

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

FEBRUARY 2023 FEATURED EVENTS

Black History Month (BHM) Kickoff

Wednesday, February 1 • 11 a.m.–2 p.m.

Intercultural and Diversity Affairs Center, STU 320

Join our celebration to kick off the month of February and planned events for Black History Month. Posters and refreshments will be available.

SPARE Spring Concert - Mariah the Scientist

Thursday, February 2 • 7 p.m. • Student Union Ballroom

Doors open at 6 p.m.; must have Event Pass

BHM Movie Night Series

Student Union Movie Theater, Room 208

Sponsors: SPARE and MTSU Films Council

Black Panther: Wakanda Forever (PG-13)

February 2–3 • Times: 4 p.m. and 7 p.m.

February 4 • Times: 1 p.m. and 4 p.m.

The Woman King (PG-13)

February 16–17 • Times: 4 p.m. and 7 p.m.

February 18 • Times: 1 p.m. and 4 p.m.

Unity Luncheon featuring JB Smiley Jr.

Wednesday, February 8 • 11 a.m.–1 p.m. • Student Union Ballroom

Join us for our 27th annual Unity Luncheon. Established in 1996, the Unity Luncheon pays homage to “unsung heroes” in the community.

This is a ticketed event. Purchase REQUIRED prior to event.

Dr. Imani Perry: South to America

Thursday, February 9 • 11:20 a.m.–12:20 p.m. • Student Union Ballroom

Perry is an American interdisciplinary scholar of race, law, literature, and African American culture. She is currently the Hughes-Rogers Professor of African American Studies at Princeton University and a columnist for *The Atlantic*.

Color the Runway Fashion Show

Friday, February 10 • 6–10 p.m. • Student Union Ballroom

A night of Black fashion and culture, showcasing the talent of MTSU students.

Black MT Panel

Monday, February 13 • 6–8 p.m. • BAS State Farm, Room S102

Panelists will constructively analyze and discuss where we have been as a community, where we are now, and how we can organize to create a better sense of community and space on campus.

Africa Nashville

Wednesday, February 15 • 12–2 p.m. • Tom Jackson Building

The Yeli Ensemble comprises world class musicians and dancers from West Africa. These artists will perform and discuss the history and meaning of dance and music in African culture.

Black Elegance Gala

Friday, February 17 • 6–10 p.m. • Student Union Ballroom

Don't miss an unforgettable night of elegance. Come dressed in formal wear and enjoy an evening of fun, music, and dancing.

John Pleas Faculty Award Ceremony

Tuesday, February 21 • 4:30–6 p.m. • Sam Ingram Building, MT Center

This award is presented annually to an African American faculty member who has demonstrated excellence in teaching, research, and service. The award was established in 1997 to honor Dr. John Pleas, MTSU professor emeritus of Psychology.

Dr. Tameka Ellington Lecture

Tuesday, February 21 • 6:30–8:30 p.m. • College of Education, Room 160

Ellington is a motivational speaker, educator/scholar, professional development strategist, and first generation student advocate. She will give a lecture for faculty and staff, “F.I.R.E for Educators: The Importance of Students’ Trust.” Ellington is the author of *Make Fear Your Superpower*.

Can I Trust You? Finding the Voice of Your Allies

Wednesday, February 22 • 2–4 p.m. • Academic Classroom Building, Room 104

In collaboration with Motlow State Community College, Northeast State Community College, and ETSU, we will have a hybrid panel discussion on the importance of allyship and accountability. This panel will discuss what it means to be an ally and how to listen to minoritized individuals on the journey through allyship.

Showtime at the Apollo

Thursday, February 23 • 6–9 p.m. • Tucker Theatre

Join us for a night of talented acts and entertainment as we re-create the hit TV show *Showtime at the Apollo*!



“State of the African American Union” Address with Dr. Cornel West

Friday, February 24, 7–8:15 p.m.

James Union Building, Tennessee Room

West, a professor emeritus at Princeton University, is best known for his work as a philosopher, activist, and author. He will lead a nuanced discussion on the question “Does race still matter?”



BHM Keynote Speaker: Ilyasah Shabazz

Monday, February 27 • 7–9 p.m.

Student Union Ballroom

The annual Black History Month keynote speaker is Ilyasah Shabazz, award-winning author, educator, producer, and daughter of the late Malcolm X and Dr. Betty Shabazz.

