



2018 AFRIKAN AMERICAN HERITAGE EVENTS ROCHESTER, NEW YORK

Mon-Jan 15th - “33rd Annual MLK, JR. Day Celebration” -9:00am-Eastman Theater-26 Gibbs Street. Guest Speaker-Congressman Hakeem Jeffries, A Representative of Brooklyn's 8th District. **The Theme: “Pick Your Protest” This FREE Community Wide Celebration is Presented by the Greater Rochester MLK, JR. Commission. **For More Information Contact-585-851-8441 or www.facebook.com/grmlk****

Sat-Jan 20th - “Rochester Black Men Achieve-Black Tie Gala” - 6:00pm-Red Carpet, 6:30pm-Dinner, 7:30 pm-Awards-Joseph A. Floreano Rochester Riverside Convention Center. **Tickets: \$60.00 per person/\$600 per table. The Rochester Black Men Achieve Awards is an event that is giving a set of awards to Men and Young Boys of color, as well as Organizations to recognize their commitment to excellence in the Afrikan American Community of Greater Rochester. The awards bestowed upon these individuals and organizations will celebrate their outstanding achievements through their talents (and other creative endeavors), commitment to Social Justice, Philanthropy, Community Involvement, and Brotherhood. This inaugural event will bestow 6 extraordinary men of color with Special Honors, in addition tribute will be done to may outstanding Community Leaders who have passed away, such as Bishop Parris, Joe Brown, Thomas Banister, Jr., Tony Boler and former Deputy Mayor Leonard Redon. **For More Information Contact: Jermayne Myers-585-310-2822 or email: info@rocbma-awards.com/website:www.rocbma-awards.com****

Sat-Feb 3rd - “The 9th Annual U of R SNMA Premedical Conference”-8:00 AM-2:30 PM-U of R School of Medicine & Dentistry-601 Elmwood Avenue. Key Note Speaker: Dr. Addisu Mesfin. Help our Youth fulfill their dreams of Careers in Medicine. Physicians are needed to have lunch with students. **Educators/Guidance Counselors encourage the students to**

attend. Parents and Family Members, sign your Children up that are in High School. Community Agencies, Members, and Companies, sponsor a child or children to attend the Conference. This Annual Conference is presented and sponsored by Black Physicians Network of Greater Rochester (BPNGR) Registration Fees: High School Students-\$20.00, College Students-\$25.00. To learn more and register: <http://www.ursnma.org>

Mon-Feb 12th -Sun-Feb 18th - “4th Annual Bronze Collective Theatre Festival”-7:30pm each night-The MuCCC-142 Atlantic Avenue. Seven nights of Plays, Re-Enactments, Music and more. Showcasing local Playwrights, Performers, Singers and Producers. For tickets and more information, please contact Curtis K. Rivers-Mood Makers Books-585-271-7010.

Mon-Feb 19th – Thur-Feb 22nd – STAR, Inc. Historically Black College Tour (HBCU). Fee: (make Checks/Money Orders payable to STAR, Inc.) \$670.00 Per Student. The fee includes: Round trip on a Charter Bus, Hotel Accommodations (4 people per room), Continental Breakfast, Lunches on University Campuses, and College Tour T-Shirt. Featured Colleges: Bowie State University, Cheyney University, Delaware State University, Howard University, and Morgan State University. Featured Tours: Constitution Hall, Liberty Bell, Smithsonian African American Museum, Dinner Cruise and Shopping. **FIRST COME FIRST SERVE! For More Information Contact: Diane E. Bowens (585) 752-5846.**

Sat-Mar 10th - “Annual Black Heritage Gala-6:00pm-12:00am-Joseph A. Floreano Rochester Riverside Convention Center. This event is sponsored by the City of Rochester Black Heritage Committee. Tickets: Early Bird Tickets are \$55 if purchased by January 31st . Tickets purchased after 1/31/18 will be \$60. Tickets may be purchased at City Hall, 30 Church St., Room 100-A between the hours of 9:00am-5:00pm. For more information call: 585-428-9857 or look us up on Facebook:Black Heritage Rochester.

Sat-Mar 24th - “Black Women Authors & Poets Festival”-10:30am-1:30pm-Phillis Wheatley Library. This event, in recognition of Women's History Month, combines the nuances of a Book Fair and Poetry Slam. Featured are Black Female Authors and Poets hailing from Western & Central New York. Attendees have the opportunity to meet, greet and purchase books “hot off the press” written by area authors. Also featured are popular area Spoken Word Artists and Poetry Slam contenders. Closing out the afternoon is a Question and Answer Panel comprising of selected authors and publishers addressing inquiries related to book publishing and marketing. This FREE event is sponsored by the Women's History Month Committee of Rochester Genesee Valley Club, National Association of Negro Business & Professional Women's Clubs, Inc. For more information, please

contact: Alicia Ward, Chairperson-585-820-7672 or award_1civic@yahoo.com

Sat-Apr 14th - “The 15th Annual Debutante Cotillion *We’ve Come This Far By Faith*” 5:00pm-Rochester Holiday Inn Downtown-70 State Street. This event is presented by Sisters Together Achieving Results, Inc. (S.T.A.R. Inc.). STAR, Inc. is a Preventive Mentoring Education Program for young ladies in grades 9th - 12th. The Debutantes, who are 12th graders, will be escorted as they make their debut into society as having achieved the requirements to graduate from high school without becoming a teen parent. **The Pages-Gems-Rosebuds, 11th - 9th graders, will be in a “Rites of Passage” ceremony acknowledging they have achieved the requirements to advance to the next grade level without becoming a teen parent. Tickets are \$50 per person and to purchase a ticket(s), please contact Diane E. Bowens at 585-752-5846. To be a Sponsor, Place an Ad, Be a Vendor or Make a Donation, please contact Keischa J, Higdon at 585-464-8356 and visit the website: www.sisterstogether.org**

Fri-June 1st and-Sat-June 2nd - “5th Afrikan American Genealogy Conference- Surnames and Family Legacy”- **Fri-5:00-8:00 PM and Sat-9:00 AM-5:00 PM.** This event is presented and sponsored by The Maafa Celebration Committee in collaboration with Friends Of Frederick Douglass, Inc. **The Friday Workshop Presentation is- “Planning Your Health Care In Advance: How To make Your Wishes Known and Honored”.** There will also be a Q&A Session, Information and Refreshments. The Two Saturday Workshop Presentations are- **“ You Know Your Family Legacy Begins With You?” and “Surnames: Origin and Meaning of Your Last Name”.** There will also be a Continental Breakfast, Information Folder, Refreshments and much more. **LUNCH WILL BE ON YOUR OWN! Tickets Will Include Both Days: Adults-\$20 per person, Couples-\$35 per couple, Seniors (age 60+)-\$15 per senior, Family-\$50 per family (only 6 per family-children must be ages 13-20).** Registrations and Tickets will be available at: Mood Makers Books-in Village Gate-274 N. Goodman Street-585-271-7010. **Deadline for Ticket Purchase is Saturday May 26, 2018 - PLEASE NOTE: THERE WILL BE NO TICKETS AT THE DOOR!** **For More Information, Please Contact the Coordinators/Organizers: Robin Nowell-585-546-7067 -rqnowell@frontier.com and Diane Sheffield-585-313-3685- Libra18722008@aol.com.**

Sat-June 9th - “AKOMA Afrikan American Women's Gospel Choir Scholarship Concert”- 6:30pm- Mt. Olivet Baptist Church-141 Adams Street. The AKOMA African American Women's Gospel Choir will present their Annual Scholarship Gospel Concert. **This event is in honor of the young Afrikan American Women Scholars chosen as the 2018 Scholarship awardees. Each of the Scholars selected will graduate from high school in the Summer of 2018 and will enter College in the Fall.** Scholarship applications are available on the AKOMA website: www.akoma.org .

For more information, please contact: Ruth Anderson-585-482-5192,
email: akomagc@gmail.com website: www.akoma.org

Sat-June 16th - “Annual Juneteenth Celebration-12:00PM-7:00PM-MLK Park at Manhattan Square. The Oldest Celebration of the end of Slavery in the United States. This event is presented by the Greater Rochester MLK, Jr Commission. There will be a variety of Family-Children activities, Food Vendors, Entertainment, Education/Information and much more. For more information please contact 585-851-8441 or commission@grmlk.org

Tue-June 19th - “Rochester, NY 2nd Juneteenth 5k Run/Walk”-5:00pm Registration and 6:00pm Start Time.-Genesee Valley Park, River Bend Shelter. Entrance Fee-\$25.00. This is a 5k run/walk event set in the beautiful Genesee Valley Park to celebrate Juneteenth. Juneteenth is the celebration of the end of Slavery in the USA. It will be 154 years since General Gordon Granger rode to Texas with 2000 Union Soldiers to enforce the Freedom of Slaves still held in bondage. The Juneteenth 5k Run/Walk benefits Teen Empowerment (TE), which is a neighborhood based youth organization. It enables low-income youth in the South West of Rochester to take meaningful action to improve their lives and communities. The overall mission of TE, is to empower youth and young adults as agents of individual, community and institutional change. For more information, please contact the Race Director: Gloria Johnson-Hovey-585-775-5599 or email: Glohovey@aol.com

Tue-July 3rd - “20th Annual Day of Remembrance”- 4:00-7:00pm-Duran Eastman Park-Shoreline (look for the red/black/green flags). This is an event of History, Information, Knowledge and Honoring those Afrikan souls lost in the Middle Passage. We ask that you wear white. bring a lawn chair or blanket and flowers for the Libation Ceremony. Presented by the Rochester Maafa Celebration Committee, this event is FREE. For more information, please contact: Erin Thompson (585-278-6530), Robert Snead (585-748-7727), Diane Sheffield (585-313-3685)

Sat-August 4th – The 11th Annual Afrikan American Festival”-11:00am-Highland Bowl Park. Entertainment variety of R&B, Gospel, Jazz, Poetry, etc. There will be Vendors, Health Tent, Literacy Tent, Children Activities, History Displays and much more! Presented by the A.B.O.V.E. Organization, bringing the community together for fun, education, enjoyment, unity and Achieving and Bringing Our Vision to Excellence. For tickets and more information, please go to the website: <http://www.aboveny.org> or email: info@aboveny.org or contact: Sonya Kittles-A.B.O.V.E. President-585-935-1068, or Public Relation Manager-Diane Sheffield-585-313-3685. **VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED.**

Fri-August 10th -Sat-August 11th - “3rd Annual Madison High School Family

Reunion” A 2-Day Event. **Friday Night Kick-Off** will be held at **Rochester Riverside Convention Center-123 E. Main St.-6:00pm-12:00am. Cocktail Hour from 5:00pm-6:00pm. The Attire is the ROARING 20's HARLEM RENAISSANCE!** The Saturday Event will be held at **Genesee Valley Park-Roundhouse Shelter-1000 E. River Road-12pm-10pm. Great Food, Bring Your Lawn Chairs, Tents and Enjoy!!** **ADULTS ONLY!!!!** **Early Bird Ticket Price: \$50.00 per person until May 31st Starting June 1st :Ticket Price: \$60.00. To Purchase Tickets Through Eventbrite: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-3rd-madison-high-school-family-reunion-2018-tickets-41566290895> Or Contact: Calvin Cheek via Facebook; Angela Holmes-Kates-585-953-1475; Ibena Asante-585-820-7149; Zelda Cunningham-585-773-9667; Mary Curtis Gamble-585-235-0305; Artie Silas-585-465-1377; Carol Silas-585-746-7718; Walter Larkin-585-746-6913; Corrine Houser-585-709-6088; Crystal Smith -csmithtakeover@gmail.com**

Sat-August 18th - “22nd Annual Clarissa Street Reunion”-10:00 AM-9:30 PM
A Neighborhood Reunion with a Parade, Entertainment Stages of Gospel, Jazz, R&B, Poetry, Vendors, Food, Children Activities and more. **For more information about Sponsorship, Vending, or Advertisement please contact the Clarissa St. Reunion Committee at 585-234-4177 or email Beverly Y. Deason at bydeason@gmail.com**

Thur-August 23rd /Fri-August 24th /Sat-August 25th **and**-Thur-August 30th/Fri-August 31st /Sat-September 1st - “11th Annual Sankofa Theater Festival”-This event is sponsored by MMB Theater 1 Project. **6 Nights of Theater & Jazz!!! “Bringing the Community Together”**, the festival will showcase the talents of local Afrikan American Playwrights, Stage Performers, Producers, Musicians **and to remember our Heritage and History in the Arts.** Advance Tickets will be on sale at Mood Makers Books in Village Gate-274 North Goodman Street, for \$18.00 each, tickets at the door will be \$20.00 each and a six night pass will be \$70.00 each. The location is the Multi-Use Cultural Community Center (The MuCCC) at 142 Atlantic Avenue, in the “Neighborhood of the Arts”. “Bringing Life to the Stage” for you, your family and friends, so come support Rochester's local talent! **For more information/tickets contact: Curtis Rivers-Mood Makers Books-585-271-7010 or Diane Sheffield-585-313-3685**

Sat-Sept. 8th – Black Physicians Network of Greater Rochester (BPNGR) 3rd Annual Starlight Gala-6:00-11:00pm-Locus Hull Country Club. Tickets:\$175.00 per person. **Come network with Black Doctors, wine, dine and dance the night away, as we celebrate BPN's accomplishments. We will recognize unsung heroes in our Rochester community, and raise money for scholarships that will help our youth make their dreams of careers in medicine a reality. This is an event you don't want to miss! For more information/tickets contact: Gina A. Cuyler, M.D. (Co-Founder and President, BPNGR) -585-308-1088 or**

Website: www.blackphysiciansnetwork.org

Fri.-Sept. 21st - “Black Girls Matter Workshop”-5:30 pm-8:30 pm-Trillium Health-259 Monroe Ave.-Day Health Dining Area. This event is an extension of A Call to Women of Color Social Gathering (ACTWOC). Black Girls Matter (BMG) is a monthly workshop designed to promote healthy living for young black girls age 12-19 and their Moms, Aunts, Mentors or other Adult Females in their lives. The girls and adults will engage (separately) in fun activities and thoughtful discussions about topics that impact the quality of life for Black Girls. **THIS IS A FREE EVENT!** For more information, contact the Event Coordinator, Jackie Dozier at 585-210-4126-Office or 585-760-3447-Cell or email: jdozier@trilliumhealth.org

Sat-Sept. 22nd - “A Call to Women of Color Social Gathering” (ACTWOC)-12:00 pm.-6:00 pm - Genesee Valley Park-Roundhouse Pavilion (over the bridge). This event is for Females of Color, ages of 12-65 and older. The intent of this event is to create a “safe space” for women and girls to come together to be educated pampered and to socialize. Free HUV Testing, HEP C and HBP Screenings. Women speaking on various Health and Wellness issues such as HUV/STI and Hep C; Domestic Violence, Diabetes, Mental Health/Self Esteem, Women who are HIV+ tell their stories. **THIS IS A FREE EVENT!** For more information, contact the Event Coordinator, Jackie Dozier at 585-210-4126 or 585-760-3447 or email: jdozier@trilliumhealth.org

Wed-December 26, 2018-Tue-January 1, 2019- “Annual Kwanzaa Celebration” Kwanzaa means “First Fruits of the Harvest” and the Rochester Kwanzaa Coalition annually convenes this celebration of Afrikan American people, the Ancestors and the Culture. This Celebration is in honor of the past, looking at and evaluating the present and making a serious commitment to a future that is productive and positive. These events are FREE. **For the times, community locations and program hosts call the Kwanzaa Hot Line at 585-436-6453**

This Annual Heritage Events Calendar is put together to inform the community of the **POSITIVE** Activities and Events that are held each year. We hope that you will attend and support these events and activities. Remember the importance of “UJAMAA” , Cooperative Economics: which means supporting our Businesses, Events and Community. **Do not forget to also support the following Businesses, Organizations and ALL of the Black Owned Businesses in Rochester and Beyond, for advertisement, events, information, products, services, news and more:** About Time Magazine, A.B.O.V.E. Organization, Afrocentric Multimedia Productions, AKWAABA: The Heritage Associates, Artistically Revealing The Spirit(A.R.T.S.), Ballet Afrikana, Afrikan American Genealogy Conference, Baobab Cultural Center, BHEIRS, Black Storytelling League, Black Women Leadership Form(BWLF), BOB Rochester, Break Thru Magazine, Black Positive News Website, Bob Burris Photography, Career Prep, Creative Eye Photography, DEKS Consulting, Desired Designs, DJ Lawrence, EQ Custom Made Jewelry, **Frans Boutique, Fly Guy Ties, Frederick Douglass Resource Center, Fill In The Blanks Computer Service, Fine Arts by Dunstan, Generation News, Greater Rochester MLK, JR. Commission, Headz Up Hats,**

Interdenominational Health Ministry Coalition, Image Printer Corporation, Jerome E. Ward Realty. JLS Artist, Joy Gallery, Lorraine's Natural Hair Products, Libra Entertainment & Services(L.E.S.), Lions of Judah Youth Dance Group, MAAFA: Day of Remembrance, M. A. J. E. S. T. I. C. Total Fitness, Me Time Spa & Products, Moving Forward Certified Trainer, Mood Makers Book Store, Moon Water Theater, MMB Theater 1 Project, **Minority Reporter Newspaper, MRMG , Northeast Flow, National Museum of Afrikan American History & Culture, New Afrika Cultural Center, Our Black Ancestry, Our Voice: The Magazine, PDRS Financial Planning Services, LLC, Pearls Physique Personal Training, Ralik's Associates, Rochester Community Television (RCTV), Rochester Black Journalists Association, Rochester Black Men Achieve, Rochester Kwanzaa Coalition, SANKOFA Theater Festival, Sisters Together Achieving Results(STAR), Skate Lovers Roller Palace, Third Eye Network, LLC, The Family Table, The Bronze Collective, The Grant Lady, The Southwest Tribune, Upstate NY Gospel Magazine, WOSA'S Natural Hair Salon & Products, WDKX Radio, What's Going On With Brown & Allen Radio Talk Show, Wade's Barbershop,**

To Have Your Annual Event Included for **2019 Calendar**, Please Contact Diane Sheffield (585-313-3685) or at Libra18722008@aol.com or Djed Snead (585-748-7727)

Asante Sana! (Thank

You)

Updated: 1/17/18

