



BLACK HISTORY MONTH OCTOBER 2010

**Healthy Histories,
Healthy Futures**

Welcome to Black History Month 2010



Islington is a diverse and inclusive borough and over the centuries, the contributions of people who have come to live here from around the world, have enriched our community.

Black History Month is about celebrating the achievements of African people and those of African and Caribbean descent and as an African woman I'm very proud of these achievements. This month is about those who made a difference, not purely because of the colour of their skin, but because of the actions and contributions to make the world a better and fairer place.

This year's theme 'Health and Health Inequalities' highlights the fact that people who are from black and minority ethnic communities suffer

disproportionately in terms of health outcomes and access to health services.

Islington is the eighth most deprived local authority area in England, despite its wealthy image, with extremes of rich and poor but as a council we want to address inequality to make Islington a fairer and better place. To help achieve this the council has set up the Islington Fairness Commission, which considers how to address issues of poverty and exclusions, as well as looking at the opportunities available for residents in the borough. The Commission is looking into how to improve services and opportunities for all residents, especially focusing on the key issues of housing, crime and employment.

Black History Month has developed and grown throughout the years and is a wonderful way to help educate and broaden knowledge about the positive contributions of black people to our society. It also brings together people from different cultures. So, please join us in celebrating Black History Month as we face a fairer future together.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Mouna Hamitouche'.

Mayor of Islington
Cllr Mouna Hamitouche

Healthy Histories, Healthy Futures

The theme for Islington’s Black History Month 2010 is health. This year we are highlighting the positive difference black communities have made to the health and wellbeing of others, from contributions to health care and the success of the NHS, to the cultural creativity that brings joy to many people and enriches our society today.

This year’s free festival of activities includes film screenings, book readings, exhibitions and community and cultural arts events. The celebrations start on Friday 1 October, with a conference tackling health

inequalities facing black communities, to mark the campaign for healthy futures for all.

Islington Black History Month is organised by The Islington Black and Minority Ethnic Forum and Improving Reach project at Voluntary Action Islington, as well as being supported by Islington Council.

We’re always keen to get your feedback on Black History Month, so please be in touch if you have any comments on 020 7832 5818.

Contents

| | |
|--|----|
| Opening conference: Health for All | 4 |
| Film screenings | 5 |
| Book readings | 6 |
| Black History Month at Islington libraries | 7 |
| Wider events | 8 |
| Sharing heritage | 9 |
| Closing event: Celebrating Communities | 10 |
| Information about BHM organisers | 11 |



If you require a BSL interpreter for any of the events in this brochure contact: **E** aisha.forbes@vai.org.uk **T** 020 7832 5818

Health for All

Friday 1 October

10am-1pm

**Assembly Hall
Islington Town Hall
Upper Street
London, N1 2UD**

Black History Month 2010 will open with a free conference on health and local communities. It will look at key health issues and how health inequalities can be reduced to better serve all Islington communities.

The conference, organised by Improving Reach, will feature a range of speakers who will address these key issues and there will be a number of workshops to discuss how we can improve health services for everyone. There will also be information stalls, health checks, free complementary therapies, and film screenings.

For more information contact:

E suj.ahmed@vai.org.uk

T 020 7832 5830

To book:

E improvingreach@vai.org.uk



A BSL interpreter will be present at this event.

Programme of the day:

9:30am

Registration and networking

10am Opening remarks:

Suj Ahmed, Improving Reach and
Martin Bernard-Akoyon, Chair

10:10am Councillor West, Leader
of the Council and Councillor Mouna
Hamitouche, The Mayor of Islington

10:15am Health Issues for
Islington Communities: Phillip
Watson, Chief Executive, Manor
Gardens Welfare Trust

10:25am Health Inequalities
Strategy: Ian Sanford, NHS Islington

10:35am Partnerships for Health
Inequalities: Patrick Vernon, CEO,
Afiya Trust

10:45am Race and Health:
Dr Elizabeth Henry, Interim CEO,
Race on the Agenda

11am Health user testimonies

11:15am Questions for speakers

11:30am Break

11:40am Workshops:

- Access to services
- Anti-stigma and mental wellbeing for black communities
- Cross sector partnership working to reduce health inequalities
- Relationships and sexual health

12:20pm

Feedback from workshops

12:50pm

Way forward and summary

Lunch

Film screenings

Motherland (Enat Hager)

Film screening
followed by a
Q&A session.

FREE

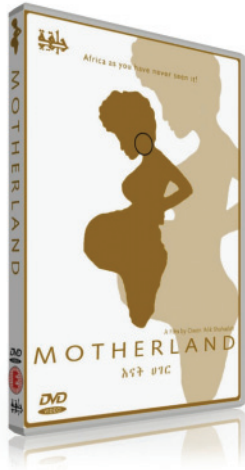
**6:30pm
Thursday
7 October**

St Mary
Magdalene
Church, Holloway Road,
London, N7 8LT

Motherland is a powerful documentary about Africa. Fusing history, culture, politics, and contemporary issues, Motherland sweeps across Africa to tell a new story of a dynamic continent – from the glory of Africa's past to its complex and present history.

Motherland looks toward a positive Pan-African future. With breathtaking cinematography and a fluid soundtrack sculpted by Sona Jobarteh, Motherland is a beautiful illustration of global African diversity and unity. From the acclaimed producers of the multi-award winning 500 Years Later.

Director: Owen 'Alik' Shahadah,
120 minutes



Diaspora Diaries

Film screening
followed by a
Q&A session.

FREE

**6:30pm
Thursday
14 October**

St Mary
Magdalene Church,
Holloway Road, London, N7 8LT

This documentary captures the voices of members of African communities in London including, a DJ from Rwanda, a poet from Ghana, designers from Tanzania and a Barbados-born former soldier Derek Reece.

Beyonders, who is making his directorial debut, gives Africans the opportunity to express themselves about their lives in the UK. Diaspora Diaries gives insight into their personal lives and experiences, where they tell us about their countries of origin, how these countries are interconnected with Europe and how this and colonialism has affected and continues to affect their lives in the UK.

Director: Robert 'Beyonders' Asare,
UK 2007, 74 minutes



To book: **T** 020 7832 5818 **E** fawaz.kekya@vai.org.uk

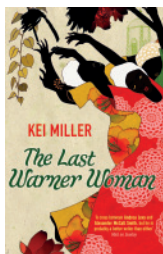
Book readings in Waterstones

Come join us at one of the FREE book readings as part of Black History Month. All reading will be at Waterstones, 11 Islington Green, Islington, N1 2XH.

The Last Warner Woman: Kei Miller

6.30pm-8.30pm
Friday 8 October

The story of Adamine who lives in the last leper colonies but has the gift of prophecy or 'warning'.



Tail of the Bluebird: Nii Ayikwei Parkes

6.30pm-8.30pm
Friday 8 October

This is a story of the mystical heart of Africa, the clash and clasp between old and new worlds.

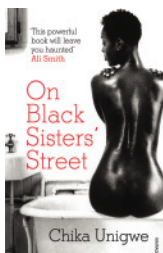


On Black Sisters Street:

Chika Unigwe

6.30pm-8.30pm
Thursday 14 October

The story of four friends working in Antwerp's red light district.



For more information contact:

E enquiries@islington.waterstones.com
T 020 7704 2280

This Body: Tessa McWatt

6.30pm-8.30pm
Thursday 14 October

This Body is a portrait of great depth and authenticity conveying secrets that usually remain untold.

For more information contact:

E enquiries@islington.waterstones.com
T 020 7704 2280

Black Entrepreneur and author: Tony Wade MBE

6pm-9pm
Friday 22 October

Entrepreneur and author Tony Wade will be reading from his very popular titles 'How They made a Million' the 'Dyke & Dryden Story' and his recently published book 'The Adventures of an Economic Migrant'.



Bookings essential contact:

E info@bispublications.com
T 020 8880 9076

Islington libraries for Black History Month

For Black History Month all Islington libraries will be hosting a book and DVD promotion of the best in contemporary black fiction and film. At Finsbury, Archway and South libraries there will be a promotion of Commonwealth writers, which

will include those African and Caribbean authors who have been shortlisted for the Commonwealth Writers Prize, such as Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, Abidemi Sanusi, Adaobi Tricia Nwaubani and Ayesha Harruna Attah.

Events and activities

Childrens book reading: 'Handa's surprise'

To celebrate Black History month and Children's Book week there is an opportunity to take part in a workshop with Eileen Browne the author of 'Handa's surprise'. There are two workshops taking place on:

11am-11.45am
Saturday 9 October

Ages 3-7, 40 places available.
Archway Library, Hamlyn House,
Highgate Hill, N19 5PH
(beneath Lloyds Bank)
T 020 7527 7820

2.15pm-3pm
Saturday 9 October

Ages 3-7, 40 places available.
Mildmay Library,
21-23 Mildmay Park, N1 4NA
T 020 7527 7880

Literature night: Spread Your Wings and Fly – book reading by author Ngoma Bishop

Local author Ngoma Bishop will be talking about his book – the inspirational story of a child spiritual beyond his years.

6pm Wednesday 20 October

Central Library, The Gallery,
2 Fieldway Crescent N5 1PF
T 020 7527 6900

Read around the World

A collection of children's books inspired by places and people from around the World, will be in all the children's libraries.

W www.islington.gov.uk/libraries



Wider Events

Spark in the Park, at Paradise Park

11am–4pm Saturday 2 October

Paradise Park, Mackenzie Road,
London, N7 8SE

The Spark in the Park event marks the 2010 European Year to combat poverty and social exclusion. It will be a fun, interactive and family-friendly occasion with speakers, performances, films and activities. Organised by European Anti Poverty Network (London).

For more information contact:

E info@lvstc.org.uk

T 020 7538 4309

W www.lvstc.org.uk/EY2010.php

World Mental Health Day

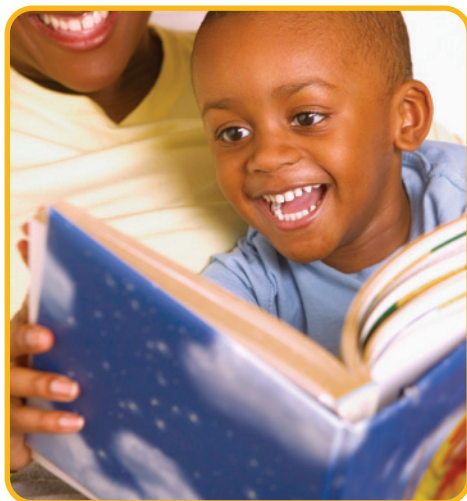
Sunday 10 October

For this year's World Mental Health Day there will be a special exhibition at Finsbury library of the history of attitudes to mental health in Islington. This will be launched with a special event at Finsbury library on 9 October from 10am onwards.

Many more activities have been planned, so check out what's on by visiting www.islington.nhs.uk/icope.

For more information contact:

E paula.cooze@islingtonpct.nhs.uk



An African-Caribbean children's book extravaganza: Awakening the Child Within

**1:30pm– 5pm
Saturday 23 October**

Conference Room at Voluntary Action Islington, 200a Pentonville Road,
London, N1 9JP

Enjoy an afternoon with a film screening, presentations and panel, audience debate. Learn all about the exciting area of multi-cultural children's writing, publishing and marketing multicultural children's books in the UK. Everyone is welcome and refreshments will be available.

Bookings essential contact:

E info@bispublications.com

T 020 8880 9076

Sharing Heritage

Somali Stories Supported by Arsenal

Date and Venue to be confirmed

(Please see contact details below for more information)

Somalis have been part of British society for 150 years. Somalia is steeped in a rich history of trade, connecting continents and supplying frankincense, myrrh and spices to ancient kingdoms. Commerce of such prized items at British trade epicentres in the late 19th century marked the beginning of Somali diaspora in the UK. In more recent times many refugees and asylum seekers fleeing the humanitarian crisis of turmoil and civil war in Somalia in 1990's are now living in Britain, enriching our society.

This event supported by Arsenal Football Club will bring together communities to tell the story of Somalis in Britain, from WWII heroes to the local community heroes making a difference in Islington.

Please join us for an interactive talk on Somali history, a football match and a feast of Somali traditional food and closing speeches, with special guest appearances.

To book and for more information contact:

E fawaz.kekya@vai.org.uk

T 020 7832 5818

Simon Kimbangu: Oldest Prisoner in the world

**5pm-8pm
Saturday
16 October**

Light Project
International,
1st Floor,
Orkney House,
195-199 Caledonian Road



The Kimbanguist Hope of the World is an Islington based charity from the Republic of Congo. For Black History Month the organisation will be looking at the role of Simon Kimbangu in the independence of Congo. Kimbangu, a religious leader born 12 September 1887, was arrested and imprisoned by Belgian authorities for advocating the liberation of African people under colonial rule.

The Kimbanguist Hope of the World invites Islington residents to join them for music and dance workshops, and a performance from their Youth Band to share the historical background of Kimbanguist culture and Congolese history.

To book and for more information contact:

E thekhw@yahoo.co.uk

Closing Event: Celebrating Communities

5:30pm-8pm Friday 29 October



Assembly Hall, Islington Town Hall,
Upper Street, London, N1 2UD

Join us for the closing event of
Black History Month where the
Cultural Urban Partnership will
showcase an exciting variety of art
and cultural performances,
connecting and celebrating
communities. Join us for tastings of
African and Caribbean healthy

food, and a collection of paintings,
photography and poetry by local
people of Islington.

Lively performances will take us on
a journey through music of African
roots, including live samba,
Caribbean steel bands, African
drumming, contemporary African
dancers and jazz saxophonists.

To book and for more information contact:

E fawaz.kekya@vai.org.uk **T** 020 7832 5818



A BSL interpreter will be present at this event.

Islington BME Forum

Islington BME Forum is a network organisation, enabling Black and Minority Ethnic voluntary and community organisations to come together and be proactive on issues affecting the community.

Islington BME Forum is committed to promoting a stronger, more effective

and influential BME voluntary and community sector in Islington. The Forum aims to provide leadership and voice for the community, improve capacity and service delivery, engage the sector in decision making and promote race equality.

Improving Reach

The Improving Reach Programme is a partnership project between Voluntary Action Islington, Islington Refugee, Faiths and Black and Minority Ethnic forums to strengthen the infrastructure of the Forums and provide better support to member organisations.

This programme is funded by capacity builders until March 2011, to work with the three forums and Islington

frontline organisations from excluded communities, campaigning for community and policy issues affecting the communities of the three forums.

We have delivered a vast range of training to member organisations of the forums, and supported the forums in their key activities such as Refugee Week, Peace Month, and Black History Month.

For more information about
Black History Month 2010 contact:

Aisha Forbes

E aisha.forbes@vai.org.uk

T 020 7832 5818

Suj Ahmed

T 020 7832 5830

E suj.ahmed@vai.org.uk



If you would like this document in large print, Braille, audiotape, easy read or in another language, please contact 020 7527 2000.

Bengali

যদি আপনি এই তথ্য গুলো আপনার নিজ ভাষায় পতে চান, তাহলে দয়া করে 020 7527 2000 নম্বরে যোগাযোগ করুন।

Chinese (Traditional)

如果你想要這資料的中文本, 請致電 020 7527 2000 聯繫。

Somali

Haddii aad jeclaan lahayd macluumaadkan oo ku qoran luqadaada fadlan la xidhiidh 020 7527 2000

Turkish

Buradaki bilgilerin Türkçesini istiyorsanız, lütfen 020 7527 2000 numaraya telefon edin.

Contact Islington

222 Upper Street, London N1 1XR

E contact@islington.gov.uk **T** 020 7527 2000 **F** 020 7527 5001

Minicom 020 7527 1900 **W** www.islington.gov.uk



Printed on recycled paper. Published September 2010.