

DEIAB DIGEST

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Accessibility and Belonging

VOLUME 4, ISSUE 1

January 2025

Check out our DEIAB webpage <https://www.wxxi.org/program-guides/deiab/>

January Celebrations

Happy New Year!



Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

January 20

Often referred to as MLK Day, it is a federal holiday observed on the third Monday of January. King was chief spokesperson for nonviolent activism in the Civil Rights Movement, which protested racial discrimination in federal and state law and civil society.

The campaign for a federal holiday in King's honor began soon after his assassination in 1968. President Ronald Reagan signed the holiday into law in 1983, and it was first observed three years later on January 20, 1986. **This year marks the 40th anniversary.**

DID YOU KNOW: African Americans, among others, often sing two versions of the Happy Birthday song and that the “Stevie Wonder version” was from his 1980 album “Hotter Than July”. The song was written as a part of the campaign to make Martin Luther King’s birthday a national holiday. [Listen](#)

Learn more:

[The 15 Year Battle for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day](#)

[Martin Luther King, Jr., National Day of Service](#)

[The Martin Luther King, Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change \(“The King Center”\)](#)

DEIAB LEARNING

Pay Gap and Unpaid Labor

Caregiving Is Real Work – Let’s Treat It That Way | The Way We Work, a TED series [Watch](#)

Latino caregivers face higher financial strain. Here’s how to prepare to help family members [English](#) [Spanish](#)

Equal Pay Day: Single moms are hit the hardest by the gender pay gap – and custody arrangements can matter [English](#) [Spanish](#)

Solutions to the Pay Gap for Native American Women Could Be Found in Their Tribe [English](#) [Spanish](#)

DEIAB SPOTLIGHT

Rhonda Austin



Position: Radio Operations Manager

How long have you worked at WXXI: 36 years

Describe your job in 5

words: Supporting, Detailed, Time-consuming & Stressful.

Favorite cookie: Oatmeal Raisin

Favorite restaurant: BAB Korean Food & BBQ (in Niagara Falls)

What are you reading or watching: Fearless -The New Rules for Unlocking Creativity, Courage and Success by Rebecca Minkoff



EDUCATION/FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

<https://www.wxxi.org/education/>

Healthi Kids Play Perception Survey

Healthi Kids and the Strong Center for Developmental Disabilities want to hear from you about play in your neighborhood to learn where families are playing, how they’re playing, and what challenges they face. Your input will help shape work to advocate for play and improve local play spaces:

English <https://www.tinyurl.com/playmonroe>

Spanish <https://www.tinyurl.com/juegomonroe>

RESOURCES

[Episodes of your favorite PBS KIDS shows in ASL](#)

[Bright By Text: For Parents of 0-11 year olds](#)

[Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Classroom Resources](#)

[Podcasts to Listen To With Your Kids](#)

[Lyla in the Loop: Videos, Games & Activities](#)

[I Can Be What?! PBS LearningMedia Collection](#)

COMMUNITY

More events in the [CITY Events Calendar](#)

ANANSI TALES FOR THE HOLIDAYS, a {theatre}+{náfsi} FOR Youth production of When They Flew, a folktale about the legend of the Flying Africans. January 1-4 at MuCCC [Info](#)

MLK Living the Dream Series
Pittsford COMMUNITY
Wednesdays January 8, 15, 22, 29
Interfaith service February 2
United Church of Pittsford [Schedule](#)

Ask An Author
Wednesday, January 8 4:00-6:00pm
BLK Haus
Learn all about the publishing world. [Info](#)

Action for A Better Community (ABC) Signature Conference Series
Celebrating 60 Years of serving the Rochester community.
January 9 and 16 virtual Sessions
Awards Breakfast Jan 23
[Register Now](#)

Urban League of Rochester - January Virtual Speaker Series – Jalil Muntaqim
Friday January 10 1:00pm
"From Whence We Came - Which Way Forward?" [Register](#)
Interested in speaking in the Virtual Speaker Series? [form](#)

Nuestra Cultura, Nuestra Salud
Latinas Unidas Women's Health Education Day/Three Kings Day Celebration
Saturday, January 11 10:00a-12:30p
WXXI Public Media
Free but [registration required](#)

Charter Champions Town Hall with national civil rights activist Ben Crump
Saturday, January 18 1:00-3:00p
Mount Olivet Church [Info](#)

Geva ArtsBloom Workshop
Artist & Activist Lu Highsmith
Sunday, January 19 1:00-5:00p
Geva Theatre [Info](#)
Free to ROC Geva Pass residents 14+
[Register](#)

ARTs + Change Virtual Conference [Info](#)
Return to Sender: Women of Color in Colonial Postcards & the Politics of Representation Film
Thursday, January 23 7:00p
Virtual [Info](#)

In This Moment Book Launch & Panel Discussion Featuring:
Stanley Martin & Luvon Sheppard
Monday January 27, 2025
George Eastman Museum
6:30Reception, 7:00Panel Discussion
Free but please [register](#)

Healthy Baby Network announces Sherita D. Bullock's promotion. [More](#)

Rochester Procurement Equity Project (RPEP), an initiative of the Community Foundation, is connecting businesses with local vendors of color. [Info](#)

Save The Dates!
2025 Upstate New York Supplier Diversity Summit
Wednesday, February 5 [Info](#)



Click to see [Now showing](#)
Click to see [Music in the café](#)

The Fire Inside
The story of Claressa 'T-Rex' Shields, a boxer from Flint, Michigan, the first woman in US history to win an Olympic gold medal in the sport. [Info](#)

Wicked
Wicked, the untold story of the witches of Oz. [Info](#)

The Graduates
January 11 and 12
A year after her boyfriend dies from gun violence, a young woman prepares to graduate high school as she navigates an uncertain future alongside a community that is searching for ways to heal. [Info](#)

Porcelain War
Coming Soon
Under roaring fighter jets, Ukrainian artists choose to stay behind. Defiantly finding beauty amid destruction, they show that although it's easy to make people afraid, it's hard to destroy their passion for living. [Info](#)

95 Years of The Little Film Series
Cléo From 5 to 7
Wednesday, January 15 7:00p
A chronicle of the minutes of one woman's life. [Info](#)

Black Cinema Series
Albany Road
Saturday January 18 3:00 pm
On her way to the most important meeting of her career, a New York executive is forced to share a rental car with her ex-fiancé's mother, only to discover that the mother is hiding a major secret. [Info](#)

Black Box Diaries
January 18-20
Journalist Shiori Ito investigates her own sexual assault, seeking to prosecute the high-profile offender. [Info](#)

The See of the Sacred Fig
Opens January 31
Shot entirely in secret, it centers on a family thrust into the public eye when Iman is appointed as an investigating judge in Tehran. [Info](#)

January Giallo Series
Sharpen your razor and slip on your black gloves as we celebrate this classic crime and mystery horror sub-genre. [Info](#)
Jan 9 – The Corruption of Chris Miller
Jan 17 – Cruising
Jan 23 – Short Night of Glass Dolls
Jan 31 – Four Flies on Grey Velvet



NEWS

[WXXI News](#)

Executive Editor Denise Young
News Director Randy Gorbman

[CITY MAGAZINE](#)

Editor Leah Stacy

[Native Made Market celebrates Indigenous culture in Rochester](#)

[Haudenosaunee continuity exhibit opens at Rochester Museum & Science Center](#)

[Local nonprofits merge to better address public health disparities](#)

Stories You May Have Missed

[GOP legislators reject Monroe County Board of Health candidate who specializes in gender-affirming care](#)

[Annual Kwanzaa celebration at MAG honors heritage and community](#)

[Connections: MLK, race, and progress: Previewing the "MLK Living the Dream" series](#)

[Connections: RTS CEO Miguel Velázquez on public transportation in the Greater Rochester area](#)

[AAA urges aging drivers to seriously consider whether they should be behind the wheel](#)

[Rochester city schools up efforts to improve attendance](#)

[NYS Courts commission advocates for LGBTQ community on and off the bench](#)

[New law aims to help New York families get child care assistance subsidies faster](#)

[Nazareth University announces scholarship program for Rochester city school graduates](#)

[More free ice-skating at MLK Park and other outdoor winter activities coming up](#)

[CITY: Creating space for Black and queer joy](#)

[CITY: The Local Sound Collaborative expands its reach](#)

[CITY: Embracing umoja](#)

Observed from December 26 to January 1, Kwanzaa uplifts African heritage and highlights the seven guiding principles: unity; self-determination; collective work and responsibility; cooperative economics; purpose; creativity; and faith.



Move to Include is a national initiative that uses the power of public media to promote inclusion. Project Manager Sarah Abbamonte [Move to Include](#)

Dialogue on Disability

January 13-19, 2025

Held every January, the week-long Dialogue on Disability initiative is designed to stimulate community dialogue about the perspectives and abilities of people with physical, developmental, and intellectual disabilities.

2025 program and event listings for television, children's programming, radio, news and on-demand programming can be found [here](#)

Share your feedback with us, by [clicking here](#) to take a short survey.

Watch on the PBS App or PBS.org

[American Masters: Renegades](#)

Contributions of little-known historical figures with disabilities

[Frontline: Breakdown in Maine](#)

The documentary examines breakdowns with police, military and mental health care in the lead-up to the Lewiston mass shooting.

[2024 Media Access Awards](#)

Disability and its representation in film, television, and new media

Also Streaming

[Out of My Mind](#)

Disney+
Melody Brooks is navigating sixth grade as a nonverbal wheelchair user who has cerebral palsy.

[Makayla's Voice: A Letter to the World](#)
Netflix

A teen with autism unlocks a joyous world of self-expression as she shares her voice for the first time using a letter board in this short documentary.

Inclusion Desk

[Longtime NTID President Gerard Buckley to step down in July 2025](#)

[A disability rights group says New York's plans to change a home care program could be harmful](#)

[Connections: Should medical aid in dying be legal in New York State?](#)

[RIT/NTID audiologist reviews Apple's AirPods Pro 2](#)

[Connections: How are local senior citizens and people with disabilities affected by barriers to transportation?](#)

FROM AROUND THE WEB

[Former NTID professor is first Deaf director of UMD's School of Theatre, Dance, and Performance Studies](#)

Did you know you can stream over 1,900+ videos with audio description from your favorite PBS shows? Connect to search and find out how to access this feature on a variety of devices and platforms.
<https://www.wxxi.org/AD>



[WXXI Main](#) [WXXI World](#) [WXXI Create](#)

[WXXI Kids 24/7](#) [WXXI Passport](#)

The Dream Whisperer

Friday, January 10th at 5pm

In the midst of segregation, the all-Black Tennessee A&I Tigers made history by winning three straight national championships. [More Info](#)

We Press On: NYS Celebrates Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Monday, January 20th at 9pm

A one-hour tribute to the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and will introduce viewers to people and organizations in the state continuing in the legacy of America's greatest leader for social justice, freedom, and equality. [More info](#)

John Lewis - Get in the Way

Monday, January 20th at 10pm

Follow the journey of civil rights hero, congressman and human rights champion John Lewis. [More Info](#)

Dreams of Hope

Monday, January 27th at 9pm

The story of a historic concert at the Sixteenth Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, Alabama, more than 50 years after a hate crime that killed four African American girls. [More info](#)

Great Migrations: A People on the Move

Starting Tuesday, January 28th at 9pm

Great Migrations explores how a series of Black migrations have shaped America. [More Info](#)

Independent Lens "Racist Trees"

Tuesday, January 28th at 10pm

A historically Black neighborhood in Palm Springs, CA fights to remove a towering wall of tamarisk trees. [More info](#)

Thomas Jefferson

Friday, January 31st at 9pm

Thomas Jefferson is an enigma among American historical figures. [More info](#)

The Niagara Movement: The Early Battle for Civil Rights

Friday, January 31st at 10:30pm

Explores Black intellectual society at the turn of the century. [More info](#)

On WXXI-WORLD

Indy Lens "Razing Liberty Square"

Sunday, January 12th at 10pm [More info](#)

Indy Lens "Without Arrows"

Wednesday, January 15th at 8:30pm

[More info](#)

The Cost of Inheritance: An America Reframed Special

Thursday, January 23rd at 8pm [More info](#)

The Five Demands

Friday, January 24th at 10am [More Info](#)



CELEBRATING 50 YEARS ON 91.5

WXXI Classical Daily Hosts

Brenda Tremblay 6:00 – 10:00 am

Steve Johnson 12:00 – 4:00 pm

Mona Seghatoleslami 4:00 – 7:00 pm

WRUR Daily Hosts

9-12 Opening Tunings - Scott Regan

4-6 Route Afternoons - Hannah Maier

Full schedule [here](#)

Connections: Celebrating 50 years of WXXI's Classical 91.5

Fifty years ago this month, WXXI-FM 91.5 hit the airwaves. Before it became the region's home for classical music, it was a mix of music, talk, news, and early NPR programming [Listen](#)

NoteWorthy

2-minute feature, weekdays 12:40 pm

A series of audio stories created to broaden our view of classical music by shining a light on the lives and music of artists of color, women, and others from historically underrepresented groups.

WXXI Classical Presents: Amadeus

Saturday January 11 3:00p

Little Theatre 1

Screening and panel discussion [Info](#)

Dialogue on Disability Week

Jan 13-19, 2025 Classical 91.5

celebrates and shares the stories of the abilities of musicians with disabilities on our [web page](#)

[As the nation mourns the passing of President Jimmy Carter \(12/29/24\), we look back at his musical passions](#)

[Jon Batiste reinterprets the classics on his new album 'Beethoven Blues'](#)

Martin Luther King Day

Mon January 20

Music Director Mona Seghatoleslami has curated these special pieces for the day.

Morning: Epitaph for a Man who Dreamed, In Memoriam: Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., by Adolphus Hailstork; Montgomery Variations, Margaret Bonds

Midday: After Fallen Crumbs by Alvin Singleton; New Morning for the World ("Daybreak of Freedom") by Joseph Schwantner

Evening: Dance for Martin's Dream by Michael Abels; Three Black Kings by Duke Ellington

[Applications are now open for the 5th Emerging Black Composers Project Michael Morgan Prize and the Cabrillo Emerging Black Composers Prize](#)