

DEIAB DIGEST

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Accessibility and Belonging

VOLUME 4, ISSUE 2

February 2025

Check out our DEIAB webpage <https://www.wxxi.org/program-guides/deiab/>



Black History Month

The 2025 Black History Month theme, **African Americans and Labor**, focuses on the various and profound ways that work and working of all kinds – free and unfree, skilled, and unskilled, vocational and voluntary – intersect with the collective experiences of Black people.

Indeed, work is at the very center of much of Black history and culture. Be it the traditional agricultural labor of enslaved Africans that fed Low Country colonies, debates among Black educators on the importance of vocational training, self-help strategies and entrepreneurship in Black communities, or organized labor's role in fighting both economic and social injustice, Black people's work has been transformational throughout the U.S., Africa, and the Diaspora. The 2025 Black History Month theme, "African Americans and Labor," sets out to highlight and celebrate the potent impact of this work. [More info](#)

28 Days of Black History

Celebrate Black history and future through a daily newsletter series in February and receive one email each evening with a new story. [Sign up here](#)

DEIAB LEARNING Pay Gap and Unpaid Labor

Black female entrepreneurs lack access to capital despite creating most new jobs
Melissa Bradley, Founder of 1863 Ventures, highlights the challenges faced by black women in entrepreneurship such as disparities in access to affordable capital. [Watch](#)

Helping Latino Businesses Overcome Barriers to Success According to researchers at the Stanford Graduate School of Business, the number of Latino entrepreneurs is growing three times faster than any other group. [Watch](#)

Why Black women are the fastest-growing group of entrepreneurs. Black women are a fast-growing group of entrepreneurs, leaving corporate America for greater freedom, fulfillment, and financial stability. [English](#) [Spanish](#)

DEIAB SPOTLIGHT Sarah Wolcheski



Position:
Digital and On-Air Fundraising Manager

How long have you worked at WXXI: 3 years

Describe your job in 5 words: Convince absolutely everyone to donate.

Favorite cookie: Oatmeal Raisin

Favorite restaurant: Open Face at the Eastman Museum (outrageously overpriced, but SO GOOD)

What are you reading or watching:
Cue the Sun! (a cultural history of American reality tv)



EDUCATION/FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

<https://www.wxxi.org/education/>

American Masters: Renegades

A series of short films showcasing the lives of diverse, lesser-known historical figures with disabilities.

Thomas Wiggins: Composing the Future [Watch](#)

Celestine Tate Harrington: Building a Legacy [Watch](#)

Brad Lomax: Creating Communities of Care [Watch](#)

Indie Lens Pop-Up: Bike Vessel Monday, February 17 at Little Theatre 1.

Knowing his dad miraculously recovered from three open-heart surgeries after discovering a passion for cycling, filmmaker Eric D. Seals proposes an ambitious idea: Bike together from St. Louis to Chicago. 350 miles. 4 days. On their journey, the two push each other as they find a deeper connection and a renewed appreciation of their quests for their own health and to reimagine Black health. Moderated by WXXI News Health Report Racquel Stephen. [More info](#)

COMMUNITY

More events in the [CITY Events Calendar](#)

More Black History Month events [here](#)

Black History Month Screenings

Eastman Museum Dryden Theatre
6 free documentary screenings [More info](#)

Chinese New Year Celebration

Saturday, February 1 3:00-7:00 pm
Rochester Chinese Christian Church

MLK Living the Dream Series

Pittsford COMMUNITY
Interfaith service February 2 3:00-5:00pm
United Church of Pittsford [Schedule](#)

2025 Upstate New York Supplier Diversity Summit

Wednesday, February 5
Joseph Floreano Convention Center [Info](#)

A Night with Sarah Collins Rudolph

Rochester Academy of Medicine
Wednesday February 5 6:00-9:00pm
A survivor of the 1963 Sixteenth Street Baptist Church bombing that killed 4 Black girls, including her sister. [Register](#)

Urban League of Rochester - February Virtual Speaker Series – Julio Jordan

Friday February 7 1:00pm [Register](#)

2025 Lunar New Year

Saturday February 8 1:00-4:00
MCC Thomas Flynn Campus Center
Welcome the Year of the Snake and explore cultural activities for all ages. [Info](#)

Black History Month Celebration

Rochester Museum & Science Center
Saturday February 8 11:00-3:00 pm [Info](#)

Black History Month Celebration

Memorial Art Gallery
Sunday February 9 12:00-5:00 pm [Info](#)

Breaking Bread to End Hate: Po'Boys & Poetry

Sunday February 9 1:00-3:30
Celebrate Black History Month and learn about New Orleans culture. [Register](#)

Painting with a Purpose

9th Floor Artists Collective
Saturday February 12 5:00-6:30p,
[Register](#)

Urban League of Rochester's 60 Anniversary Gala

Friday, February 14 6:00-11:00p,
Floreano Convention Center [Tickets](#)

Black Storytelling League

Central Library – Kate Gleason Aud
Wednesday, February 19 2:00-2:45p
[Info](#)

Black History Month Showcase by Black Student Union

Eastman School of Music
Wednesday February 19 7:30 pm
[Info](#)

ROC Black-Owned Business Expo

Central Library – Hard Hacker Hall
Thursday, February 20 12:00-6:00 pm
[Info](#)

Black Power Marketplace

Saturday February 22 3:00-6:00 p.
398 Thurston Road, 14619

2025 Antiracist Education Conference

Saturday March 1 via Zoom
"Leading with Purpose" [Register](#)

MESSAGES FROM THE COMMUNITY

Do We Have the Will to Eliminate Poverty

by Jerome Underwood,
President & CEO, Action for a Better
Community [Read](#)

Congressman Morelle Celebrates RMSC's new Indigenous Culture Exhibit

[Watch](#)

Paychex Celebrates MLK Day

[Watch](#)



Click to see [Now showing](#)
Click to see [Music in the café](#)

Nickel Boys

Two African American boys, Elwood and Turner, are sent to an abusive reform school in 1960s Florida. [Info](#)

Hard Truths

Pansy, angry and depressed, lashes out at family and strangers. Her constant criticism isolates her, except from her cheerful sister Chantal, who remains sympathetic despite their differences. [Info](#)

The Seed of the Sacred Fig

Shot entirely in secret, it centers on a family thrust into the public eye when Iman is appointed as an investigating judge in Tehran. [Info](#)

2025 Oscar Nominated Shorts

Opens Friday, February 14
For the 20th consecutive year, ShortsTV presents the Oscar-Nominated Short Films. [Info](#)

95 Years of The Little Film Series

The Last Waltz
Saturday, February 8 7:00p
Seventeen years after joining forces, Canadian roots rockers The Band call it quits with a lavish farewell show in 1976. [Info](#)

Black Cinema Series

Saturday February 8 3:00 pm
Film announced soon [here](#)

No Other Land

Opens February 21
This film made by a Palestinian-Israeli collective shows the destruction of the occupied West Bank's Masafer Yatta [Info](#)

Winter Wednesdays Series

[Info](#)
Misrey February 5
Birth February 19
The Breaking Ice February 26



NEWS

[WXXI News](#)

Executive Editor Denise Young
News Director Randy Gorbman

[CITY MAGAZINE](#)

Editor Leah Stacy



[Jeongyoon Han joins Capitol News Bureau, serving New York's public media stations](#)

[Stories You May Have Missed](#)

[Advocates demand New York boost reimbursement rates for its struggling Early Intervention system](#)

['Maintaining Infinite Hope,' an MLK-inspired theme for the annual Rochester commemoration](#)

[Advocates demand New York boost reimbursement rates for its struggling Early Intervention system](#)

[Garth Fagan Dance continues an MLK Day tradition](#)

[Connections: How can we better support U.S. veterans?](#)

[Connections: How local neighborhood associations are building community](#)

[Local Unitarian churches host Big Gay Wedding Day to support LGBTQ+ rights amid uncertainty](#)

[Connections: Why is poverty still so entrenched in Rochester?](#)

[Robert Brooks' son files suit over prison beating and death](#)

[Young voices at the center of ROC the Future Alliance's 'State of the Children' address](#)

[Connections: A local leader's "life-changing" trip to Ghana](#)

[Foodlink plans \\$15M in upgrades to better address the community's emergency food needs](#)

[The Respite Place gives mental health professionals a space to rest and relax](#)

[CITY: Theater Review | 'Nina Simone: Four Women'](#)

[CITY's year in \(music\) review 2024](#)



Move to Include is a national initiative that uses the power of public media to promote inclusion. Project Manager Sarah Abbamonte [Move to Include](#)

[2025 Dialogue on Disability](#)

[Connections - Dialogue on Disability: The crisis in New York State's early intervention model](#)

[Connections- Dialogue on Disability: Disaster preparedness often excludes people with disabilities; how do we prevent tragedies?](#)

[Connections - Dialogue on Disability - Local photojournalists and Special Olympians take sports journalism beyond the stats](#)

Share your feedback with us, by [clicking here](#) to take a short survey.

[JustOne Night Guest Bartender Battle](#)

Supporting AI Sigl Center
February 6, 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm
Fairport Brewing [Info](#)

[Pitch Perfect Harmony Concert](#)

Supporting Cobblestone Arts Center
February 7, 5:30 pm
Cobblestone Arts Center [Info](#)

[Special Olympics NY Winter Games](#)

February 21-22, various venues
Cheer on these phenomenal local athletes or volunteer your time [Info](#)

[Festival of Inclusion](#)

Saturday, March 1
Nazareth University [Info](#)

[Also Streaming](#)

[Reframed: Next Gen Narratives "Jack and the Beanstalk"](#)
MAX

Jack, a neurodivergent young man, is a top employee at The Beanstalk Grocery, where he is relegated to a subminimum-wage job.

[Deconstructing Ableism - A Community Conversation](#)

[Inclusion Desk](#)

[Epilepsy organization promotes bullying prevention](#)

[Dental center in Rochester primarily serves people with disabilities](#)

[Connections: How locally developed AI tools are helping parents of Deaf children learn ASL](#)

[Connections: How we can make the local hospitality scene more inclusive for travelers with disabilities](#)

[CITY: Accessibility colors the canvas at Stony Point Art Studio](#)

[FROM AROUND THE WEB](#)

[Special ed students benefit from being integrated at school. It doesn't always happen](#)

[CBS: Sebastian Stan on allyship in Golden Globe acceptance speech](#)

[Employer Webinar Series: Disability Inclusion](#)

For businesses who are looking to increase their knowledge on creating inclusive workplaces for individuals with disabilities [Info](#)



TV

[WXXI Main](#) [WXXI World](#) [WXXI Create](#)
[WXXI Kids 24/7](#) [WXXI Passport](#)

American Justice on Trial: People v. Newton

Monday, February 3rd at 9pm
Untold story of the murder trial of Black Panthers leader Huey Newton. [Info](#)

The Porter

Thursdays at 9pm - Starting Feb 6
Inspired by real events, the movement formed the world's first Black union. [Info](#)

Prince Among Slaves

Sunday, February 9th at 7pm
Story of Abdul Rahman, trilingual, a military general and heir to a West African nation sold into slavery. [Info](#)

100 Years from Mississippi

Monday, February 10th at 9pm
111-year-old Mamie Lang Kirkland returns to face childhood trauma. [Info](#)

AKOMA: 25 Years of Gospel Sisterhood

Friday, February 14th at 5:30pm
Celebrate Rochester's AKOMA's vocal and spoken word ministry.

American Experience "The Busing Battleground"

Saturday, February 15th at 4pm
Class tensions and racial violence around bussing in Boston. [Info](#)

Shuttlesworth

Monday, February 17th at 9pm
The unknown Freedom Fighter who started a Movement that changed the world. [Info](#)

American Masters "The Disappearance of Miss Scott"

Friday, February 21st at 9pm
Jazz virtuoso and screen superstar Hazel Scott [Info](#)

American Experience "The Harvest: Integrating Mississippi's Schools"

Saturday, February 22nd at 4pm
The story of a Mississippi town's effort to integrate its public schools in 1970. [Info](#)

Major Taylor: Champion of the Race

Monday, February 24th at 9pm
The first Black sports superstar. [Info](#)

Independent Lens "Bike Vessel"

Monday, February 24th at 10pm
Father and son bond on an ambitious 350-mile bike ride in this portrait of familial love. [Info](#)

American Experience "Forgotten Hero: Walter White and the NAACP"

Tuesday, February 25th at 9pm
The white-presenting head of the NAACP from 1929 to 1955 who has been all but forgotten.

Check out more programming on WORLD [here](#)



RADIO

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS ON 91.5

WXXI Classical Daily Hosts

Brenda Tremblay 6:00 – 10:00 am
Steve Johnson 12:00 – 4:00 pm
Mona Seghatoleslami 4:00 – 7:00 pm

WRUR Daily Hosts

9-12 Opening Tunings - Scott Regan
4-6 Route Afternoons - Hannah Maier
Full schedule [here](#)

Black History Month

In February, as every month, hosts will be highlighting music composed, performed or conducted by musicians of African descent.

NoteWorthy

2-minute feature, weekdays 12:40 pm
A series of audio stories created to broaden our view of classical music by shining a light on the lives and music of artists of color, women, and others from historically underrepresented groups.

¡Fiesta!

Thursday February 6 at 10:00pm
Robert Xavier Rodríguez: US Latino Composers

Pipedreams Canticles of Hope

Sunday February 9 at 8:00 pm
A collection of compositions and performances highlighting the work of African American musicians.

The Metropolitan Opera

Saturday February 15 1:00p.
Strauss's *Ariadne auf Naxos*
Jessye Norman in a performance from January 5, 1985

The Score with Edmund Stone

Saturday February 15 at 10:00a, 6:00 p
The Brilliance of Black Directors, a showcase of some of the greatest Black American directorial talents.

From the Top

Sunday February 16 5:00 pm
At the Atlanta Music Project for a program featuring musicians from Georgia!

Feminine Fusion

Highlights the influence of women in classical music
Saturdays at 7:00 pm
2/1 Women of Color: Leaders
2/8 Women of Color: Performers
2/15 Women of Color: Composers
2/22 Women of Color - Portrait: Opera Creole

Classical Blog

[Reflecting on William Warfield's Legacy](#)