

Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday Observance Committee  
And  
The Teaneck Library  
Presents  
A Series of Black History Month Programs

**February 6<sup>th</sup> 2:30 Thomas Jefferson Middle School**

***“Forced American Heroes: Stories of Enslaved African-Americans”***

Portraits and stories illustrated in three volumes of a coloring and activity books for children age 7 and up... **Presenter Janelle McDowell, Writer, Artist, Educator**

**February 6<sup>th</sup> 7:00 Teaneck Library Auditorium**

***“New Jersey’s Gradual Abolition Act of 1804 and the Cost of Freedom”***

This Presentation focuses on the aftermath of the passage of New Jersey's Gradual Abolition Act of 1804 with particular attention to the "abandonment" clause, which threatened to bankrupt the state... **Presenter Dr. Evelyn A. McDowell, Ph.D., Associate Professor Rider University**

**Thursday February 13<sup>th</sup> 7:00 Teaneck Library Auditorium**

***“Thought We Were Writing the Blues, They called it Rock and Roll”***

The story Teaneck’s own Rose Marie McCoy one of the most influential song writers of rhythm & blues, classic soul, and early rock ‘n’ roll... **Presenter Alene Corsano, Biographer**

**Thursday February 20<sup>th</sup> 7:00 Teaneck Library Auditorium**

***“Where Do We All Come From Anyway”***

All the people alive on earth are one genus Homo, and one species: Sapiens. A journey from our beginnings to the present time, the question remains Where Do We Go from Here?

**Presenter Dr. Henry Pruitt, Teaneck Township Council**

**Thursday February 27<sup>th</sup> 7:00 Teaneck Library Auditorium**

***“Moving Forward 20/20 - Vision Your Vote is Critical”***

A glance at the past through a presentation of The **Counter** a film tribute to the Greensboro 4, produced by film maker Tracy “Twinkie” Bird, will serve as an opening to a discussion of the importance of voting locally and nationally in this and all elections...

**Presenter Estina Baker, National staff, Senior Campaign Lead-NJ Communications AFL-CIO**

**Thursday March 5<sup>th</sup> 7:00 Teaneck Library Auditorium**

***“The Spiritual Network”***

A historical exploration of how the African American spiritual continues to be used in musical art forms as well as in social, political, religious and contemporary settings...

**Presenter: Dr. Maredia Warren, Professor Emeritus. New Jersey City University**

**Refreshments provided by:** The Teaneck Library; The North East Teaneck Block Presidents Association; The Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday Observance Committee...