



# Black History Month

“Our Past Reminds, Our Present Demands,  
Our Future Calls...”

The theme for Black History Month 2009 is, **“Our Past Reminds, Our Present Demands, Our Future Calls.”** Below is a list of programs and events to take place in January and February for Black History Month.

## Opening Celebration

On January 20, 2009 we will kickoff the 2009 BHM celebration with a University-wide viewing of the Presidential inauguration of Barack Obama. A live broadcast of the inauguration will be shown in the auditorium after a panel discussion. Students will express their thoughts about this momentous occasion and articulate how they will use their NEIU education to evoke change and how they plan to use this commemorative occasion as a springboard to becoming world change agents. This event is co-sponsored by the Black Caucus.

**Tuesday, January 20, 2009**  
**Time and Place: 10:00 a.m.**  
**Auditorium**

## Black History Month Art Exhibits

In keeping with this year theme, **“Our Past Reminds, Our Present Demands, Our Future Calls,”** we will feature art exhibitions by an alumni, a current student and a high school student. Art will be displayed throughout the month with a formal show to be held the first Friday in February.

**Art Exhibition**  
**February 1 through February 28, 2009**  
**Art Reception**  
**Friday, February 6, 2009**  
**Time and Place: 7:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m.**  
**Student Union Loft**

## Tuskegee Airmen

The program will consist of the 45 minute DVD titled *Knight Fighter* which is narrated by the Tuskegee Airmen. A Tuskegee Airman will present two storyboards and give an oral history, followed by a Q & A session at the end of the program.

Students will gain an appreciation of African Americans who volunteered for the Army Air Corp in World War II as well as have an opportunity to have questions answered by persons with first hand knowledge of this phenomenon.

**Tuesday, February 10, 2009**  
**Time and Place: 10:00 a.m.**  
**Alumni Hall**

## Choir Concert

The NEIU Black Heritage Choir will be featured in concert.

**Tuesday, February 17, 2009**  
**Time and Place: 1:40 p.m.**  
**Student Union, Alumni Hall**

## Negro Baseball League

Presented by lecturer/filmmaker/ author and entertainer Byron Motley, this event is an engaging and illuminating look at this bygone treasure that helped give birth to the modern day Civil Rights Movement in America.

This historical look back will also reveal monumental contributions of Negro players the Civil Rights Movement in America, and how those contributions reverberated throughout this period in American culture. The program will educate the campus community about the significant contributions of the Negro League and its players made in the 20th century. The program is designed to inspire us to keep the spirit of the Negro League alive by investigating some of these rich historical elements for themselves.

**Monday, February 16, 2009**  
**Time and Place: 4:30 p.m.**  
**Alumni Hall**

## Yes You Can!

For this program one actress portrays a myriad of characters as she explores the inspiring lives of three influential African-American women; Mary Macleod Bethune, Pauli Murray and Katherine Dunham. Through the course of this one hour program the audience as well as our protagonist (a girl struggling to write a ‘boring’ history report), learn about the challenges that these historical figures overcame and the impact their lives had on our own lives today. It’s an entertaining, educational, inspiring and beautiful solo performance.

**Thursday, February 19, 2009**  
**Time and Place: 1:40 p.m.**  
**Golden Eagles Room**

## Annual Black History Month Awards Ceremony

This ceremony honors those persons who have made major contributions in the advancement of African Americans. Highlighted in this program are alumni that have achieved success in their individual careers as well. The BHM Awards ceremony allows the NEIU community and NEIU alumni to celebrate the accomplishments of their past, current and future leaders.

**Friday, February 27, 2009**  
**Time and Place: 6:00 p.m. Alumni Hall**  
**Reservations required for the Awards Ceremony only. RSVP to: (773) 442.4205 or alumni@neiu.edu**

**For additional information, please contact the Office of Alumni Relations at (773) 442-4205 or alumni@neiu.edu**

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