

Save the Dates

Come together, celebrate and learn about diversity and heritage at these and several other upcoming events on UofL's [Black History Month calendar](#).

34th-Annual African American Read-In

February 12, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Ekstrom Library

'Get Activist' with Talesha Wilson

February 19, 5-6:30 p.m.
Cultural & Equity Center

Black Professionals Panel

February 21, 6-8 p.m.
Floyd Theatre

A&S Black History Month Program

Featuring:
Dr. George C. Wright,
February 22, 5:30-7 p.m.
University Club

Serving the People: Panel Discussion on Social Justice Careers

February 28, 12-2 p.m.
Cultural & Equity Center

U^{of}L COMMISSION ON DIVERSITY & RACIAL EQUITY

NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2024

National recognition for UofL DEI efforts

As the University of Louisville strengthens its commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion, achieving national recognition is a part of that success story.

INSIGHT Into Diversity magazine has again recognized UofL with multiple accolades for its outstanding efforts to advance diversity and inclusion. For a tenth consecutive year, the national publication awarded University of Louisville with the Higher Education Excellence in Diversity

(HEED) Award for 2023. For a fifth year, the UofL Health Sciences Center (HSC) has earned the Health Professions HEED Award, and the Cardinals have been selected as Diversity Champions for a fourth year - a distinction given only to institutions scoring in the top tier of all HEED Award winners. The inaugural *INSIGHT Into Diversity* 2024 Library Excellence in Access and Diversity (LEAD) Award also was given to University of Louisville Libraries.

CODRE Spring Listening Sessions

Planning for CODRE's spring 2024 Listening Session Series is underway. This semester's sessions will cover such topics as UofL's diversity strategic plan and free speech on campus. CODRE will also partner with the Commission on the Status of Women (COSW) to facilitate additional topics.

The CODRE listening sessions will take place the weeks of February 26, March 25 and April 22. Faculty, staff and students are welcome to attend. To provide a safe and open environment, the sessions will not be recorded. Names of those who offer insights and

questions will not be included in the thematic summaries for each session.

Watch UofL Today and CODRE's [Campus-wide Listening Sessions webpage](#) for details and registration for the spring 2024 CODRE Listening Session Series. For questions, contact [Tonia Thomas](#).



BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Anti-DEI legislation

Legislation recently introduced in the Kentucky General Assembly is raising concerns about anti-diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) efforts in higher education.

Kentucky House Bill 9 defines diversity, equity and inclusion initiatives as policies, practices or procedures intended to provide differential treatment or benefits to someone based on religion, race, sex, color or national origin. The bill would ban postsecondary institutions from using any money, facilities, social media and webpages, faculty or staff to create or maintain a DEI office, hire DEI officers, provide DEI trainings or establish any DEI initiatives.

Kentucky Senate Bill 6 involves several so-called “divisive concepts,” including the concept of systemic inequality and inherent privilege based on race or sex. The bill would ban public colleges and universities from asking current or prospective students or employees about their support or opposition to any of the divisive concepts listed in the bill. It would also prohibit mandatory trainings that include any of the concepts.

UofL is currently reviewing the legislation and assessing potential impacts on the university. The [Chronicle of Higher Education’s DEI Legislation Tracker](#) provides frequent updates on how these bills are moving through the General Assembly.



CODRE Awards: Call for Nominations

CODRE is accepting nominations for its 2024 Diversity Awards. Nominations for the Presidential Exemplary Multicultural Teaching Award, Presidential Exemplary Multicultural Staff Award, DEI Student Leader Award and Commissioner of the Year Award are being accepted through March 1.

Find out more and submit your nominations on the [CODRE Diversity Awards and Program Applications webpage](#).

Working with Workplace Flexibility

Lack of flexible and remote work is the No. 2 reason (behind compensation) that employees in higher education leave their jobs. The availability of flexible and remote work options can be especially beneficial to those with disabilities, caregiving responsibilities and more.

Anita Hall, chair of work-life integration for UofL’s Commission on the Status of Women (COSW), and Sarah Frankel, COSW’s co-vice chair of work-life integration, facilitated a discussion about workplace flexibility at the Nov. 9, 2023, CODRE Listening Session.

Attendees weighed in on the impact of flexible/remote work options, supervising flexible/remote employees, how UofL can best support flexible/remote options and more.

Relevant Resources

[Nov. 9, 2023 Listening Session Thematic Summary](#)

[UofL’s Remote Work Policy](#)

2024 AFRICAN AMERICAN READ-IN

FREE
Books

FREE
Books



Clockwise from top left: Maya Angelou, Ta-Nehisi Coates, Jesmyn Ward, Langston Hughes, Toni Morrison, Nora Zeale Hurston, Ernest J. Gaines, Alice Walker, E. Lynn Harris.

Celebrate Black History Month in the Ekstrom Library Learning Commons

Faculty, staff, students, and community participants read aloud
from books by their favorite African American authors.

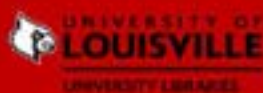
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2024 10:00 am - 2 pm

Emcees

Joan D'Antoni, UofL English Department
Ed Laster, Multicultural Center, Retiree

Sign up to read! Contact Joan D'Antoni joan.dantoni@louisville.edu

Sponsors



UofL English Department

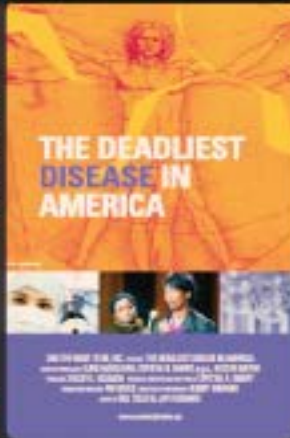
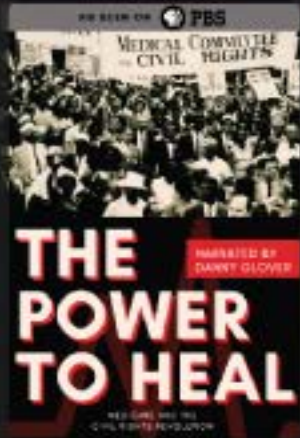
Free Books to Readers

Book Raffles (*must be present to win*)

★ LFPL ★
 BLACK HISTORY
 ★MONTH★

FILM SERIES

FREE FILM SCREENINGS & DISCUSSIONS SUNDAYS IN FEBRUARY



Maya Angelou And Still I Rise

**FEBRUARY 4,
1:30 PM**

A full-length biographical documentary on American icon, writer, poet, actress, and activist Maya Angelou.

NR | 1hr 56 min
 ©2016 THIRTEEN PRODUCTIONS LLC

DOUBLE FEATURE

Power to Heal Medicare and the Civil Rights Revolution

**FEBRUARY 11,
1:30 PM**

Documentary about how Medicare was formed as a way to desegregate American hospitals and enforce civil rights.

NR | 56 min
 ©2018 AMERICAN PUBLIC TELEVISION

The Deadliest Disease in America

**FEBRUARY 11,
2:30 PM**

This documentary traces the history of racism and current disparities in the quality of healthcare minority populations receive.

NR | 1hr 6 min
 ©2010 THE URU RIGHT TO BE

Rustin

**FEBRUARY 18,
1:30 PM**

Activist Bayard Rustin faces racism and homophobia as he helps change the course of Civil Rights history by orchestrating the 1963 March on Washington.

PG-13 | 1hr 46 min
 ©2023 HIGHER GROUND/BOLD CHOICES

Black Panther Wakanda Forever

**FEBRUARY 25,
1:30 PM**

Queen Ramonda, Shuri, M'Baku, Okoye, and the people of Wakanda fight to protect their homeland from intervening world powers in the wake of King T'Challa's death.

PG-13 | 2hr 41 min
 ©2022 MARVEL STUDIOS

SUNDAYS IN FEBRUARY • MAIN LIBRARY • 301 YORK STREET

REGISTRATION REQUESTED: LFPL.org/BHFilms or (502) 574-1623

THIS FREE FILM SERIES IS PRESENTED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE
UofL HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER OFFICE OF DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION
 ALL FILM SCREENINGS WILL BE FOLLOWED BY A DISCUSSION LED BY UofL FACULTY.



**GEM OF
THE
OCEAN**



**BY
AUGUST
WILSON**



**DIRECTED
BY SHONA
TUCKER**

**BELKNAP
PLAYHOUSE
FEB 23RD -
MARCH 3RD**



**UNIVERSITY OF
LOUISVILLE**
DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE ARTS



louisville.edu/theatrearts
502-852-6814

LGBTQ+ Affirming Healthcare Series

The BURNOUT EPIDEMIC in HEALTHCARE: Are the effects distributed equally among us?

Facilitated by Abbie O. Bea-cham (she/her)

Feb. 20, 12-1 p.m.

Online registration will CLOSE on Feb. 16.

Registration (Required):

<https://forms.office.com/r/SG00Y3kW5g>

Sexual History Should Not Be a Mystery: Empowering Queer Sexual Health

Facilitated by Bridget Pitcock (they/she)

March 21, 12-1 p.m.

Registration (Required):

<https://forms.office.com/r/8UxvDyk3BK>

Both events are presented by the the UofL LGBT Center and HSC Office of Diversity & Inclusion. These sessions are hybrid. Zoom links and in-person locations will be provided to registrants prior to the event. For questions, contact [Lisa Gunterman](#).



UofL quarterback Randy Butler

By *BRENDON HOBSON*
UofL NEWS

In 1976, Randy Butler made his start on the Louisville Cardinals football team to become the University of Louisville's first Black quarterback.

A native of Commerce, Georgia, Butler got his first snap against the University of Alabama as a sophomore. While he would later transition to receiver, his accomplishment paved the way for Louisville quarterback icons Teddy Bridgewater and Lamar Jackson.

At the time, he had no idea he was breaking barriers.

"I was just going out there and playing football, it wasn't until later I realized the magnitude of the situation" Butler said.

Butler went on to lead the Cardinals in receptions and receiving yards and later signed a free agent contract with the Atlanta Falcons.

Butler, who lives in the Atlanta area, said he is proud of the university and its improvement in efforts to recognize Black athletes.

"It makes me happy to see how the university has come a long way with regards to diversity standards," he said.

The Commission on Diversity and Racial Equity (CODRE) was established in 1998 by University of Louisville President John Shumaker, to promote a campus culture of inclusion and engagement. CODRE strives to foster and sustain an environment of inclusiveness that empowers us all to achieve our highest potential without fear of prejudice or bias.

Executive Committee

[Dwayne Compton](#)
Chair

[Marian Vasser](#)
Vice Chair

[Wanda Long](#)
Treasurer

[Chris Wooton](#)
Communications Director

Learn more about CODRE at louisville.edu/codre.