

# Discovery

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*A Bimonthly Newsletter  
Connecting People to the World*



The Atlantic City Free Public Library will feature an exhibit — **Atlantic City Portraits of a People** — created by African-American Heritage Museum of Southern New Jersey founder Ralph E. Hunter, Sr., throughout February in celebration of Black History Month. Pictured (from left to right) are Art and Dorothea Dorington, Joanna LaSane and Soundra Usry Hollingsworth, who will be among the subjects featured in the exhibit.

## Black History Month exhibit ‘Portraits of a People’ opens Feb. 1

The Atlantic City Free Public Library will offer an exhibit — **Atlantic City Portraits of a People** — throughout February in celebration of Black History Month. The exhibit will feature photos of six of the city’s influential African-American couples and also charcoal portraits of a local family that are more than 100 years old.

A special exhibit open-

**PLEASE SEE PAGE 2 FOR MORE BLACK HISTORY MONTH PROGRAMS**

ing reception will be held Wednesday, Feb. 1, at 6 p.m. in the Main Library’s second-floor meeting room. The reception is free and open to people of all ages.

African American Heritage Museum of Southern New Jersey founder Ralph E. Hunter, Sr., put together this exhibit, which will include

approximately 10 photos of each of the following prominent Atlantic City couples: Art and Dorothea Dorington, Honorable James L. and Laverne Usry, Pierre and Soundra Hollingsworth, Karlos and Joanna LaSane, Ralph and Edythe Greene, and Elwood and Georgeanna Davis.

“They are an important part of the African-American community,” Hunter said.

In addition to those photos, there will be 14 charcoal portraits, also called crayon drawings, of the Pettijohn family.

Hunter dug the portraits, which date back to the late 1800s or early 1900s, out of

a wet and sandy crawlspace at a Michigan Avenue home. The portraits feature four or five generations of Pettijohns.

Hunter had the portraits restored and will display the originals, along with copies of them, in the exhibit.

Please call (609) 345-2269, ext. 3115, ahead of time to learn the exhibit viewing hours.

## Library proposes museum, research center dedicated to ‘Atlantic City Experience’

The Atlantic City Free Public Library wants to preserve the city’s rich history and multicultural heritage, while making its extensive archives collection more readily available to local residents and tourists alike.

With those goals in mind, the library announced at a Dec. 14 public forum its plan to create a world-class museum and research center called the Atlantic City Experience®.

The library shared its vision for the proposed museum and research center,

and received input from community members about what the ‘Atlantic City Experience’ means to them and where it should be located.

The library also introduced Mills+Schnoering Architects, LLC (M+Sa), the group it selected to conduct a feasibility study for the Atlantic City Experience.

The feasibility study will provide essential information needed to move forward with this project, including: defining the market area and community needs; analyzing current and projected trends,



**The Honorable Lorenzo T. Langford, Mayor of the City of Atlantic City, was one of the speakers at the public forum to announce the library’s proposed Atlantic City Experience museum and research center.**

demographics and potential competition; outlining potential funding sources; and providing parameters related to the location and size of the

museum.

M+Sa is leading a team that includes financial feasi-

**CONT. ON PAGE 2**

## Chinese New Year celebration to be held Jan. 21

The Atlantic City Free Public Library will hold a Chinese New Year celebration Saturday, Jan. 21, from 2 p.m. in the Main Library meeting room.

The program will include a presentation about the history of the Chinese New Year, traditional singing, and erhu (musical instrument) and tai chi demonstrations.

The Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association of N.J. is a co-sponsor. Call (609) 345-2269, ext. 3115, for more information.



## Library offers great resources on African-American topics, history

Are you working on a report or project related to African-American history? Do you want to learn more about the key people, moments and issues that have impacted African-Americans?

The Atlantic City Free Public Library offers a wide range of resources that can help.

A list of many of these resources is available on the library's website, [www.acfpl.org](http://www.acfpl.org). Click on the Do Research tab and then choose African-American Studies.

One of those great resources — the Oxford African American Studies Center — is available online 24 hours a day, seven days a week if you have an Atlantic City Free Public Library card.

The Oxford African American Studies Center combines the authority of edited reference works with sophisticated technology to create the most comprehensive collection of scholarship available online to focus on the lives and events which have shaped African American and African history and culture.

The center features thousands of articles by top scholars, images, video clips, maps and charts.

To learn more about the library's great array of African-American resources, please call the Reference Department at (609) 345-2269; or, e-mail [reflib@acfpl.org](mailto:reflib@acfpl.org).



### Library gets into the holiday spirit

The Atlantic City Free Public Library showed its holiday spirit in December with a couple of special programs. (Top photos) The library held its 24th annual Kwanzaa Celebration on Dec. 3 at the All Wars Building. Afro-One Dance, Drama and Drum Theatre, under the direction of Dr. Patricia Reid-Merritt, was the featured performer. (Bottom photos) The City of Atlantic City and library co-sponsored the first Winter Wonderland holiday event Dec. 10 at the Atlantic City Convention Center. The event included bicycle raffle drawings, arts and crafts tables, giveaways, magic and music performances, games and face painting.



The Oxford African American Studies Center features more than 2,500 images, including these photos of (top) Martin Luther King, Jr., and (bottom) Rosa Parks.

## Black History Month programs on tap for kids of all ages

In addition to featuring a month-long exhibit in the Main Library's second-floor meeting room (*see story on page one*), the Atlantic City Free Public Library will offer several great programs for children and teenagers in celebration of Black History Month.

The programs are free. Please call (609) 345-2269, ext. 3050, to register or for more information.

### Act Up For Literacy: The Poetry of Langston Hughes

Wednesday, Feb. 1, at 3:30 p.m. Langston Hughes was a poet, social activist and playwright whose work defined the creative triumphs of the Harlem Renaissance. Utilizing theater games, simple text analysis techniques and basic acting exercises, participants will read and gain greater understanding of the poetry of Langston Hughes by adapting them into performance pieces. All supplies are provided. No background in performance is necessary. Ages 13-17.

### Comic Drawing

Thursdays at 3:30 p.m.

Feb. 2, 9, 16, 23

In February, Marvel DC Comic Illustrator Joe Del Beato will lead free workshops focusing on African-American characters who have been featured in comics, cartoons and graphic novels. All materials supplied. Ages 9-17.

### Children's Book Club

Saturdays at 3 p.m.

Feb. 4, 18

Combine technology and reading in a special book club experience. Share a great book, then learn how to make an interactive poster about it with graphics, video, sound and text. Any child who joins the program also receives a free copy of the book to take home. In honor of Black History Month, the February book will be "Ben and the Emancipation Proclamation" by Patrice Sherman. The program is best suited for ages 8 to 11. Refreshments and crafts included. To register please call (609) 345-2269, ext. 3050.

### African Shields

Sunday, Feb. 26, at 2 p.m.

Celebrate the beauty and tradition of African tribal designs. In this family craft time, participants will learn about and make colorful masks using simple materials. Artist Nancy Leary explains how patterns can be identified and used creatively. Supplies are provided. Ages 8 through adult.

### Black Sports Stories

Tuesday, Feb. 28, at 10:30 a.m.

Ralph E. Hunter, Sr., the founder of the African-American Heritage Museum of Southern New Jersey, will discuss the impact of legendary Major League Baseball player Jackie Robinson, along with local sports icons Art Dorrington and Gene Hudgins. Also, Hunter will bring in memorabilia to show the audience, including: spikes and a bat that Robinson used in a game, a Harlem Globetrotters game-used basketball and a Dallas Cowboys football jersey that his grandson, Pete Hunter, wore in an NFL game. This program is for ages 8-12.

## A.C. Experience

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

bility studies expert The Eisen Group, Langan Engineering, cost consultant Becker & Frondorf and museum exhibition planner/design consultant Van Sickel and Roller Ltd.

M+Sa is a full-service architectural firm based in Princeton with broad experience in planning, design and historic preservation. Its areas of expertise include cultural facilities, courthouses, campus planning and design, and the preservation, restoration and adaptive use of historical buildings and sites.

The firm is currently working

with the National Park Service to design Life Safety Improvements for the Statue of Liberty. Locally, M+Sa's portfolio includes the redesign of the Alton Auditorium at the Richard Stockton College of New Jersey.

The Atlantic City Free Public Library, a service of the City of Atlantic City, houses the Alfred M.

Heston Collection — an extensive collection of published and unpublished materials related to Atlantic City history, including photographs, newspaper articles, city directories, yearbooks, maps and memorabilia. Many of these resources are available on the library's Atlantic City Experience website — [www.atlanticcityexperience.org](http://www.atlanticcityexperience.org).

PLEASE VISIT THE ATLANTIC CITY FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY ON THE WEB AT [WWW.ACFPL.ORG](http://WWW.ACFPL.ORG)



FAMILY EVENTS

PLEASE NOTE: Space is limited for the Sunday programs. Call (609) 345-2269, ext. 3050, to reserve a space.

Nobody will be admitted into the Sunday programs after 2:15 p.m.

A Mosaic Workshop

Sunday, Jan. 8, at 2 p.m.  
Create a beautiful mosaic using pieces of shells or bits of glass. Supplies are provided. Ages 8 through adult.

I Have a Dream Too Collage

Sunday, Jan. 15, at 2 p.m.  
On Aug. 23, 1963, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. gave his famous “I Have A Dream” speech and shared his vision of an integrated and unified world. Working on a collective collage, participants will use a variety of media to create an artwork that reflects the dreams of a new generation. Supplies are provided. Ages 8 through adult.

Chinese New Year Celebration

Saturday, Jan. 21, at 2 p.m.  
Please see description on page one.

Dragon Puppet

Sunday, Jan. 22, at 2 p.m.  
During Chinese New Year celebrations, dragon costumes and puppets are always a part of the party. Participants will use a variety of materials to create their own Year of the Dragon puppet. Supplies are provided. Ages 8 through adult.

Build a Kite!

Sunday, Jan. 29, at 2 p.m.  
Benjamin Franklin was an inventor who famously used a kite for experiments with electricity. Participants will celebrate Franklin’s birthday by building and decorating working kites ... not to be flown in a lightning storm! Supplies are provided. Ages 8 through adult.

Black History Month Exhibit Opening

Wednesday, Feb. 1, at 6 p.m.  
Please see description on page one.

Chinese Lantern

Sunday, Feb. 5, at 2 p.m.  
The lantern festival is a traditional Chinese Festival where celebrants make and decorate lovely paper lanterns using zodiac animals, historic figures and other Chinese symbols. Make your own and take it home. Supplies are provided. Ages 8 through adult.

Stained Glass Candleholders

Sunday, Feb. 12, at 2 p.m.  
Make your own beautiful candleholder using stained glass. A tea light placed inside makes a lovely light. Supplies are provided. Ages 8 through adult.

Mardi Gras Masks

Sunday, Feb. 19, at 2 p.m.  
Using ordinary materials found around the house, participants will create their own Mardi Gras mask designs and build them. Supplies are provided. Ages 8 through adult.

African Shields

Sunday, Feb. 26, at 2 p.m.  
Please see description in Black History Month program story on page two.

ESL classes

Call (609) 345-2269, ext. 3115, for more information

ESL Intermediate Class

Mondays from 1-4 p.m.  
Jan. 9, 23, 30, and Feb. 6, 27  
This class will focus on grammar, listening, vocabulary, reading and writing.

ESL Financial Literacy Class

Fridays from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.  
Jan. 6, 13, 20, 27, and Feb. 3, 10, 17, 24  
This class is designed to help students get acquainted with the American banking system. Students will learn different terms and get information about checking and savings accounts, service providers, handling personal finances and more.

ATLANTIC CITY FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

FILM SOCIETY

Watch • Listen • Learn • Discuss

Call (609) 345-2269, ext. 3112; or, e-mail Film Society coordinator Theresa Hawkins at [thawki@acfpl.org](mailto:thawki@acfpl.org) for more information

(Those interested in attending are encouraged to join the Film Society)

View and Discuss: Alexander Nevsky

Saturday, Jan. 7, at 1 p.m.  
This 1938 Russian-language classic is not rated and runs 112 minutes. It is directed by Sergei Eisenstein.

Soviet Cinema

Monday, Jan. 9, at 5:30 p.m.  
This classroom session will focus on the propaganda and history of these specific Russian films.

View and Discuss: Contagion

Saturday, Feb. 4, at 1 p.m.  
This 2011 thriller is rated PG-13 and runs 106 minutes. It stars Matt Damon, Kate Winslet, Lawrence Fishburne and Jude Law, and it is directed by Steven Soderbergh.

Disaster Films

Monday, Feb. 6, at 5:30 p.m.  
This classroom session will focus on the history and influence of this sub-genre of action and thriller films.

Computer training for library members

Call (609) 345-2269, ext. 3066, for more information

Computer Fundamentals

Wednesday, Jan. 4, at 1 p.m.

Navigating the Internet

Tuesday, Jan. 10, at 1 p.m.

Using Job and Career Accelerator (90-minute class)

Wednesday, Jan. 11, at 1 p.m.

Setting Up an E-mail Account

Tuesday, Jan. 17, at 1 p.m.

Job Applications and Resumes

Wednesday, Jan. 18, at 1 p.m.

Word, Next Steps: Create Your Own Flyer

Tuesday, Jan. 24, at 1 p.m.

Create Your Own Slideshow

Tuesday, Jan. 31, at 1 p.m.

Fundamentos de Computacion

(Taught in Spanish)  
Tuesday, Feb. 7, at 10 a.m.

Using Job and Career Accelerator

(90-minute class)  
Wednesday, Feb. 8, at 1 p.m.

Setting Up an E-mail Account

Friday, Feb. 10, at 10 a.m.

Job Applications and Resumes

Tuesday, Feb. 14, at 10 a.m.

Twitter and Facebook

Saturday, Feb. 18, at 10 a.m.

Computer Fundamentals

Tuesday, Feb. 21, at 1 p.m.

Beginning Word

Tuesday, Feb. 28, at 1 p.m.

NOTE: Classes are three hours long unless noted. Pre-registration is required at the Computer Help Desk on the first floor of the Main Library.

THE ATLANTIC CITY FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY WILL BE CLOSED: JAN. 2, 16 AND FEB. 13, 20

ALL PROGRAMS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Youth Services Programs

Call (609) 345-2269, ext. 3050, for more information

Homework Help

Need Homework Help? Call Youth Services (609) 345-2269, ext. 3050, to make an appointment with a librarian for personalized homework and information literacy help.

Pre-school Rhyme Time

Thursdays at 10:30 a.m.  
Jan. 5, 12, 19 and Feb. 2, 9, 16, 23  
Features stories, songs, finger plays and simple crafts. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Library story times are a fun way to help your child develop skills they will need to be ready to read. Ages 3 -5.

Baby Bounce and Play Group

Thursdays at 11:30 a.m.  
Jan. 5, 12, 19 and Feb. 2, 9, 16, 23  
This program is designed to introduce infants (ages 0-18 months) to the world of sounds and stories. Stories, songs, rhymes and movement help build pre-reading skills for our littlest library lovers. An informal playgroup immediately follows this story time. Best suited for infants to age 2 with caregiver.

Comic Drawing

Thursdays at 3:30 p.m.  
Jan. 5, 12, 19 and Feb. 2, 9, 16, 23  
Marvel DC Comic Illustrator Joe Del Beato will lead the drawing instruction. In February, Del Beato will lead free workshops focusing on African American characters that have been featured in comics, cartoons and graphic novels. All materials supplied. Ages 9-17.

Unplugged Friday

Fridays at 3:30 p.m.  
Jan. 6 and Feb. 3  
Our meeting room will be open to study, do a craft or just hang out. Ages 13-17.

Creative Craft Fridays

Fridays at 3:30 p.m.  
Jan. 13, 27 and Feb. 10, 24  
Kids use their imagination to make and take home crafts with seasonal themes. Children less than 9 years of age must be accompanied by an adult/guardian. All materials supplied. Ages 6-16.

Children’s Book Club

Saturdays at 3 p.m.  
Jan. 7, 21 and Feb. 4, 18  
Share a great book, then learn how to make an interactive poster about it with graphics, video, sound and text. Any child who joins receives a free copy of the book. The book for January will be “Katie Kazoo” by Nancy Krulik. In honor of Black History Month, the February book will be Ben and the “Emancipation Proclamation” by Patrice Sherman. Refreshments and crafts included. To register please call (609) 345-2269, ext. 3050. Ages 8-11.

Paws to Read with Baby Bully

Fridays at 3:30 p.m.  
Jan. 13, 27 and Feb. 10, 24  
“Children reading to dogs” is a program for children to read to Baby Bully, a certified therapy dog, in a relaxed and fun environment. Participating children should not be fearful of dogs or have pet allergies. Ages 4-10.

Teen Advisory Group

Saturdays at 2 p.m.  
Jan. 14 and Feb. 25  
We want your ideas to make your library rock! Teen Advisory Group meets monthly to discuss volunteer projects, changes to the library, teen programs, and much more! Ages 13-17.

Teen Filmmakers Club

Saturdays at 3:15 p.m.  
Jan. 14 and Feb. 25  
Actors, directors, camera operators, makeup artists and film enthusiasts create book trailers, library promotional videos and other projects. Ages 13 to 17.

Teen Lounge Takeover

Fridays at 3:30 p.m.  
Jan. 20 and Feb. 17

Take over our Teen Lounge for the afternoon and play video games or hang out, even if you're not a lounge member. A library card in good standing is required to check out video game equipment or use the computers. Ages 13-17.

Tween Day in the Teen Lounge

Saturdays at 11 a.m.  
Jan. 28 and Feb. 11  
Kids are invited to rock out in the Teen Space. This is your chance to enjoy gaming: Xbox360, PS3, Nintendo Wii. Participants need a library card in good standing. Ages 9-12.

Act Up For Literacy: The Poetry of Langston Hughes

Wednesday, Feb. 1, at 3:30 p.m.  
Please see description in Black History Month program story on page two.

Kaplan SAT Practice Test

Saturday, Feb. 11, at 12 p.m.  
A fully proctored practice SAT lasting approximately four hours will show students what to expect in a test-like environment. Students will receive a comprehensive analysis of their performance on the test, detailing individual strengths and weaknesses. Register by calling the Youth Services Desk at (609) 345-2269, ext. 3050. For students in grades 10-12 and their parents.

Teen Chocolate Fest

Tuesday, Feb. 14, at 4:30 p.m.  
Play chocolate-themed games, make your own chocolate treats, and of course, eat lots of chocolate. Ages 13-17.

Black Sports Stories

Tuesday, Feb. 28, at 10:30 a.m.  
Please see description in Black History Month program story on page two.

Kaplan SAT Strategies

Wednesday, Feb. 29, at 6:30 p.m.  
During this one-hour workshop, both parents and students can learn how to score higher on the SAT by using key Kaplan strategies. The format and content of the test are covered, including ways to take advantage of the test format to maximize efficiency on the exam. Various question types are reviewed and answered using key strategies. Students and parents are given a study plan for success. Register by calling the Youth Services Desk at (609) 345-2269, ext. 3050. For students in grades 10-12 and their parents.



OLDER ADULTS SPECIAL INTEREST SERIES

Call (609) 345-2269, ext. 3115, for more information

Arts and crafts

Monday, Jan. 9, at 10:30 a.m.  
Guest: Jackie Caplan

Senior Wellness

Monday, Jan. 23, at 10:30 a.m.  
Guest: Steve Chang, Pharmacist

Introduction to Chinese Medicine and Acupuncture

Monday, Jan. 30, at 10:30 a.m.  
Guest: Dr. Larry Cui, Eastern Healing Art Center of Pleasantville

Arts and Crafts

Monday, Feb. 6, at 10:30 a.m.  
Guest: Jackie Caplan

Meet Founder of the African American Heritage Museum of Southern New Jersey

Monday, Feb. 27, at 10:30 a.m.  
Guest: Ralph Hunter





**atlantic city  
free public library**

One North Tennessee Avenue  
Atlantic City, New Jersey



## What does the 'Atlantic City Experience' mean to you?

What do you think the Atlantic City Free Public Library's proposed Atlantic City Experience® museum/research center should feature? (See *related story on page one*). We want to know. Visit [www.atlanticcityexperience.org](http://www.atlanticcityexperience.org) to leave your comments and sign up to receive updates about the project.

*The Atlantic City Free Public Library  
is a service of the City of Atlantic City.*



**City of Atlantic City**  
[www.cityofatlanticcity.org](http://www.cityofatlanticcity.org)

**Lorenzo T. Langford, Mayor**

**Michael Scott,**  
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**Ronald Cash,**  
Director Health and Human Services

**Atlantic City Council**  
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Aaron Randolph (1st)  
Marty Small (2nd)  
Steven L. Moore (3rd)  
William Marsh (4th)  
Rizwan Malik (5th)  
Timothy Mancuso (6th)  
Moisse Delgado (At-Large)  
Frank Gilliam (At-Large)  
George Tibbitt (At-Large)

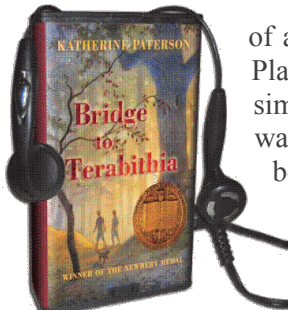
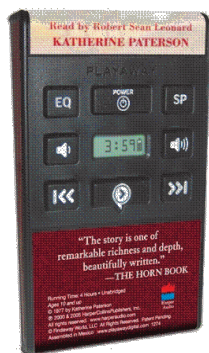
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## Did You Know?

### The library offers pre-loaded Playaway digital audio books

The Atlantic City Free Public Library has written a new chapter in convenience by offering Playaway, the first self-playing digital audio book.



Half the size of a deck of cards, Playaway is the simplest and best way to listen to a book on the go and – with no tapes or CDs – can hold up to 80 hours of HD Audio

content on each unit. With every title recorded in HD Audio, Playaway's audio quality is unsurpassed. Using clearly marked buttons, Playaway gives listeners the ability to move back and forth within or between chapters and alter the speed of a narrator's voice. It even has an automatic bookmark feature that remembers where you left off.

"Playaway's simple functionality and immediate usability separate it from other audio book formats," Library Director Maureen Frank said. "With Playaway, our members can enjoy best-selling content with first-rate digital audio."

The Atlantic City Free Public Library's collection includes John Grisham's *Playing for Pizza*, Bill Clinton's *Giving*, Earworm's *Rapid Spanish*, Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein* and S.E. Hinton's *The Outsiders*.

Playaway has a universal headphone jack that works with almost any type of headphone or mobility accessory. Also, earbuds can be purchased at the Main Library for \$1.



**atlantic city  
free public library**

### Main Library

1 North Tennessee Avenue  
Atlantic City, NJ 08401  
Phone: (609) 345-2269

Visit us on the web at [www.acfpl.org](http://www.acfpl.org)



Free parking — ask for details

### Main Library Hours:

Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday  
9:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.  
Thursday, Friday & Saturday  
9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Sunday  
12 p.m. to 5 p.m.

### Library Express

3001 Atlantic Avenue  
Atlantic City, NJ 08401  
Phone: (609) 340-0215  
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday  
Friday & Saturday  
10 a.m. to 6 p.m.



We are on the Web!  
[www.acfpl.org](http://www.acfpl.org)

**THE MAIN LIBRARY IS OPEN SEVEN DAYS A WEEK!**