PM: Mitigating Vaccine Hesitancy in Black Communities in BC: Webinar by the Hogan's Alley Society

- [Register in advance to attend](#)

February 23, 7PM: [Neptune Frost](#) film screening

- An Afro-sonic sci-fi musical composed by Saul Williams and executive produced by Cayuga and Mohawk group The Halluci Nation (f.k.a. A Tribe Called Red) that tells of a generation of dreamers escaping the psychosocial wreckage of colonization, genocide, and the residual brutalities of global extractive industries.

February 25, 7PM: [Black Futures: Artists Saul William, Moor Mother and Irreversible Entanglements](#)

- This special concert brings together dynamic visionaries to perform a collaborative concert that interweaves Afrofuturist currents within a stunning continuum of Black music

February 27 - 28

February 27, 12-1 PM: [African Ancestry Project](#): Highlighting the diversity of Black people in BC and implications on health research. A presentation by [Alice Murage](#)

- A research and dialogue project raising awareness of the diverse identities and lived experiences of Black people of African Descent living in British Columbia
- Held virtually over Zoom (with Zoom details to follow)