



Black History Month

Grade 6-12 programs on the Michigan Learning Channel

| MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY | SUNDAY |
|--|--|--|---|---|----------|---|
| 1-Feb | 2-Feb | 3-Feb | 4-Feb | 5-Feb | 6-Feb | 7-Feb |
| | | SPECIAL EVENT 5pm: PBS Books conversation with Dr. Mae Jemison | | 9pm: Poetry in America: Harlem | | 7pm & 11pm: Meet Mary Pleasant |
| | 10pm: Africa's Great Civilizations, Episode 1: Origins | 10pm: Africa's Great Civilizations, Episode 3: Empires of Gold | 10pm: Africa's Great Civilizations, Episode 5: The Atlantic Age | 9:30pm: Poetry in America: Fast Break | | 8pm & 12am: Fannie Lou Hamer: Stand Up |
| | 11pm: Africa's Great Civilizations, Episode 2: The Cross and The Crescent | 11pm: Africa's Great Civilizations, Episode 4: Cities | 11pm: Africa's Great Civilizations, Episode 6: Commerce and the Clash of Civilizations | 10pm: American Masters: Maya Angelou: And Still I Rise | | |
| 8-Feb | 9-Feb | 10-Feb | 11-Feb | 12-Feb | 13-Feb | 14-Feb |
| 10pm: Reconstruction: America After the Civil War (Part 1) | 10pm: In Their Own Words: Muhammad Ali | 10pm: Reconstruction: America After the Civil War (Part 2) | 10pm: Boss: The Black Experience in Business | 9pm: The Talk: Race in America | | 7pm & 11pm: Tell Them We Are Rising: The Story of Historically Black Colleges and Universities |
| | 11pm: John Lewis: Get in the Way | | | | | |
| 15-Feb | 16-Feb | 17-Feb | 18-Feb | 19-Feb | 20-Feb | 21-Feb |
| 10pm: American Experience: Freedom Riders | 10pm: American Experience: Freedom Summer | | 10pm: Frontline: Policing the Police | 10pm: American Masters: Lorraine Hansberry: Sighted Eyes/Feeling Heart | | 7pm & 11pm: Let's Have Some Church Detroit Style |
| | | | | | | 8pm & 12am: Voices for Freedom: The Heyers Sisters' Legacy |
| 22-Feb | 23-Feb | 24-Feb | 25-Feb | 26-Feb | 27-Feb | 28-Feb |
| | | | | 10pm: American Masters: How It Feels to Be Free | | 8:30pm: George Washington Carver: An Uncommon Life |

The Michigan Learning Channel is committed to sharing diverse perspectives and stories year-round. In the month of February, MLC is celebrating Black History Month with near-daily programs. Many of these programs are part of the WORLD At-Home Learning programming and have accompanying curricular resources on PBS Learning Media, and many are available for streaming.

The lineup includes biographies of notable Black Americans, from artists and athletes to activists and scientists. Poetry in America and American Masters share the beauty and power of Black art. And The Talk: Race in America and Frontline: Policing the Police bring PBS' trusted and thorough reporting to current racial tensions in the United States. Whether in the classroom or as a family, encourage your student to find a program that interests them!

SPECIAL EVENT: A Conversation with Dr. Mae Jemison

PBS Books, in partnership with ASALH, will host a virtual conversation with trailblazer **Dr. Mae Jemison on Wednesday, February 3 at 5pm ET | 2pm PT on Facebook Live, YouTube Live (PBS Books and ASALH), and on its website.**

During the interview, Dr. Mae will discuss her newly re-released memoir "**Finding Where the Wind Goes.**" You'll hear about her various and diverse experiences—all of which make her a trailblazer. This program is the perfect complement to our Trailblazing Women Series offered during the 100-year celebration of the ratification of the 19th Amendment, and our Celebration of African American Life and History during Black History Month.

Dr. Mae Jemison, the world's first woman of color in space, is truly a modern hero with a remarkable, inspiring story to tell. We look forward to sharing her story with the young (ages 8 and up) and the young at heart.

View at this link: <https://www.facebook.com/PBSBooks1/live/>

Africa's Great Civilizations

Social Studies (Grades 6-9)

[Stream the Series](#)

Africa's Great Civilizations: [Learning Resource Collection](#)

Africa's Great Civilizations, Episode 1: Origins

Journey with Henry Louis Gates Jr. to Kenya, Egypt, and beyond as he discovers the origins of man, the formation of early human societies, and the creation of significant cultural and scientific achievements on the African continent.

Africa's Great Civilizations, Episode 2: The Cross and The Crescent

Henry Louis Gates Jr. charts the ancient rise of Christianity and Islam, whose economic and cultural influence stretched from Egypt to Ethiopia. Learn of African religious figures like King Lalibela, an Ethiopian saint, and Menelik, bringer of the Ark of the Covenant.

Africa's Great Civilizations, Episode 3: Empires of Gold

Henry Louis Gates Jr. uncovers the complex trade networks and advanced educational institutions that transformed early North and West Africa from deserted lands into the continent's wealthiest kingdoms and learning epicenters.

Africa's Great Civilizations, Episode 4: Cities

Henry Louis Gates Jr. explores the power of Africa's greatest ancient cities, including Kilwa, Great Zimbabwe, and Benin City, whose wealth, art, and industrious successes attracted new European interest and interaction along the continent's east and west coasts.

Africa's Great Civilizations, Episode 5: The Atlantic Age

Henry Louis Gates Jr. explores the impact of the Atlantic trading world, giving rise to powerful new kingdoms but also transatlantic slave trade. Learn of the revolutionary movements of the 18th and early 19th centuries, including the advent of the Sokoto Caliphate.

Africa's Great Civilizations, Episode 6: Commerce and the Clash of Civilizations

Henry Louis Gates Jr. explores the dynamism of 19th-century Africa, the "Scramble" by European powers for its riches, and the defiant and successful stand of uncolonized Ethiopia.

Poetry in America: Harlem

ELA (Grades 8-12)

[Stream the episode with PBS Passport](#)

[Hughes: Harlem - Learning Resources](#)

"What happens to a dream deferred?" Langston Hughes's question calls President Bill Clinton, pianist and composer Herbie Hancock, poet Sonia Sanchez, and students from the Harlem Children's Zone to interpret Hughes's most iconic poem, "Harlem."

Poetry in America: Fast Break

[Stream the episode with PBS Passport](#)

[Hirsch: Fast Break – Learning Resources](#)

Edward Hirsch's poem "Fast Break" captures a single slow-motion play on a basketball court. Shaquille does the play-by-play, heading this episode's team of on-court interpreters, who explore "Fast Break" as sport, art, and a lens on human character.

American Masters: Maya Angelou: And Still I Rise

ELA (Grades 8-12)

[Stream the Episode](#)

[AMERICAN MASTERS: Maya Angelou: And Still I Rise - Collection](#)

Journey through the prolific life of the "I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings" author and activist, who inspired generations with lyrical modern African American thought.

Meet Mary Pleasant

Social Studies (Grades 7-12)

Not available for streaming watch 2/7/21 at 7p & 11p ET

[Civil Rights: Then and Now](#)

Meet Mary Pleasant is the daring saga of a 19th-century African-American woman, born a slave and raised in Nantucket, who became an international abolitionist, a prosperous entrepreneur, and a civil-rights activist whose work helped alter modern-day civil-rights law. Now called "The Mother of Civil Rights in California," Pleasant--as activist and individual--was a Martin Luther King, a Malcolm X, and a Rosa Parks combined; she could love across boundaries of race and class while fighting for racial equality, human rights, and dignity for her people. Her life thus can be important today in healing our divisions as a people.

Fannie Lou Hamer: Stand Up

[Stream the film](#)

[Primary Source Set: Fannie Lou Hamer and the Civil Rights Movement](#)

Social Studies (Grades 7-12)

Civil rights legend Fannie Lou Hamer is remembered by those who worked side by side with her in the struggle for voting rights. An African-American sharecropper from the Mississippi Delta, Hamer's difficulty registering to vote in 1962 led to her career as an outspoken activist, congressional candidate, and fierce fighter for the rights of all.

Reconstruction: America After the Civil War

Social Studies (Grades 7-12)

[Stream the Series](#)

[Reconstruction: America After the Civil War - Collection](#)

Part 1:

African Americans had played a crucial role in saving the Union and now, as the country grappled with the terms and implications of Reconstruction, they struggled to breathe life into their hard-won freedom.

Part 2:

At the turn of the century, white supremacy was ascendant; African Americans faced both physical and psychological oppression but found ways to fight back, using artistic expression to put forward a "New Negro" for a new century.

In Their Own Words: Muhammad Ali

Social Studies (Grades 6-12)

[Stream the Episode on PBS Passport](#)

[Muhammad Ali: Boxer and Civil Rights Activist](#)

Follow Muhammad Ali's path from a gym in Louisville to boxing successes, conversion to Islam, opposition to the draft, exile from the ring, comeback fights, Parkinson's disease, and his inspirational reemergence at the Atlanta Olympics.

John Lewis: Get in the Way

Social Studies (Grades 6-12)

[Stream the Special with PBS Passport](#)

[The Right to Vote | John Lewis: Get in the Way](#)

Follow the journey of civil rights hero, congressman, and human rights champion John Lewis. At the Selma march, Lewis came face-to-face with club-wielding troopers and exemplified nonviolence.

Boss: The Black Experience in Business

Social Studies (Grades 6-12)

[Stream the Special with PBS Passport](#)

[Our Inspiration: The Story of Maggie Lena Walker](#)

Learn about the untold story of African American entrepreneurship, where skill, industriousness, ingenuity, and sheer courage in the face of overwhelming odds provide the backbone of this nation's economic and social growth.

The Talk: Race in America

Public Affairs (Grades 9-12)

[Stream this film](#)

[FRONTLINE: Police Reform](#)

This documentary film chronicles how families of color protect their children's lives with "The Talk," which explains what to do and how to behave if you are stopped by the police.

Tell Them We Are Rising: The Story of America's Historically Black Colleges and Universities

[Available for streaming until 2/18/2021](#)

Though much of its history was eclipsed by the explosiveness of the 1960s, the essential role the nation's historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs) played in shaping black life, creating a black middle class and dismantling segregation cannot be overstated. This documentary explores the history of HBCU's from their founding to the impact they continue to have for their students and alumni.

American Experience: Freedom Riders

Social Studies (Grades 9-12)

[AMERICAN EXPERIENCE: Freedom Riders - Collection](#)

From May until November 1961, more than 400 Black and white Americans risked their lives simply by traveling together on buses and trains through the Deep South in order to challenge Jim Crow laws that segregated the interstate travel system.

American Experience: Freedom Summer

Social Studies (Grades 9-12)

[AMERICAN EXPERIENCE: What Was "Freedom Summer?"](#)

In 1964, over 700 Black and white students came to Mississippi to register Black citizens to vote and to combat other forms of discrimination, such as inadequate schools and lack of legal aid. Activists hoped the participation of educated middle-class students would bring results and attention to the miserable standard of living of Black Mississippians.

Frontline: Policing the Police

[Stream the episode](#)

Social Studies (Grades 9-12)

[FRONTLINE: Police Reform](#)

Writer and historian Jelani Cobb examines allegations of police abuses and the challenge of fixing a broken relationship with the community.

American Masters: Lorraine Hansberry: Sighted Eyes/Feeling Heart

ELA (Grades 6-12)

[AMERICAN MASTERS: Lorraine Hansberry](#)

Explore the life and work of the *A Raisin in the Sun* playwright and activist, who played a significant role in the civil rights movement. LaTanya Richardson Jackson narrates and Anika Noni Rose is the voice of Lorraine Hansberry.

Let's Have Some Church Detroit Style

Not available for streaming watch 2/21/21 at 7p & 11p ET

Let's Have Some Church Detroit Style is a spirited tale of the struggles and triumphs of a Detroit gospel group The Hallelujah Singers. The 90-minute documentary, which is full of music, explores the personal lives of director E. LaQuint Weaver and the his all-star community choir while chronicling the group's preparation to attend the awards show in Birmingham, Alabama.

Voices for Freedom: The Hyers Sisters' Legacy

Not available for streaming watch 2/21/21 at 8p & 12a ET

Winner to date of five international festival awards and a Telly Award in documentary film, Voices for Freedom – The Hyers Sisters' Legacy chronicles the lives of Sacramento's Hyers Sisters -- African-American opera prodigies who toured the nation to acclaim from the 1871 to 1894 and championed human rights in works that changed American Music Theater forever. The Hyers were celebrated in touring opera nationwide from 1871-73, but in 1876 -- perilous times, when touring blackface minstrels denigrated African Americans -- they stood up and became "voices" for the dignity of their people. Through beloved music-dramatic works (now called the first American musicals) they depicted black life with dignity to their mainstream audiences for the first time, changing many minds and hearts.. The film gives insights into times of lynching, Chinese and black persecution, and Jim Crow while it presents colorful excerpts from opera, music theater, period song, and spirituals sung by internationally acclaimed artists. It is hosted by opera superstar Denyce Graves and is enriched with montages, enactments, a hip-hop poet, historical narration, and informed commentary that shed light on our lives today.

American Masters: How It Feels to Be Free

ELA (Grade 6-12)

[AMERICAN MASTERS - Collection](#)

This documentary tells the inspiring story of how six iconic African American female entertainers—Lena Horne, Abbey Lincoln, Nina Simone, Diahann Carroll, Cicely Tyson, and Pam Grier—challenged an entertainment industry deeply complicit in perpetuating racist stereotypes, transforming themselves and their audiences in the process.

George Washington Carver: An Uncommon Life

[Stream this film](#)

The story of George Washington Carver's rise from slavery to scientific accomplishment has inspired millions both black and white. Even today, children study the story of Carver, and lists of prominent African Americans contain his name. But time has dulled the luster of Carver's reputation for genius. He is remembered now as a man who "did something with peanuts."