BLACK HISTORY MONTH

1st - 31st October 2021

PROGRAMME OF CELEBRATIONS

October is Black History Month, a time to celebrate the extraordinary contributions that Black people have made in the UK and beyond. Initiated by American historian Cater G. Woodson and the Association for the Study of African Life and History (ASALH) in 1926, it comprises a series of events each October, to promote Black history and acknowledge the achievements of Black people. Observed across the world, Black History Month continues to educate, inspire and motivate millions of people, whilst acting as a catalyst for change.

This year the University has developed a programme of events, blogs, podcasts and talks which will provide opportunities for our community to engage with the ethos of this celebration – to be Proud To Be.

There will be opportunities to engage with inspirational speakers and lively discussions based on topical issues including colonialism in today’s world and important topics such as mental health and wellbeing. You can also enjoy the phenomenal playlist created by University of Aberdeen Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic Students’ Forum and catch up on our inspirational talks from last year by checking out our Black History Month webpage.

#BHMUK2021
Bringing Up Race: In Conversation with Uju Asika
Friday 15 October 2021 | 12 - 1.30pm | 🌐 online

Join us for an online event with the sensational author, blogger and screenwriter Uju Asika. Learn more about the inspiration behind Uju’s popular blog *Babes About Town* and the experiences that inspired her to write the acclaimed *Bringing Up Race: How to Raise a Kind Child in a Prejudiced World*.

Meet the Artists: Noon Salah Eldin’s and Helen Love’s Art Responding to Slavery
Wednesday 27 October 2021 | 10am - 10.30am | 🌐 online

In 2020 Sudanese Aberdonian spoken-word artist Noon Salah Eldin’s and Aberdonian ceramicist and glass artist Helen Love were awarded a commission by Aberdeen Art Gallery to create a collaborative artistic response to Powis Gateway in Old Aberdeen. Noon and Helen will be joining us to discuss this project, how and why they were inspired to create their artworks, and their creative practice more widely.

The Energy and Climate Crisis in Africa - Lessons from colonialism, sustainable business models and resilient African communities
Wednesday 27 October 2021 | 4pm - 5.30pm | 🌐 online

From colonialism until the present day, the way in which Africa has navigated and accessed its own energy resources has been influenced by at first colonialism and in today’s world through continued adaptation and resilience in the face of the climate crisis. Africa has been at the forefront of confronting the climate crisis, with entrepreneurship, sustainable business models and resilient communities offering an insight into how the continent is addressing the climate crisis and what we in the UK/Scotland might learn from that adaptation.

This event is part of our Black History Month and COP26 celebrations. Learn more about COP26 at [www.abdn.ac.uk/research/cop26.php](http://www.abdn.ac.uk/research/cop26.php)

Find out more and register your free place: [www.abdn.ac.uk/events/bhm](http://www.abdn.ac.uk/events/bhm)
HOLD THE DATE! Black Voices, Black Lives  
Friday 29 - Saturday 30 October 2021

A two-day series of events exploring the expression and articulation of black experience from different historical, cultural and creative perspectives.

Co-Hosted by The Centre for the Novel and WORD Centre for Creative Writing at the University of Aberdeen, UK

Cheka Sana

Online Playlist | Available Online Now!

“Cheka sana” is Swahili for “laugh out loud”, which is the title for the first song of this Black History Month playlist featuring afro funk, jazz, samba, rumba, and reggae from legendary Black artists from 1950 to the 80s. Set the vibes for your month and remember to enjoy more!

This phenomenal playlist is brought to you by University of Aberdeen Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic Students’ Forum.

Highlights from 2020 and much more!

Enjoy highlights from our Black History Month celebrations last year and much more, all available online including:

- Racism in Sport and Society - Moving Forward with Former journalist and AFC commentator Dave Macdermid, Funso Ojo, Midfielder for Aberdeen Football Club, and Ged Grebby, Chief Executive of Show Racism the Red Card.
- In conversation with Jamala Osman
- In conversation with Professor Christopher Jackson

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