



February 6, 2019

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

African American History Month at the Bay County Public Library

(Panama City, Fla.) African American History Month is being celebrated at the Bay County Public Library through programming and a Local History exhibit throughout the month of February. It's also a great time to pick up books by African American authors or illustrators! The library has so many favorites to select from for all ages - including award-winning titles from Christian Robinson, Jason Reynolds, Angie Thomas, and N. K. Jemisin to name a few.

The *Black History in Bay County* exhibit was organized by the Local History department and features some of the people and places making up the county's rich African American heritage. The exhibit is housed on the gallery walls leading into the Adult Services and Youth Services wings. Artifacts and photographs, including two pieces painted by Florida Highwaymen artists (Mary Ann Carroll and Robert L. Lewis), fill the display cases in the Library lobby. The Local History Department thanks those keepers of history who have shared their research, pictures, and artifacts throughout the years, including, but not limited to: Myrtle Rhodes, Robert Cain, Sr., Leon Miller, Matthew Shack, and the curators of the African-American Cultural Museum. The library and exhibit hours are Monday – Wednesday (9 a.m. – 7 p.m.) and Thursday – Saturday (9 a.m. – 5 p.m.) throughout the month of February.

African American History Month programming will be held in the Youth Services department. **Craft & Learn: African American History Month** takes place on Monday, February 11th at 4:00 p.m. This is a teen program for ages 11 and up. Participants will make paper quilts featuring famous African Americans while learning cool, history facts! **African American Folk Tales** takes place on Monday, February 25th at 3:30 p.m. This program is geared for school aged students. African American Folk Tales will be shared featuring *The Spider Weaver: a Legend of Kente Cloth* by Margaret Musgrove. Participants will learn how to make a Kente cloth paper mat craft. Library programs are free to attend.

Bay County Public Library is located at 898 W. 11th Street, Panama City, FL 32401. For more information about library programming and exhibits, call 850-522-2100 or visit www.nwrls.com.

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