

African American Read-In/Teach-In

Month of February

Purpose

- “The African American Read-In (AARI) . . . is built on an ambitious yet confident premise: that a school and community reading event can be an effective way to promote diversity in children’s literature, encourage young people to read, and shine a spotlight on African American authors.”

History

- The National African American Read-In is the nation’s first and oldest event dedicated to diversity in literature. It was established in 1990 by the Black Caucus of the National Council of Teachers of English to make literacy a significant part of Black History Month. This initiative has reached more than 5.9 million participants around the world.



What is the Read-In?

During the month of February, schools, churches, libraries, bookstores, community and professional organizations, and interested citizens are urged to make literacy a significant part of **Black History Month** by hosting an African American Read-In. Hosting an event can be as simple as bringing together friends to share a book or as elaborate as arranging public readings and media presentations that feature professional African American writers.

HCPS African American Read-In/Teach-In

- Schools are encouraged to participate in **AARI/Teach-In** during the month of February
- Volunteers/Community members can come read to or share African American facts with students any day during the month of February
- Volunteers/Community members should contact the school of their choice or 813-231-1870 for list of participating schools
- Schools should reach out to community partners and organizations for participation
- Additional information/resources: <http://www2.ncte.org/get-involved/african-american-read-in/>
- Participating schools, please notify Volunteer Services via Debra.Blossom@sdhc.k12.fl.us

“It is important for all of us to see ourselves in books.” – Dr. Jerrie Cobb Scott, founder of the African American Read-In

Suggested Resources

(for schools to contact directly)

Individuals/Groups

- District Leadership (example: Board member Tamara Shamburger, Harrison Peters, Minerva Span-Morrow, Tracye Brown, Dr. Larry Sykes)
- HABSE (<http://habse.org/>)
karen.fletcher@sdhc.k12.fl.us
- USF/UT/HCC
- Local Church(s)
- Parents/Community Partners

Historical African American Organizations

- 100 Black Men (<http://100blackmenoftampabay.org/>)
- NAACP (<http://naacphillsborough.org/>)
- Tampa Bay Black Chamber of Commerce (tampabbcc@gmail.com)
- Tampa Chapter of The LINKS, Incorporated (<http://tampalinksinc.org/>)
- Greater Tampa Chapter of Jack and Jill, of America, Inc. (<https://www.greatertampajackandjill.org/>)
- National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Inc. Tampa Bay Chapter (<http://www.nc100bwtampabay.org/>)
- Fraternities/Sororities: Alpha Phi Alpha, Alpha Kappa Alpha, Kappa Alpha Psi, Omega Psi Phi, Delta Sigma Theta, Phi Beta Sigma, Zeta Phi Beta, Sigma Gamma Rho, Iota Phi Theta



Guests share stories at African-American Read-In events!

