

# BLACK HISTORY MONTH

## DEIJA EVENTS SCHEDULE

This February marks 100 years of intentional Black History remembrance, resistance, and celebration in the United States.

Please join the DEIJA department in honoring this celebration!

***Visit the DEIJA page of myBAMSI for full details.***

### JOIN THE DEIJA BOOK DISCUSSION

The Immortal Life of  
Henrietta Lacks by  
Rebecca Skloot.

**[SIGN UP!](#)**

Her name was Henrietta Lacks, but scientists know her as HeLa. She was a poor Southern tobacco farmer who worked the same land as her slave ancestors, yet her cells—taken without her knowledge — became one of the most important tools in medicine: The first “immortal” human cells grown in culture, which are still alive today, though she has been dead for more than sixty years. HeLa cells were vital for developing the polio vaccine; uncovered secrets of cancer, viruses, and the atom bomb’s effects; helped lead to important advances like in vitro fertilization, cloning, and gene mapping; and have been bought and sold by the billions.

Yet Henrietta Lacks remains virtually unknown, buried in an unmarked grave. Henrietta’s family did not learn of her “immortality” until more than twenty years after her death, when scientists investigating HeLa began using her husband and children in research without informed consent.

**[...READ MORE HERE](#)**

### SPECIAL VIEWING: THE 1619 PROJECT

Attend a special viewing of  
The 1619 Project, Hulu  
docuseries. **[SIGN UP!](#)**

As part of our celebration of 100 years of Black History Month Commemoration, please join us for a special screening of The 1619 Project!

Hulu’s six-part limited docu-series “The 1619 Project,” is an expansion of “The 1619 Project” created by Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Nikole Hannah-Jones and The New York Times Magazine. In keeping with the original project, the series seeks to reframe the country’s history by placing the consequences of slavery and the contributions of Black Americans at the very center of our national narrative. The episodes — “Democracy,” “Race,” “Music,” “Capitalism,” “Fear,” and “Justice” — are adapted from essays from The New York Times No. 1 bestselling “The 1619 Project: A New Origin Story” and examine how the legacy of slavery shapes different aspects of contemporary American life. Come to watch this series together in community with one another!

### BLACK HISTORY MONTH DEIJA EXPLORATION



Go on a Black History Month DEIJA Exploration.  
**[BROWSE THE CATALOG!](#)**

As part of our celebration of 100 years of Black History Month Commemoration, we have created a [special catalog](#) of community events! You are encouraged to attend any of these events in the community to learn, celebrate and be inspired by the history and contributions of Black people in the U.S.

Stop by 10 Christy's Dr to pick up a little plushie bee to go to the event with you. Snap a photo of the BAMSI bee at the location (selfies with the bee are highly encouraged). Send us your photos and a brief description of your trip (i.e. a fun fact you learned, a particular thing that interested you, etc.). You can use this [form](#) to submit your photo(s) and description, or send to [AskDEIJA@bamsi.org](mailto:AskDEIJA@bamsi.org). Enjoy some Nectar points! Your exploration will be featured in an upcoming issue of the BAMSI Buzz and on the DEIJA page of MyBAMSI.

[Browse the catalog](#) and go on a Black History Month DEIJA Exploration!