

28 DAYS OF BLACK HISTORY WEEK 2

FROM THE GLEN RIDGE DIVERSITY & INCLUSION ASSOCIATION



Day 8

An Evening of Love Songs with Ms. Lisa Fischer

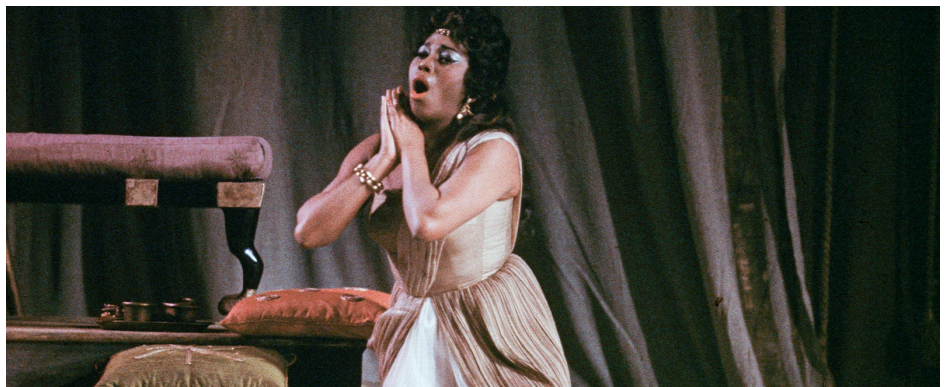
February 10, 2022
7:30 PM

Attend a performance at the South Orange Performing Arts Center by singer Lisa Fischer, who has performed with such notables as Luther Vandross, Nine Inch Nails, the Rolling Stones, and Tina Turner. Ms. Fischer was featured in *20 Feet From Stardom*, an Oscar Award-winning documentary film. [Purchase tickets here.](#)

Day 9

High Notes: About Opera Singer Leontyne Price

Leontyne Price (b. 1927) is a soprano who was the first African American opera singer to receive international acclaim. She was the first African American lead at the New York Metropolitan Opera as well as Milan, Italy's Teatro alla Scala. Throughout her career, she appeared regularly at the Lyric Opera in Chicago, The Royal Opera House in London, and the San Francisco Opera. Ms. Price is renowned for the title role performance in Verdi's opera, *Aida*.



Ms. Price was born in Laurel, Mississippi. She attended Central State University, a historically black university (HBCU), followed by Juilliard. She performed in *Porgy and Bess* on Broadway; her opera stage debut was at the San Francisco Opera House in *Dialogues des Carmélites*.

Over the next 25 years, she starred in a number of operas at the world's major opera houses. Ms. Price continued to perform in concerts and recitals even after her retirement, including at a memorial concert for victims of the 9/11 US terrorist attack. Among her many honors and awards are the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1964 and 19 Grammy Awards.



Day 10: Get to know... Sandra Lefkovits President, Women's Club of Glen Ridge

THREE DECADES OF SERVICE

- North End Association, president
- Civic Conference Committee, member and Secretary
- Participated in a Strategic Planning Committee for GR district schools
- For nearly 33 years, a Women's Club of Glen Ridge member. Previously served as Assistant Treasurer, Treasurer, Finance Chair, Nominating Committee Chair and Vice President. Since 2020, President and the first person of color in the organizations' history.
- Glen Ridge Historical Society, second three-year term member
- Chair of several Ministries of the church Council of the Glen Ridge Congregational Church (Parish Life, Stewardship) and currently Nominating

Hello, my name is Sandra Lefkovits née Blake. I was born on the tiny island of St. Kitts in the Caribbean and came to the U.S. to attend university where I met my husband, David, who is Jewish-American. After graduation, we married and moved to Glen Ridge. In the 34 years we have lived here, David and I raised two daughters who attended the town public schools and I have been very involved in the community.

My experience growing up in St. Kitts was one of a strong, nurturing and loving family, community, culture and faith. I would be classified as a nerd with a wide variety of interests. My siblings and my friends were close-knit, running in and out of each other's homes without invitations.

People of color were the dominant group in St. Kitts. While we had other ethnic groups, everyone lived harmoniously together. There was more of a caste system rather than a racial one. Nonetheless, our parents instilled respect for those who were socioeconomically less fortunate than us. We were taught that we were all human beings who deserved to be treated with respect, decency and care. One thing that was instilled in us was to treat others the way you wish to be treated.

I learned of black history in school but learned more about American Black history since being in the United States. I encourage Glen Ridge students to study Black history through the many sources our town library has to offer.

BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS

- [*Up from Slavery*](#) by Booker T. Washington
- [*Overground Railroad*](#) by Candacy A. Taylor
- [*From Slavery to Freedom*](#) by John Hope Franklin and Edwin Higgenbotham
- [*The 1619 Project: A New Origin Story*](#) by Nikole Hannah-Jones
- [*Grant*](#) by Ron Chernow

DESTINATIONS

- [Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture](#)
- [The National Museum of African American History and Culture](#)

Day 11: Family Events

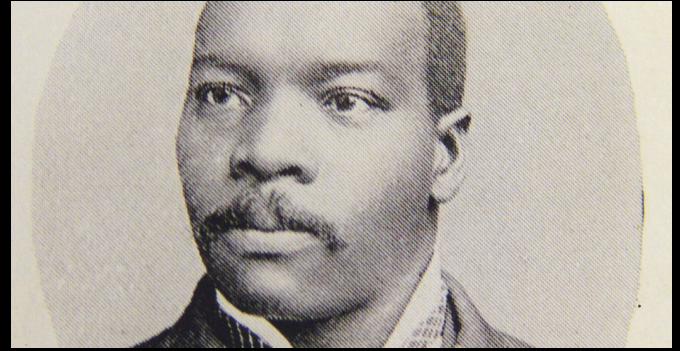
THE
NEWARK
MUSEUM
OF
ART

Design Your Own Poster

February 13 & 27, 2022 1-4 PM

Presented by The Newark Museum Make a social justice poster that expresses your values and inspires your imagination! We invite you to INSPIRE change!

[Register here for this event.](#)



Joyful Fridays: Granville T. Woods & The Roller Coaster

February 18, 2022 11 PM

Presented by The Smithsonian African American History and Culture Museum

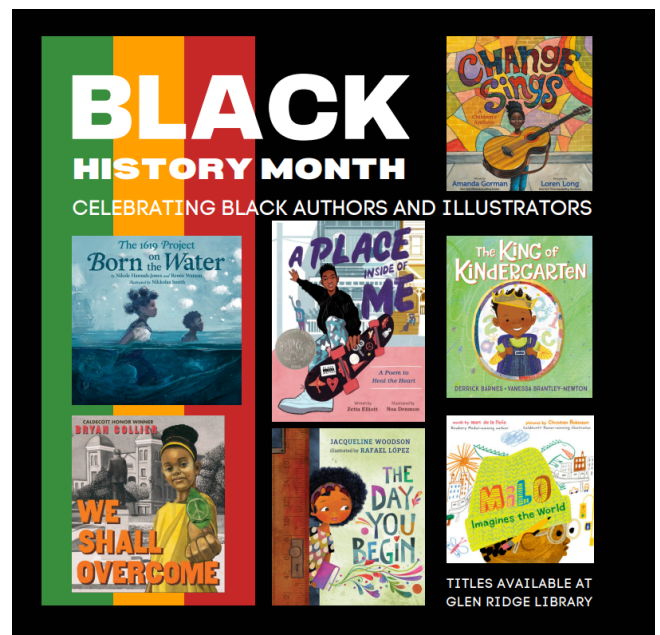
Granville T. Woods' inventive mind is behind the roller coasters we enjoy today! Learn more about this African American inventor and create your own mini-roller coaster inspired sculpture during this virtual interactive children's program.

[Register here for this event.](#)

Day 12 Reading Corner

Borrow a book from the Glen Ridge Library to help your elementary school-age child read up on Black history. Join [Family Story Time](#) featuring Black authors at the library February 15 at 6:30 pm! Many thanks to Sydney Young of the Glen Ridge Library's Youth Services Department for curating!

Click on the images to request these books from the Glen Ridge Library.





Day 13

Watch *The American Diplomat*

February 15, 2022, 9 PM

The film *The American Diplomat* examines the legacies of three Black ambassadors - Edward Dudley, Carl Rowan, and Terence Todman, who broke racial barriers and obtained high-ranking positions in the Truman, Eisenhower and Kennedy administrations. Dudley, Rowan, and Todman represented the best of American ideals abroad- civil rights, democracy, and freedom- but faced discrimination at home. The film features interviews, rare archival footage, and in-depth oral histories to depict the story of who changed the US Foreign Service and American diplomacy forever.

Watch on [PBS](#).

Day 14

Hungry? Try a Little Food for the Soul

Did you watch the Netflix historical documentary series [High on the Hog: How African American Cuisine Transformed America](#), based on Jessica Harris' book of the same name? *High on the Hog* is a peek into how foods from the African diaspora are enjoyed by all Americans today



Pair your viewing nights with food from local Black-owned restaurants:

- Sweet T's Southern Eatery features traditional "healthy, transparent, authentic" foods rooted in the south.
- Try the Zagat-rated Mesob restaurant. Owned and operated by a Glen Ridge family, Mesob has established itself as a home where meat eaters, vegans, and those in between can feast on delicious Ethiopian food.
- To experience modern Haitian-Creole cuisine, try Saveur Créole, a decades-old establishment.