



Black History Month

October 2022

Celebrating the history and culture of Black communities in Islington.



All
events
are
free

Scan the QR code to book
your free tickets
islington.gov.uk/BHM2022
#BHM2022

Challenging
Inequality



ISLINGTON
For a more equal future



Each year, we are delighted to share with Islington and communities around the world, our array of events that celebrate Black history and culture. Whether it's literature, film and television, music, or delicious food, we know how much diversity and lively culture Black people from around the world bring to Islington and the UK, which we will be celebrating throughout October, in addition to our BH365 all-year round approach. This year, like many in the past, there's something for everyone, and we encourage all residents from all background to come along, learn, share, listen, laugh, dance, reflect, and more.



Here in Islington, we are proud to celebrate Black history, culture and people all year-round. Last year, we partnered with the Whittington Hospital and Nubian Jak to erect a statue to celebrate the vast contributions of the Windrush and Commonwealth nurses to the NHS and to our borough, and each year, we raise the Windrush flag to ensure that we continue to honour the many sacrifices and contributions made by the Windrush and Commonwealth generations to this country. Over 150 people joined us in-person for our Windrush Day celebrations earlier this year, marking the extensive and valuable contributions that the Windrush generation have given to our country.

Through our BH365 programme, we continue to create learning opportunities all year round for residents and staff to enrich knowledge, forge greater understanding and celebrate expressions of Black excellence and Black culture. Our staff Race Equality Network have been front and centre in driving positive changes for our staff and for our residents by creating opportunities for us to challenge ourselves as an organisation and as an employer, ensuring that we create a culturally competent and inclusive workplace and community where everyone feels valued.

As we celebrate Black History Month 2022 through a range of planned events, we invite you to join us in celebrations of art, culture, exercise, food, creativity and discussions, bringing our beautifully diverse community together as one.

Co-Chairs of Islington Council's Staff Race Equality Network



Scan the QR code to book
your free tickets



I am excited about Islington's line-up of events for Black History Month 2022. After a difficult two years I'm pleased that there will be so many opportunities to come together again, including in-person activities.

Islington has had a rich and diverse Black community for decades, adding so much to our borough's culture and heritage. A key part of making our borough a more equal place is recognising and celebrating our diverse communities' history and traditions, and that is why Black History Month is so important.

I am proud to have taken on the new Executive role for Equalities, Culture and Inclusion this year. This signals how important it is that Islington stands up for fairness across the borough and the value Islington places on its diversity. It's vital that we share and learn about each other's culture, background and experience, to become a more understanding and supportive community. That is why I am delighted that Islington takes pride in celebrating the wonderful contributions that our Black community has brought to Islington and globally.

So, I invite and encourage you to join me in taking the opportunity to come together through the events on offer this month, to listen, laugh, share, and celebrate.

Cllr. Roulin Khondoker, Executive Member for Equalities, Culture and Inclusion



**Scan the QR code to book
your free tickets**






ISLINGTON
For a more equal future

The Black-Art Gallery Presents...

 21 September to 19 November

 Islington Local History Centre, 245 St John Street, EC1V 4NB. During Centre opening hours. Just turn up (free).

 Everyone



An exhibition showcasing posters created by 'The Black-Art Gallery' 1984-1988. The gallery was located at 225 Seven Sisters Road near Finsbury Park Station and was opened in 1983 by OBAALA (Organisation for Black Arts Advancement & Leisure Activities). Alongside showcasing exhibitions, it was a space for presentations of art and culture, including poetry, music, dance and drama from the African diaspora, until its closure in the early 1990s.



Scan the QR code to book
your free tickets

Family Kitchen

 Tuesday 27 September, 4, 11 and 18 October, 4- 5.30pm

 Westbourne Community Centre, 43 Roman Way, London N7 8XF

 The programme is open to families with children aged 5 – 11 years

Join us for a Black History Month Family Kitchen special.
Learn to cook African and Caribbean dishes.

Families for Life
feeling good and living well




This is a four week programme held at Hilldrop Community Centre.

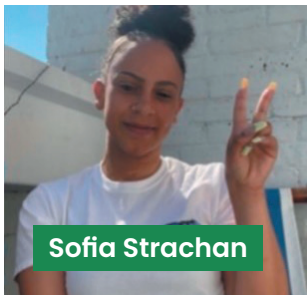
 [Book now](#)



Black History Month Launch event

 Saturday 1 October, 1.30–4.30pm

 Caxton House, 129 St John's Way, London N19 3RQ



Sofia Strachan



Charisse Monero



Leon Robinson



Kyron Akal

We are excited to kick start Black History Month 2022 with a celebration event that will be held in person. Following two years of lock down restrictions we are delighted to finally be able to unite our community and spotlight some of our Black owned businesses as part of our Black History Month celebration. This event will provide entertainment, refreshments and opportunities to buy from local Black owned businesses and will also showcase other events we have planned throughout the month.

Guest speakers invited to present at this event include:

- **Sofia Strachan**, CEO of Just As You Are, an organisation which empowers and educates young people
- **Charisse Monero**, Programme Director of Islington Council's Black Men and Mental Health Programme
- **Leon Robinson**, Positive Steps

 [**Book now**](#)

Poetry and Spoken Word from Afrika and the Caribbean with the House of Amau

 Saturday 1 October, 2–4pm

 Central Library, 2 Fieldway Crescent N5 1PF. Just turn up.

 Over 14s from all communities



A free participation of Black Afrikan History featuring Afrikan Heritage writers reading and performing their debut anthology '100 years – WWI and the Afrikan diasporan woman.'



Scan the QR code to book your free tickets



Go Africa Festival of Arts

 4 October, 10am–4pm
5 October, 10am–9pm

 Sign up via Eventbrite.
Islington Town Hall, Committee room 5
and 6, Upper Street N1 2UD

 Everyone



Go Africa Cultural Community Hub are delivering an exciting fun packed two-day festival of arts focused on **'IDENTITY'** at Islington Town Hall. Exhibiting artwork from hand painted flags, tie-dye, textiles, literature, African fashion photography, fashion displays, adornments and so much more, created by residents and other individuals who have participated in Go Africa's creative workshops.

Sign up to indoor activities, educational talks with artists and participate in workshops.

There will also be a VIP reception on 5 October to enjoy delicious African & Caribbean food.

You won't want to miss this!s!

 **Book now - 4 October**
Book now - 5 October

Apartheid and Me: Storytelling and drawing

 Saturday 8 October, 10.30am–12.30pm

 Central Library, 2 Fieldway Crescent,
Islington N5 1PF

 Families/Carers and children ages 4-11

Apartheid and Me

by
Monica Clarke

Illustrated by Maureen Bocking



Join author and storyteller, **Monica Clarke**, as she reads from her children's book 'Apartheid and Me'. Embark on a journey through the pages and beyond, participate in drawing activities led by the book's illustrator, **Maureen Bocking**.

Copies of the book will be given to attendees (1 per family group) at no cost to participants. Additional copies can be purchased.

 **Book now**



Scan the QR code to book
your free tickets



Windrush Inspired Performance in Caledonian Park Amphitheatre

 **Saturday 8 October, 2-3pm**

 **Caledonian Park, Market Road, London, N7 9PL.**

Meeting place: Meet at Cally Clock Tower at 1.45pm, for a prompt start at 2pm



This intergenerational event will celebrate journeys to Britain and the rich diversity of the local area. Stories from the Windrush generation and experiences of life in Islington will be gathered and edited by young people from Prospex Youth Centre. Actors will breathe life into these stories, creating monologues which will be performed in a promenade through the Amphitheatre of Caledonian Park. Artists from Age UK Islington will create a painted mural for the Amphitheatre, as a backdrop inspired by 'plants of the world'. Stories and images will be combined into a resource available to local schools.

 **Book now**



Scan the QR code to book your free tickets

ChainGang Cyclists Community Rides

 **Saturday 8 and 15 of October, 9am-11am**

 **Sign up via the event website**

 **Open to all details of the different rides on the website**



ChainGang Cyclists formed during the first lockdown in March 2020 by five friends from African and Caribbean heritage craving some much-needed headspace at a very unusual time. The idea has evolved into a club that has over 750 members and hosts five rides a week. ChainGang Cyclists have successfully formed a community partnership with one of the biggest brands in cycling and, for Black history month have agreed to work with Islington council to offer fitness and fun days out and about in the borough on bikes. Come and join ChainGang Cyclists and experience the benefits and freedom that comes from cycling. It works wonders for your mental wellbeing and overall health.

Adopt our Black history month motto "on your bike mate" and join us for some fitness and fun Islington style!

 **Book now**
instagram @chaingangcyclistsofficial





Longo Dance Classes (closed event for schools and colleges)

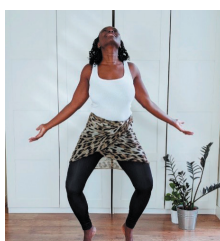
Thursday 13 October, 10–11.30am
Thursday 13 October, 1–2.30pm
Thursday 20 October, 10–11.30am
Thursday 20 October, 1–2.30pm

Email equalities@islington.gov.uk
Schools and colleges to sign up: [here](#)

This event is for girls only from year 10, 11, 12 and 13.

Dunya Ntinizi will be delivering Longo Dance sessions for schools.

Longo Dance of Anchoring is a sacred healing dance that draws its roots from three traditional initiation dances of the Bantu people (Congo). In Lingala Longo means “anchor”. It is a practice that brings balance, harmonises energies in the body and creates a deep sense of rooting and belonging. In a Longo session, you will be connecting to your breath, your body, your lineage and nature.



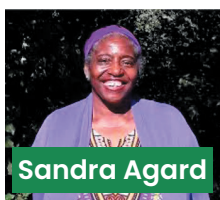
Telling Tales with Sandra Agard

Wednesday 12 October, 11am
Archway Library, Hamlyn House,
Highgate Hill N19 5PH

Friday 21 October, 11am
Central Library, 2 Fieldway Crescent
N5 1PF. Just turn up

Families/Under Fives

Renowned poet and storyteller Sandra Agard takes over the regular under-fives storytelling time with an interactive storytelling session featuring stories from all over the World, with a focus on Africa and the Caribbean.



A meeting of the continents

Monday 17 October until Saturday 19 November

Just turn up during opening hours
Finsbury Library, 245 St John St,
London,
EC1V 4NB

Everyone



A display to mark the 40th anniversary of the International Book Fair of Radical Black and 3rd World Books which took place in Islington Town Hall in 1982 with photos and brochures from the George Padmore Institute archives.



Scan the QR code to book
your free tickets





In Conversation with Healthcare Professionals

Thursday 20 October, 6–7.30pm

Hybrid online and in person
Islington Town Hall, Committee room 5
and 6, Upper Street N1 2UD

18+



Tina Jegede



Ntale Eastmond



Dr Sola Makinde

We are hosting what will be an insightful in-conversation event with three local Islington healthcare professionals. Our inspiring panel of Black professionals will talk openly about their career journeys, sharing their challenges and achievements working in Public Health. The panel will also discuss health problems that typically affect the Black community and will advise on how to access early intervention.

Speakers for this event are:

- Tina Jegede MBE, MSc, PgDMS, RM, RGN, Queen's Nurse
- Dr Sola Makinde, Consultant Anaesthetist and Associate Medical Director at Workforce
- Ntale Eastmond, Psychotherapeutic Counsellor

This is a fantastic opportunity to learn about the healthcare profession and understand the contributions Black healthcare professionals have made to the UK and the Borough of Islington.

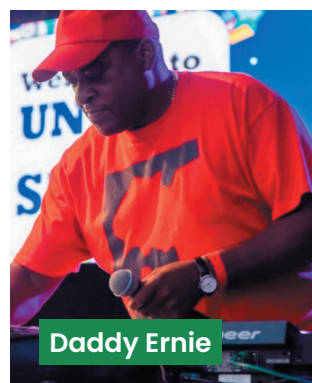
[Book now](#)

Lloyd Bradley in conversation with Daddy Ernie

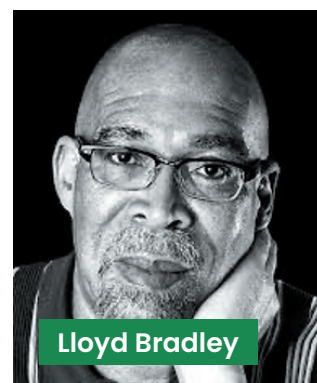
Thursday 20 October, 6pm

Central Library, 2 Fieldway Crescent N5 1PF. Just turn up.

Adults



Daddy Ernie



Lloyd Bradley

Join author Lloyd Bradley (*Bass Culture: When Reggae Was King*) in conversation with Superjam legend DJ Daddy Ernie about his life as a pirate radio and sound system DJ.

British music journalist and author Lloyd Bradley talks to Daddy Ernie about his life as a DJ. Daddy Ernie was involved with **LWR**, widely regarded as the UK's first Black music station. Shortly after he had a brief stint with **Time FM** before hitting the big time with the first five-day-a-week reggae programme outside Jamaica. His show 'Super Jam' was born on **Choice FM** radio at the beginning of the 1990s.



Scan the QR code to book
your free tickets





Style in my DNA – A process in archiving

 Tuesday 25th October 6.15–7.16pm

 Finsbury Library. 245 St John Street, London, EC1V 4NB. Eventbrite booking.

 Everyone

Lorna Holder is a fashion designer, producer, writer and curator. She talks about the importance of archives and shares her experiences, collecting and using photographs for her book 'Style in my DNA' which launched at the Victoria and Albert Museum (the V&A) and documents 70 years of Caribbean influence on British fashion.



It was during the late 1950s in Jamaica, at a very young age, when Lorna Holder first saw the importance of photography. Like many young children left behind in the Caribbean, while parents went to Britain to forge a better life for everyone, the exchange of photographs between Britain and Jamaica kept the family bonds. Lorna has over forty years of experience. The style of dress, lifestyle, social and political history captured in archive photographs and films inspired many of Lorna's fashion collections and were dominant in her multimedia productions.

 [**Book now**](#)



Scan the QR code to book your free tickets

Lunch and Learn: Cost of living and wellbeing

 Wednesday 26 October from 12–1.30pm

 Islington Town Hall, Committee room 5 and 6, Upper Street N1 2UD

 Everyone

Lunch and Learn: Cost of living and wellbeing



Join Islington Council staff who are supporting residents to deal with the cost-of-living crisis as they explore the challenges residents are facing and sign post available support. This event will delve into the impact on health and mental health.

Light refreshments will be provided alongside an arts and crafts table for guests attending with children.

 [**Book now**](#)



Black History Month family workshops at the Crafts Council Gallery

 Thursday 27 October, Friday 28 October, Saturday 29 October, 10– 11:30am and 1–2:30pm

 Crafts Council Gallery, 44A Pentonville Road, London, N1 9BY

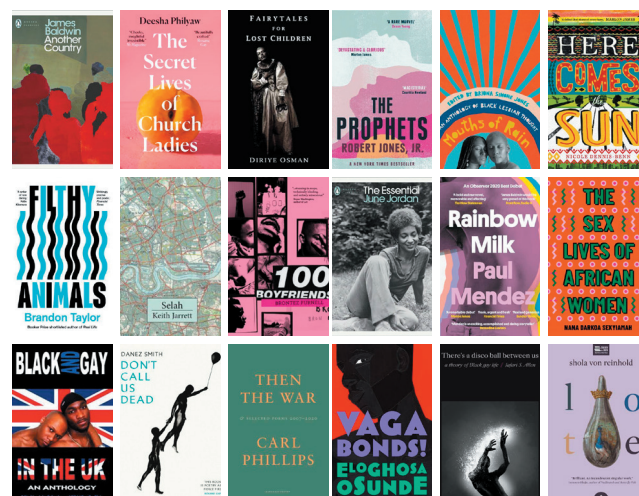
 6 +



Join artists Halina Edwards and Jahnavi Inniss in hands-on creative workshops at the Crafts Council Gallery on Pentonville Road, Angel. Learn a new craft skill and work with textiles to make your own masterpiece in celebration of Black History Month.

 [Book now](#)

Black history and LGBT+ booklist



For Black History Month, Islington Libraries have worked with partners at Gays the Word bookshop to create a selection of Black LGBT+ writing. This selection covers fiction, poetry, non-fiction and anthologies, reflecting the rich and vibrant Black LGBT+ community. The collection of books will be at Central Library, and the booklist available to pick up in all libraries.

You can also view the list at www.islington.gov.uk/BookLists

If you cannot find a book on the list, you can request it free of charge using our reservation service – ask a member of staff for more details, or go online: www.islington.gov.uk/reserveonline

Follow Islington Libraries on Twitter to stay up to date on the latest activities and events: [@Islingtonlibs](https://twitter.com/Islingtonlibs)



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