

THE NEWARK PUBLIC LIBRARY  
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**PRESS RELEASE**

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***Newark Public Library announces January programs***

Highlighting the January schedule of programs for the Newark Public Library is the opening of its Black History Celebration that includes programming and an exhibition. All of the library's January programs are free and open to the public. For more information, patrons should call the number listed with the program description. Some additional details may be available at [www.npl.org](http://www.npl.org) for adult programs and at [www.npl.org/Pages/KidsPlace/calendar.html](http://www.npl.org/Pages/KidsPlace/calendar.html) for children's programs, or by visiting the library's blog at <http://www.nj.com/newark/npl>.

The main library and the branch libraries will have adjusted hours on Wednesday, December 31<sup>st</sup>. The main library will be open from 9am to 5:30pm. All branch libraries will be open from 9:30am to 5:30pm.

Entitled ***Dear & Glorious Physician: The History of Black Doctors, Nurses and Hospitals in Newark and Beyond***, this year's Black History exhibition seeks to educate the public about the accomplishments of the profession to the areas of social justice, human rights and community development. It is on view in the second-floor gallery from January 21 through March 28. Author and historian Sandra L. West, now also a library associate in the James Brown African-American Room, curated the show. ***Dear & Glorious Physician*** was funded in part by grants from PNC Bank Foundation and the New Jersey Historical Commission.

Some of the pioneering local physicians included in this historical memoir and salute are Rev. Dr. Edward Verner, Dr. John Kenney, Dr. Theodore Inge, Dr. Louis T. Wright, Dr. Charles C. Polk, Dr. Walter L. Darden and Dr. Reynold Burch. Also featured are Newark's all-black Kenney Hospital and the all-black National Medical Association. On display are antique medical instruments, manuscripts, books, period photographs and articles on contemporary medical doctors.

Linda Kenney Miller will present the keynote address on her grandfather, Dr. John Kenney, and the hospital he inaugurated, at the January 29 reception that opens officially the library's exhibition and programming for Black History 2009. The program also features a lecture on Newark's Kenney Hospital by Dr. Clement Alexander Price of Rutgers University. Rev. John K. White, pastor of New Salem Baptist Church, will speak on "Living in a Historical Landmark." Spectrums Afrikans will supply traditional African drumming and processional. The reception will be held in Centennial Hall, beginning 5pm. It is

cosponsored by the Newark Landmarks and Preservation Committee, Newark Historical Society and The Institute on Ethnicity, Culture and the Modern Experience. For more information on the 2009 celebration call the library at 973-733-5411 or visit [www.npl.org](http://www.npl.org).

On Thursday the 8<sup>th</sup>, Jeffrey B. Perry will present a lecture and hold a book signing on his newest work, *Hubert Harrison: The Voice of Harlem Radicalism, 1883-1913*. Perry is an independent scholar who preserved and inventoried the Hubert H. Harrison papers. The program begins at 6pm in Centennial Hall. For more information call 973-424-1831.

On Saturday the 17<sup>th</sup>, two poets will speak and sign copies of their new books: Grace McQueen (*Poetry for the Spirit, the Mind, and Yes, the Soul*) and Ebony Dawn (*Moments*). The program begins at Noon in the Auditorium. For more information call 973-424-1831.

**Hooray for Children**, the series that is fun for the entire family, will present African Folk Tales on Saturday the 24<sup>th</sup>, beginning promptly at 2pm in Centennial Hall. Inspired by Anansi the Spider and other stories, the folk traditions of Africa are introduced in this program of stories, dance, mime, music, and audience participation. Tales include Anansi and the Box of Stories, the Possum and the Snake, Why Monkeys Live in Trees, How the Zebra Got His Stripes, and much more. Presented by Theatreworks USA. For more information call 973-733-7797.

The exhibition ***More Than Words: Artists' Books and Book Art From the Special Collections of the Newark Public Library***, which is installed in the 3<sup>rd</sup>-floor gallery, concludes on January 4. For more information about the exhibition call its curator, Jared Ash, at 973-733-7745, or email him at [jash@npl.org](mailto:jash@npl.org).

Curated by William J. Dane and Chad Leinaweaver, an exciting new exhibition will show off many of the **new** gifts and purchases of the Special Collections Division, and also highlights the collecting of the Division over the past 100 years. Entitled ***Just In and Out Again: New Original Prints, Posters, Artists' Books, Pop-up Books & Visual Art Surprises***, this dazzling display will be on view in the 3<sup>rd</sup>-floor gallery from January 13 through April 10.

Some of the new works that will be on view are a gouache painting by Burhan Dogancay, a gift from William Peniston; a selection of gifts from artist Ellen Nathan Singer; two donations of New York-based artist Evelyn Eller; numerous screen prints and silkscreen greeting cards by Max Arthur Cohn, donated by his daughter, Jane Waldbaum; and two gifts from Newark-based artist Kenneth Schnall, who specializes in "painter's books." For more information on ***Just In and Out Again***, call 973-733-7745.

The 4<sup>th</sup>-floor display on the Pulaski Skyway continues through mid-January. Entitled ***Pulaski Skyway - NJ Treasure***, the past and present of this remarkable structure is detailed in four exhibition cases. The exhibition was co-curated by reference librarian Deirdre Schmidel, of the library's Charles F. Cummings New Jersey Information Center, and by the New Jersey Department of Transportation, Division of Project Development & Bureau of Landscape Architecture & Environmental Solutions. For more information call Ms. Schmidel at 973-733-7776.

Free computer classes—in English and Spanish—are being held in the Technology Training Center, which is located on the third floor of the main library. Class size is

limited to ten participants. Some classes are designed for first-time computer users (Mouse Clinic, Typing), while others are for those with more computer literacy (Word Processing, Email, Blogging, Internet, Creating a Résumé). For more information on the calendar of classes for the month, please call 973-733-3603, or visit [www.npl.org/Pages/Computers/](http://www.npl.org/Pages/Computers/).

Following is the January list for the initiative, "Programs @ the Branches." This entertaining and educational series is designed for children and their families and is funded by a grant from the Newark Public Schools.

Saturday the 17<sup>th</sup>, 11am, First Avenue Branch Library, 282 First Avenue, 973-733-8091. *Dr. Electro's Super Science Party*. Join Dr. Electro as he welcomes you to become a junior scientist. You will help him perform experiments that will make products you can touch and feel. Dr. Electro will even teach you an experiment to make slime that you can take home with you.

Saturday the 17<sup>th</sup>, 11am, Van Buren Branch Library, 140 Van Buren Street, 973-733-7750. *Musical Legends presents The Fire Children*. Discover the story of the Fire Children as Lauren Hooker of Musical Legends brings to life this lively, musical rendition of an African Creation Myth celebrating the earth and people of many different shades and colors. The audience will join in with the storytellers through movement games, songs and African dance.

Wednesday the 21<sup>st</sup>, 4pm, Weequahic Branch Library, 355 Osborne Terrace, 973-733-7752. *Musical Legends presents The Fire Children*. Discover the story of the Fire Children as Lauren Hooker of Musical Legends brings to life this lively, musical rendition of an African Creation Myth celebrating the earth and people of many different shades and colors. The audience will join in with the storytellers through movement games, songs and African dance.

Wednesday the 28<sup>th</sup>, 4pm, North End Branch Library, 722 Summer Avenue, 973-733-7683. *Musical Legends presents The Fire Children*. Discover the story of the Fire Children as Lauren Hooker of Musical Legends brings to life this lively, musical rendition of an African Creation Myth celebrating the earth and people of many different shades and colors. The audience will join in with the storytellers through movement games, songs and African dance.

Following are additional programs for January.

The Branch Brook Branch Library, 235 Clifton Avenue, 973-733-6388, will celebrate Dr. King's birthday when Councilman Anibal Ramos delivers Dr. King's famous speech on Wednesday the 14<sup>th</sup> at 3pm, after which kids and teens can write about their dreams for the nation. There will be a winter craft at 3:30pm on Wednesday the 21<sup>st</sup> at which kids will make a snowflake. An adult program is planned for Thursday the 22<sup>nd</sup> at 3pm at which local author Jackie Hodasi will discuss her book, *The Woman Inside*, and hold a signing. Books will be available for purchase.

The Clinton Branch Library, 739 Bergen Street, 973-733-7754, invites children to send a greeting to their new president at a special program on Monday the 5<sup>th</sup> at 4pm. Toddlers and preschoolers are invited to a storytime to learn about Dr. King's life on

Monday the 5<sup>th</sup> at 10am. Children through grade 8 can pay tribute to and celebrate the life of Dr. King by designing a bookmark on Wednesday the 14<sup>th</sup> at 4pm. On Friday the 16<sup>th</sup> at 4pm, students through grade 8 can take part in a discussion on the meaning of peace and the famous people who encouraged it. Children are invited to play bingo on Friday the 30<sup>th</sup> at 3:30pm. Each Tuesday in January, starting with the 13<sup>th</sup>, the Adult Room will hold a “learn to play chess” at 3:30pm for children, teens and adults. Join the book club in the Adult Room and read/discuss the latest bestsellers, starting with *Midnight* by Sister Souljah on Wednesday the 21<sup>st</sup> at 5pm.

The First Avenue Branch Library, 282 First Avenue, 973-733-8091, will show *Our Friend Martin*, a magical movie adventure inspired by the life of Dr. King, on Wednesday the 14<sup>th</sup> at 4pm.

The Main Library Children’s Room, 5 Washington Street, 973-733-7797, will hold a craft for kids aged 4 to 12, making marshmallow snowmen on Friday the 9<sup>th</sup> at 3:30pm. There will be a Dr. King remembrance on Tuesday the 13<sup>th</sup> at 3pm, and an inauguration celebration on Tuesday the 20<sup>th</sup> at 3pm.

The Springfield Branch Library, 50 Hayes Street, 973-733-7736, will hold three “Black History: More Than a Month Series” programs: on Wednesday the 7<sup>th</sup> at 4pm, students can tell about their own dreams after read Dr. King’s famous speech; on Friday the 9<sup>th</sup> at 3:45pm, “Trumpet in the New Year With Louis Armstrong”; and on Wednesday the 21<sup>st</sup> at 4pm, children will construct “God’s Eyes” from popsicle sticks and yarn as a tribute to Dr. Patricia Bath.

The Vailsburg Branch Library, 75 Alexander Street, 973-733-7755, will hold Winter Wonderland Movie Night on Wednesday the 14<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> at 4pm. There will be a family night at the movies on Wednesday the 7<sup>th</sup> at 6pm. Cook with “Chef Adam” in the Children’s Room on Friday the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, and 30<sup>th</sup> at 4pm. Play library bingo on Wednesday the 21<sup>st</sup> at 4pm. An arts & crafts on various projects will take place on Friday the 9<sup>th</sup> and Thursday the 29<sup>th</sup> at 4pm.

The Van Buren Branch Library, 140 Van Buren Street, 973-733-7750, will hold a Dr. King story hour for kids on Monday the 12<sup>th</sup> at 4pm, and present three short films on Dr. King for teens and adults at 3pm, Friday the 16<sup>th</sup>. There will be a Fancy Nancy Tea Party on Saturday the 17<sup>th</sup> at 11am at which kids are invited to wear “fancy attire.” Celebrate “game day” on Tuesday the 27<sup>th</sup> at 2pm. Children of all ages are invited to “Build-A-Story Workshop” on Wednesday the 28<sup>th</sup> at 2pm.

The Weequahic Branch Library, 355 Osborne Terrace, 973-733-7751, invites “all ages” to celebrate the new year with a snowflake resolution on Friday the 2<sup>nd</sup> at 3:30pm. Celebrate Dr. King’s birthday and dream by making a “rainbow hand chain” on Friday the 16<sup>th</sup> at 3:30pm.

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