



BLAC

Sliding INTO SUMMER

~~~~~ You're invited to ~~~~~  
the cookout

~~~~~  
**BLM DETROIT
CO-LEAD ORGANIZER
PENS AN ESSAY**

"For the recently woke,
this conviction is a
watershed moment. Why
then do we remain angry?"

CHRISTOPHER McCLENDON

PAYING IT FORWARD

The education Christopher McClendon received at Schoolcraft College went far beyond the skills to become a great chef. He also learned the positive impact mentors can have. Yes, you'll get a great meal at his restaurant, *SavannahBlue*, in the heart of Detroit. But Chef McClendon's passion also includes making a difference as a mentor himself and investing in his community to create a better world. And that nourishes all of us.

FALL REGISTRATION NOW OPEN



Schoolcraft
College

60
years

schoolcraft.edu





JUNE 2021

INSIDE

- 6 Online at BLACdetroit.com
- 8 Letter from the editor
- 10 Contributors

FEATURES

- 26 NOW WHAT?
BLM Detroit co-lead organizer John Sloane III considers the future of Black lives
- 31 QUICK TRIP
Must-sees in the Midwest
- 37 SUMMERTIME SOCIAL
From food to games, hosting an outdoor hangout

DEPARTMENTS

- 14 DISCOVER
Motor City Pride and LGBTQ resources, a metaphysical supply shop, on-demand public transit and more
- 22 APPRAISED
Artist Morgan Bouldes is all about an immersive experience
- 24 IN STYLE
Easy, breezy resort wear
- 48 ACCESS
Juneteenth celebrations
- 50 SEEN
Bert's Warehouse weekend comedy show

SPONSORED

- 12 DRIVING COMMUNITY: FORD MOTOR COMPANY FUND
Curtis Lipscomb, executive director, LGBT Detroit
- 36 ASK THE EXPERT: HEALTH ADVICE FROM ASCENSION MICHIGAN
How are minimally invasive procedures used to treat uterine fibroids?

ON THE COVER:
Photo by Lauren Jeziorski



Want a company that cares about your career? **At Rocket, you can.**

This is your chance to join our elite Mortgage Banking team with no prior experience. Expect to learn new skills you'll use for the rest of your life, and be welcomed by a supportive team where you can be your whole self. At Rocket Mortgage®, you can do anything you set your mind to.

Learn more at MyRocketCareer.com/RemoteBanking. | **ROCKET** Mortgage

Online in June

Visit BLACdetroit.com for web exclusives and to stay up on what's happening in Black Detroit



Freedom Day

Recalling the history and significance of Juneteenth



We've Got Swag

Rock a BLAC T-shirt or hoodie and remind everyone everywhere that you honor Black Life, Arts and Culture.



For Dad

Thoughtful and affordable Father's Day gifts



Get BLAC Fridays

Sign up for our weekly newsletter at BLACdetroit.com. Your inbox will thank you.



SEEN Galleries

Check out the full digital gallery. Did we spot you?

101.9 FM WDET

DETROIT'S NPR STATION



Saturday 8:00 PM - 10:00 PM

Soul Saturday with Nick Austin

Imaginative mixes merging genres like soul and hip-hop with electronica and funk.



Saturday 10:00 PM - midnight

Jay's Place with Jay Butler

A lively mix of blues, R&B and soul.



Sunday 8:00 PM - 10:00 PM

The Progressive Underground with Chris Campbell

A creative and ethereal mix of electronica, b-sides and rare grooves.



Sunday 10:00 PM - midnight

Destination Jazz with Ed Love

New recordings and jazz classics of years gone by.

Spend the night with WDET on **Saturdays and Sundays 8 PM to midnight** to hear the best in soul, blues, electronica and jazz.



Tune in to 101.9 FM or stream at wDET.org

Brighter Days

Ah, summertime. The memories seem to hit all the senses at once. Can't you smell the dew-soaked morning grass? Hear the kids playing outside? Taste the wood-smoked barbecue? The best part, though, is gathering your favorite folk and heading off into a day that ends whenever and wherever. As the vaccine has been made available to all who want it, and safe, outdoor options are a thing again, we're ready to get back to life and to loving up on our people. I've heard some suggest that we're primed to enter a roaring '20s-like era, the party hard period that followed the 1918 Spanish Flu. I don't know if that's true, but I've got my beaded fringe ready just in case.

What we can safely count on is the return of proper hang-outs. If you're very quiet, you can hear the sound of Spades tables being slapped off in the distance. We've got 10 pages of photos, shot by Lauren Jeziorski, that perfectly capture that spirit (Page 37). Beans & Cornbread in Southfield catered the affair. Discover all the soulful options on the menu, add a few Black-centric party games to the mix and get the recipe for a refreshing yet boozy punch that's sure to be hit. And we hope you'll be inspired by the décor. Plant boutique Leaf Me provided the foliage, and we gathered a handful of specialty items from GOODEE, the Black-owned, socially conscious home goods marketplace that centers artists and artisans.

Summertime also means travel, and we've got you covered from swimwear and other chic but easy suitcase staples (Page 24), to where to eat, sleep, play and nuzzle up to nature across the Midwest (Page 31). While we wish we could escape completely, there are still serious matters to which to attend. In April, Derek Chauvin was found guilty on all charges for killing George Floyd. Black America exhaled, but now what? Black Lives Matter Detroit Co-Lead Organizer John Sloan III pens an essay that considers the definition of justice (Page 26). To this point, we're also looking ahead to Juneteenth with a roundup of local, in-person events (Page 48).

And we're checking in with photographer and artist Morgan Bouldes (Page 22). A recent graduate of the College for Creative Studies, Bouldes sees her showcases as an opportunity to create an immersive, interactive experience and connect with her audiences on a subsurface level. Also all about enchantment is High Priestess Yvette Louise Wyatt whose metaphysical supply shop recently opened on Detroit's west side (Page 16). June is Pride Month, and Curtis Lipscomb of LGBT Detroit lets us in on the work the organization is still up to a quarter-century after its inception (Page 14), and Motor City Pride prepares for a virtual celebration (Page 14). The other great thing about summer? Rainbows.



Photo by Lauren Jeziorski

Paris Giles
Senior Editor

BLAC[®]

Black Life, Arts & Culture

CEO/Publisher: Billy Strawter Jr.

EDITORIAL

Senior Editor: Paris Giles

Copy Editor: Tamara O'Shaughnessy

Contributors: Jonathan Kimble, Sydney Kispert-Bostick, Nick Pizaña, John Sloan III, Arianna Smith

DESIGN

Creative Director: Kelly Buren

Senior Art Director: Katie Sachs-Howard

Senior Graphic Designer: Lindsey Lawson

Photographer: Lauren Jeziorski

CREATIVE AND PRODUCTION SUPPORT

MILO DETROIT, INC.

Chief Creative Officer: Mark Simon

Creative Director: Doug Blanchard

Director of Content: Jeremy Smith

Production/Advertising Operations: Christine Lasalle

SALES

Director of Sales: Samantha Alessandri

PARTNERSHIPS

Partnership/Events Coordinator: Ebony Jones

CIRCULATION

Distribution Coordinator: Meaghan Smith

ADMINISTRATION

Director of Business Operations: Victoria Webb

Accounting Associate: Judy Stewart

PRINTER

LSC Communications

CONTACT US

6200 SECOND AVE., DETROIT, MI 48202
313-312-1611

PUBLISHER: publisher@BLACdetroit.com

SALES: advertise@BLACdetroit.com

DESIGN: design@BLACdetroit.com

EDITORIAL: editor@BLACdetroit.com

CALENDAR: calendar@BLACdetroit.com

DISTRIBUTION: distribution@BLACdetroit.com

BLAC Detroit magazine is published 12 times a year.
©2021 by BLAC INC. All rights reserved. Any reproduction in whole or part without the express written consent of BLAC magazine is prohibited.



Our Past Creates Our FASHION FUTURE

High school students can start earning COLLEGE credits now in Fashion Merchandising and Design.

REGISTER FOR FASHION HISTORY (FALL 2021)

Scholarship Opportunities Available

Learn more at
ehs.cmich.edu/dualenroll
or contact Dr. Mamp at Michael.Mamp@cmich.edu

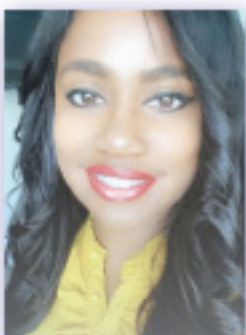
Designer: LaDyna Lyte
THREADS Spring 2021



FASHION, MERCHANDISING & DESIGN
CENTRAL MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

BECOME #ReginaReady FOR YOUR FUTURE

“Becoming a member of the Regina community was not like being a student at any other high school. Regina, from day one, implants a **sense of pride** in the girls that they shape and mold into **strong educated women of faith**. The extensive science curriculum is what **empowered** me to enter into a **STEM field**. The speech class pushed me to overcome my public speaking fears. I now can deliver presentations to global leadership with extreme **confidence**, using the tactics that were taught to me almost 20 years ago! At Regina, you are taught to be **thought leaders**, to not be afraid to **ask questions**, **speak up for others**, **be kind**, and always **give your best effort**. Regina provides an environment that allowed me to **thrive comfortably without distraction**. I was **fully focused** on my studies and my friendships. Regina created a **sisterhood**. You can't get that experience just anywhere or at any school, it's Regina-specific.”



LEYANNA TORRES '02
Indirect Procurement
Country Manager for Faurecia
a global automotive supply company

Learn More!
Fill out this form to receive more information about Regina and enter to win a \$50 gift card prize!



REGINA HIGH SCHOOL

Regina is dedicated to making our school an option for all families who want a private education for their daughter. Contact us today!

13900 Masonic Blvd. • Warren, MI 48088 588.585.0500 www.reginahs.com



Meet Our Contributors

Each issue would be impossible without the help of our freelance writers and creative contributors.



Jonathan Kimble, artist

Jonathan, an illustrator from Detroit, received a bachelor's in fine arts from the College for Creative Studies. His work reflects expressionism and bold, fun mark making. Jonathan embraces unexpected outcomes in his pictures as an opportunity for visual problem-solving with mixed media. Jonathan admires the traditional process of picture making and desires to incorporate digital practices, creating illustration that is the best of both worlds. He is determined to express optimism and truth in any given subject matter, in hopes that the audience will view his stories in a positive light.

Find Jonathan's work on Page 26.

@jkart100
jonathankart.com



Sydney Kispert-Bostick, photographer

Native to Detroit, Sydney works as an independent photographer and creative artist. She graduated from Hiram College in Ohio with a bachelor's in studio art. She's shot for varied clients such as United Way for Southeastern Michigan and the Detroit Lions – she's also been featured in the Detroit News. For nearly 16 years, Sydney has developed an artistic repertoire that includes portraiture, street and event photography, as well as mixed media. She aims to create vibrancy, showcasing the eccentricities of her subjects with a site-specific technique.

Find Sydney's work on Page 50.

@photosbyskb
photosbyskb.com



Nick Pizana, writer

Nick Pizana is a professional artist and writer from Detroit. He studied journalism at Wayne State University and is currently pursuing a Master of Fine Arts in painting at Cranbrook Art Academy. As a painter, Nick works primarily in making colorful murals that draw from his background in street art and comic books. His work can be seen all around Detroit, from Hart Plaza to Eastern Market. In addition to his painting practice, Nick co-owns KO Studio Gallery in Hamtramck.

Find Nick's work on Pages 18 and 22.

@shorin_nick
nickpizana.com



Arianna Smith, writer

Arianna is a 22-year-old native Detroit with a varied background and a love for cultural news. A graduate of Wayne State University's journalism program and BLAC's former intern, you can find her scoping out the latest restaurant, boutique, art project or gaming lounge in Detroit – when she isn't glued to the screen watching a Marvel movie. A Black-owned business is the best kind of business, in her eyes, and Detroit stories are the best kind to tell.

Find Arianna's work on Page 14, 16 and 18.

ariannasmithport.weebly.com

WE'RE ALWAYS LOOKING FOR TALENTED CONTRIBUTORS!

If you're an experienced writer, photographer or artist interested in working with BLAC, email your résumé and samples of your work to editor@BLACdetroit.com.

PROVIDING **OPPORTUNITIES** *in the City of Detroit*

**"We want Detroit
Contractors to get
opportunities to
thrive."
-Toni Stewart-Limmitt**

The City of Detroit's Office of Contracting and Procurement (OCP) is currently seeking companies interested in an exciting opportunity for growth and success. If your company specializes in the following areas: Ground Services, Medical Supplies, Janitorial Services, and more. Please visit the link below for great Detroit Supply Schedule opportunities!

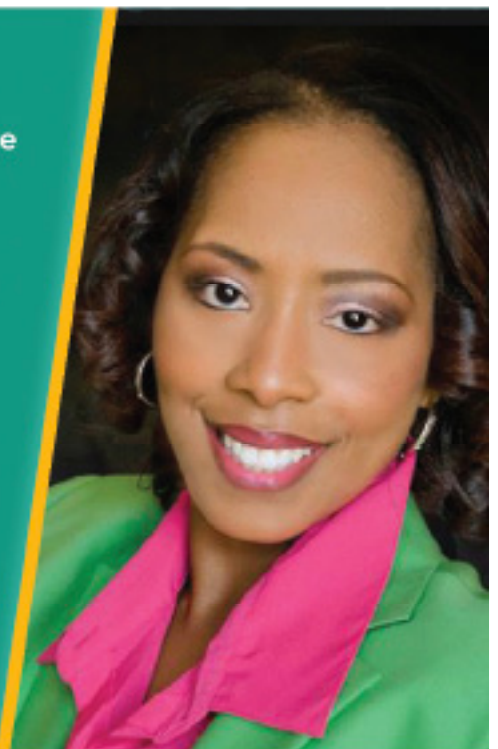
WWW.DETROITMI.GOV/SUPPLIER
OR CALL (313) 378-8362

The Detroit Supply Schedule (DSS) is an approved program to allow thirty percent (30%) of all contracts to be set-asides for certified Detroit-based businesses. The DSS program increases the speed and efficiency for city departments to obtain such goods and services. Contractors are pre-approved to participate in the program. Participating Contractors will have an opportunity to receive long term contracts with the City of Detroit. The City of Detroit is the second municipality in the nation to have its own Supply Schedules. Since the creation of this program, I have helped many Detroit based companies gain access to doing business with their city.

As the Manager of the Supply Schedule program, I'm excited to help other companies learn about upcoming bid opportunities with the City of Detroit. We want Detroit Contractors to get opportunities to thrive.

To stay up to date with what's happening, sign up to receive bid opportunities and outreach notices at:

<https://detroit.mi.gov/citynews> (select Procurement Outreach)



Toni Stewart-Limmitt
Supply Schedule Manager



Ford Motor Company Fund

A year-long series featuring Detroiters who are driving positive change in their communities.

Driving Community

Sponsored by Ford Motor Company Fund



Curtis Lipscomb, Executive Director, LGBT Detroit

He heads the organization that works to increase the prominence and visibility of Detroit's LGBT culture through education, advocacy and wellness.

Founded in 1994 as a Black LGBT media company, LGBT Detroit has since evolved into an education and advocacy organization focused on four pillars: economic and racial justice, health care disparities, global sexual freedom and expressions, and anti-discrimination policies. "We're called to lead or assist in these matters, either locally, statewide or nationally," says Curtis Lipscomb, LGBT Detroit executive director. The nonprofit offers a series of programming

on everything from substance abuse support to leadership to HIV/AIDS prevention. "Historically, gays and lesbians, in my lifetime, fled their homes because of harm, either physical violence or harm from losing their job or losing the social status and community," Lipscomb says. "So, we argue that we are not going to flee from our homes. We are going to change the laws, change the environment, change the way we engage with our own family, our own neighborhood,

our own businesses."

The pandemic has shone a light on the unique ways in which virtual programming can help further the mission and reach more people. LGBT Detroit hopes to double down on some of those initiatives and build a network that will continue to allow them to share what they're up to with a wider audience "and connect to people in places where they are most comfortable." The organization opened a 6000-square-foot campus

in 2016, making the space the largest Black-led, LGBT-focused headquarters in North America, Lipscomb says. Intertwined with the work around advocacy, LGBT Detroit makes it their mission to challenge the miseducation and misconceptions about the community. "There are a number of people, rightfully so, who don't understand what it is to love the same gender," Lipscomb says.

He finds that some still think queer people just want to disrupt and don't

wish to be familial or communal. “We love our family, we love our parents, we love our brothers and sisters. There’s always been challenges with the typical experience of Black people. Jim Crow, redlining, mass incarceration, all those things have impacted Blackness. It impacts Black LGBTQ people too, but layered upon that, the internal fight suggests that if you’re lesbian, gay, bi or trans, that you are not welcome. And that’s not the case. We’ve built a great community in Detroit.”

Personally, Lipscomb says, “I had a wonderful coming out experience. I worked for a Black gay man on Livernois as a teenager. His clientele, his business partners were very supportive. They introduced me to the community here in Detroit, wonderful, wonderful experience, warming experience, loving experience.” He

went off to college and started to explore his identity, and then the HIV/AIDS epidemic emerged. “A lot of my friends were being infected with this deadly virus. They were dying. When my best friend died in my arms in 1992, I gave the rest of my life to service.”

LGBT Detroit’s Hotter Than July is the world second-oldest and longest-running Black Pride festival. Last year, the celebration was adapted to run virtually. “It was a hit,” Lipscomb says, and, so, they’re back with a similar format this year. Expect a mix of live streamed and pre-recorded broadcasts. The main draw will be a talent competition featuring illusionists, singers and others showcasing themselves and battling for a cash award. That’s happening over three days starting July 23. “It always starts with a candlelight vigil honoring our dead. Particularly (considering) these last two years, it’s

going to be more meaningful than ever,” he says.

Lipscomb and LGBT Detroit were featured in the magazine in 2015. On the progresses the community has made since, he names marriage equality as a key achievement toward the building of wealth, security and family. He and his partner, Willie, have been together since 1998. On the work still left to be done, he reminds that young, Black gay men are dying of AIDS-related illnesses more frequently than any other group and that Black trans women are disproportionately the targets of violence and hate. He says the majority of the people who come into the office are straight allies looking to learn and lend a hand, which Lipscomb says he welcomes. “I’m from a school of thought that says education is key for us to advance together.”



A PROUD PEOPLE

For more information, to donate or get involved, visit lgbtdetroit.org.

“Ford Fund believes that investing in the needs of our youth is an essential step toward empowering our communities for a promising future.”

Ford Motor Company is pleased to recognize Curtis Lipscomb and LGBT Detroit for standing as symbols of hope and for their actions to increase possibilities and transform lives. Ford Motor Company embraces diversity, equity and inclusion in an effort to strengthen and foster a welcoming, supportive workplace. At Ford, we support every individual and respect the things that make us different.

Ford Motor Company supports all communities. Ford GLOBE is our company’s employee resource group for LGBTQ+ employees and their allies where we have proudly supported and volunteered efforts with LGBT Detroit and organizations alike. Ford is proud to salute Curtis Lipscomb for being a force of strength and unity and for combatting the miseducation and misconception around the LGBTQ+ community.

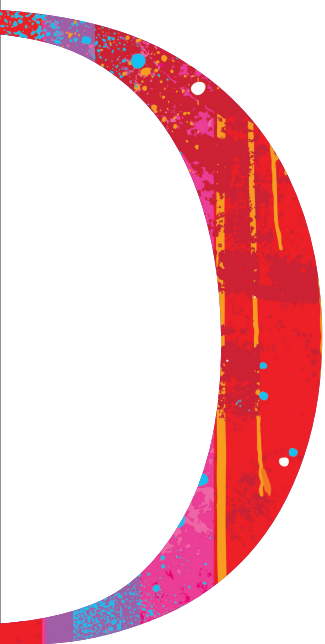
*– Pamela Alexander,
director of community
development for Ford
Motor Company*



OUT LOUT



U



The COVID-19 pandemic is on track to cancel most of the fun for another summer – for good reason, of course; we need to flatten the curve yet again – and that means Motor City Pride and all official, affiliated activities can't be held in person. That doesn't mean they're permanently canceled, however. "We know it's not quite that time yet to celebrate each other in person, so we're waiting 'til everybody gets their vaccinations and things for all that. Right now, we're planning a virtual broadcast for Pride Live on June 5," says David Wait, Motor City Pride chairperson.

Wait says Pride Live will be a digital, two-hour festival featuring remote performances from "festival favorites" and appearances from community leaders and activists, as well as an online marketplace, LGBTQ history sessions and art exploration. Look out on the marketplace for clothing brands like Quiet Deviants, Potty Mouth and Stewie's Got Swag.

Also, get excited for the virtual gallery, Mighty Real/Queer Detroit. The Motor City Pride website reads: "The premise of Mighty Real/Queer Detroit is to gather together, for the first time, a grand-scale representation of the range and depth of Detroit queer art – and then, through panels, essays, and a printed catalogue inspire reflection and discussion."

The exhibition will highlight the diversity of viewpoints, experiences and triumphs of the queer community in Michigan and metro Detroit through various forms of media. Featured artists include Maeve McCarron Quinn, Cece Alaniz and Jamie Feldman.

An in-person festival is being considered for September. "Waiting until everyone feels safe and comfortable is the obvious choice," Wait says. They'll start recruiting volunteers for that in late summer.

June 5, 3-5 p.m.
motorcitypride.com

Need a little extra support in the weeks leading up to and after Pride? These LGBTQ-friendly resources and organizations put self-expression and -celebration first.

AFFIRMATIONS

For the last 30 years, Affirmations LGBTQ+ Community Center has provided a wealth of resources to the community such as youth programs, counseling, inclusion training and health and wellness assistance.

goaffirmations.org

LGBTQ DETROIT

In addition to the usual helpful services, LGBTQ Detroit is incredibly focused on how the virus is affecting the community. Executive Director Curtis Lipscomb is a member of the Michigan Coronavirus Task Force for Racial Disparities.

lgbtdetroit.org

RUTH ELLIS CENTER

LGBTQ minority youth remains one of the most at-risk demographics for homelessness and abuse. The Ruth Ellis Center dedicates itself to helping them with events like its upcoming Virtual Legacy Pride Walk happening June 4-6.

ruthelliscenter.org



SPELLBOUND



Fresh off the heels of organizing and hosting Detroit's first ever hoodoo and witchcraft festival in April, High Priestess Yvette Louise Wyatt has opened the latest iteration of her metaphysical offerings on Detroit's west side. What started as a small stall in the back of her husband's martial arts studio is now a separate brick-and-mortar dedicated to magical arts and spiritual healing.

"It was amazing! We brought together friends and practitioners from Louisiana, Brooklyn and all over to support each other and share information. Between that and getting the store open, I've barely taken a breath the last few weeks," Wyatt says when we speak in late April.

The shop, Motown Witch, offers anything that a practitioner (or anyone interested in the craft) might need or want, with a focus on herbs, artifacts and ingredients that can be used in rites and spell work such as incense, powders and washes, salts and hoodoo curios. It also sells health care remedies, jewelry and homemade beauty solutions.

Motown Witch is different from other candle stores and pagan-oriented supply shops because it has a distinct Black focus. Wyatt specializes in servicing and teaching Black witches and practices that originate within the diaspora. "I have African deities in my store. I have things that Black practitioners would want and need in their rites. My statues are Orisha and tribal mascots, and things that are essential to hoodoo and vodun: railroad spikes, gator paws, graveyard dirt. All real and as potent as you need them to be," Wyatt says.

She describes herself as someone who "the church never called to," a Black girl who "liked metal and wore dark lipstick in the '80s," but also never read entirely into the idea of Wicca magic or "white paganism." She says African spirituality, hoodoo and root work have always been an indisputable part of her life since she was a child, and she's glad that more Black people are rediscovering the magic in their bloodlines.

"I grew up in Hamtramck, but my grandma and aunts were from Alabama. There never was a name for what they did, but they'd go out into their yards, do what they needed to and things would just be fixed. I've seen and spoken to spirits since I was a little girl. These aren't things I recently got into. This has been who I am for 56 years."

16844 Schaefer Highway, Detroit
motownwitch.com

FAFSA

YOUR DEGREE IS WITHIN REACH.

Use this code — 002329 — to fill out your FAFSA, and we'll help you find ways to pay for it.

Wherever you choose to go for your education, your first step is to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). It's the doorway to grants and scholarships that can make a big difference when it comes to paying for your education.

A FAFSA form can be completed at fafsa.gov from a phone, tablet or laptop in under an hour — and the payoff could be huge. Some awards, including programs at Wayne State like Wayne Access and the Heart of Detroit Tuition Pledge, cover the full cost of tuition, but you won't know what aid you qualify for without a FAFSA.

Not sure where you want to go to school? That's OK — you can submit your FAFSA to as many as 10 institutions before you even complete your admissions applications. Just enter the schools' codes when prompted. Here's Wayne State's to get you started: 002329.

Still have questions? We're here to help. Contact us today by calling 313-577-2100 or visiting go.wayne.edu/fafsaresources.

And when you're ready to apply, visit wayne.edu/admissions. Your next step is waiting — you don't have to do it alone.



WAYNE STATE
UNIVERSITY

WARRIOR STRONG

GO BETWEEN

For people who live and work outside of metro Detroit, commuting to recreational areas and out-of-the-way businesses can be a hassle that compounds if you don't own a car. The SMART bus system does what it can to move people quickly and safely, but gaps in transit ease persist.

"The default thought is to drive your own car everywhere if you can afford it, but not everyone can and bus lines don't cover every inch of those less traversable areas," says SMART Bus Deputy General Manager Robert Cramer.

Enter SMART Flex, an on-demand system created by SMART and the vehicle for hire company Via to increase walkability to the standing public transit routes. At first glance, SMART Flex looks like a mashup of ride sharing apps in the mold of Lyft or Uber, but it is only meant for short, local trips within small zones. The Dearborn Flex Zone connects two historic districts and cultural attractions, the Troy Flex Zone includes two major shopping destinations, and the Hall Road Corridor Flex is the largest of the three and links Utica to New Baltimore.

"Flex rides can be linked directly to pre-planned trips you're taking with Park and Ride or regular SMART. It's eco-friendly, all drivers undergo background testing and each car features the signature SMART color wrap. Ease of use is a big thing we're aiming for," Cramer says.

Bus passes paid for on SMART routes can be used to pay for Flex rides similarly to how DDOT passes can be used as fare on the QLine.

SMART Flex is also doing what it can to help those most in need access vaccination locations and other COVID-19 services. Cramer says, "We saw a chance to build on the Via partnership to boost vaccine mobility in areas with the highest need and do real good in those communities. As long as the trip starts or ends in a vaccination station, one of 250 we have registered, the first four trips are free in the app portal."

— A.S.

smartbus.com



FATHER TIME



For many men, asking for support can be very intimidating. Society's expectations of men as workers and providers can make them feel undervalued and overwhelmed, while having to keep a stiff upper lip. Good Fathers Only, a membership-based parent support program, is seeking to break down those barriers and offer men the tools they need to be the best fathers they can be. The nonprofit provides new and seasoned fathers with parenting techniques, resources and information, and provides an outlet for support like suicide awareness.

"The average father thinks, *we do all these things for our kids, but we're not appreciated*," says Calvin Mann, founder of Good Fathers Only. "Being validated is a huge thing." The organization is the result of more than 10 years of work that started with Mann's Encourage Me I'm Young program, created to mentor young men. Good Fathers Only is an extension of this mission to improve the lives of young men and their families. The group celebrates fathers and fatherhood, from the inspirational slogans, also found on their apparel, to marching for fathers in the Labor Day parade.

In June, the group is celebrating its second annual Fatherhood Unity Month. Each week, the group will cover a different topic, from building financial skills to tips for newer fathers. Dads interested in joining can enroll in an annual membership which gives them access to events and other resources. In a partnership between the two groups, members of Good Fathers Only are encouraged to serve as mentors for children in the Encourage Me I'm Young program. The pairing has been so successful that they have launched a capital campaign to create a dedicated empowerment center for the program.

Mann hopes highlighting the importance of fathers will help change the narratives around fatherhood. "I believe when young men see the value of fatherhood, it gives them something to look forward to." **B**

— N.P.



thegoodfathersonly.com
emiworld.com

ReachUs Detroit Offers Free 24/7 Therapy to Detroit Residents



The Detroit COVID-19 Therapy Collaborative: Reach Us Detroit; launched May 21, 2020 and is available to teens and adults ages 14 years and up. Individuals are able to receive up to 12 therapy sessions via phone, tablet or computer. These sessions are with professional counselors to provide screenings, brief interventions and treatment. This is available for youth and adults who are approaching a crisis related to or triggered by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Many individuals are feeling anxious, depressed, and hopeless largely due to the pandemic. Some individuals reaching out for support are concerned about school, work, and social and emotional well-being. Often school or work is the place of gathering and provides a sense of connectedness. A lot of people are missing the face-to-face interaction and just don't know what to do. Services are available, don't suffer in silence, Reach Us Detroit.

To access services, call or text 313-488-HOPE or visit www.ReachUsDetroit.org

Reach Us Detroit is spearheaded by Andrea L. Smith, MSW, Director of Workforce Training & Program Development.

Although the initiative is geared towards therapy, we also want to ensure that everyone knows that we are focused heavily on instilling hope and supporting community resiliency. When the weather is nice outside, you may see us in a neighborhood near you distributing backpacks, sponsoring food trucks and haircuts, or even hosting drive-in movie days.

The Detroit Wayne Integrated Health Network (DWHN) is the largest and most diverse Community Mental Health system in Michigan. We are committed to serving the people we support in a holistic manner through programs and services that utilize promising best practices. We hope to promote a community that is supportive and embraces individuals with mental illness, developmental disabilities, and substance use disorder. We offer supports in Infant Mental Health, Integrated Healthcare, Supportive Housing, and Recovery to support self-determination and improving the health and quality of life for nearly 75,000 people and their families. If you or someone you know needs help, call our 24/7 HelpLine at 1-800-241-4949 or visit www.dwhn.org.



Through the Detroit Wayne Integrated Health Network, Reach Us Detroit offers "Days of Hope" within the community



Enjoying The Outdoors as a Family

“According to the Michigan DNR, there are more than 150 species of fish that currently live in Michigan’s waterways available for catch and release. In addition to being a day of fun, fishing can actually help fund work to conserve Michigan’s aquatic species and waters.”

Are you tired of staring at the back of your child’s handheld device? These days, it’s easy for kids to get so wrapped up in YouTube videos and Instagram posts that getting them up and outside, even with their phone (let alone without it), is a feat easier said than done.

But with longer and warmer days, summer is the perfect season to get the kids outdoors.

Where’s a parent to start? Luckily, the folks at the Michigan Wildlife Council know all the secrets of connecting with the state’s beautiful outdoors. Here, they offer their top four unique-to-Michigan outdoor adventures for families.

1. Parks galore

Between Michigan’s Metroparks and state parks, there are hundreds of parks all across the state for families to enjoy - with many of them located just a frog’s hop from metro Detroit, including Belle Isle Park, a 982-acre island park located a short distance from downtown.

Each park offers totally unique landscapes and opportunities for outdoor fun, ranging from camping to aerial obstacle courses, from museums to special programs.

With so many options to choose from, it would be tough to not find a park that fits your family’s interests.

Best of all, most of the parks only require a small parking fee, of \$10 (daily) for the Metroparks and \$17 (yearly) for the state parks, to enjoy the wonders within.

2. Take a hike (or a ride)

Speaking of parks, the majority of them also offer hiking and biking paths for

families to enjoy.

That’s right: You can take a leisurely bike ride, or walk, through nature or take a crack at the longest designated state trail in the nation, the Iron Belle Trail.

“You can’t talk about Michigan trails without talking about the Iron Belle,” says Paul Yauk, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) state trail coordinator. “This is already an amazing trail and it’s getting better everyday thanks to the cooperation of federal, state and local agencies.”

The hiking route, which crosses through 48 different counties, allows hikers to walk spaces between Belle Isle Park in Detroit and Ironwood in the U.P., through forest, along rivers and into towns. It also incorporates a bike route that will challenge even the most daring riders.

But if that sounds like too much, you can also find shorter trails, like the 8.9-mile Paint Creek Trail in Oakland County, 55 miles of trails at the Huron-Clinton Metroparks and, of course, the 3 1/2-mile Detroit RiverWalk in downtown Detroit.

3. Go fishing

Michigan is home to 11,000 inland lakes and 242 streams. This means you are likely never far from a body of water, giving you great opportunities for kayaking, paddleboarding and plenty of fishing.

According to the Michigan DNR, there are more than 150 species of fish that currently live in Michigan’s waterways available for catch and release. In addition to being a day of fun, fishing can actually help fund work to conserve Michigan’s aquatic species and waters.

“Not only are the funds from fishing and hunting licenses used to stock lakes and pay for species conservation, but they are also used to conserve Michigan’s beautiful forests, public lands and river quality,” says Nick Buggia of the Michigan Wildlife Council. “In addition, fishing provides a big boost to the state’s economy, especially during the summer months.”

If you are 17 years or older, you must purchase a fishing license. Any adult actively assisting a minor who does not

have a license must also have a fishing license. Michigan’s resident fishing license is \$26 per year and is valid from March 1 of a given year through March 31 of the following year.

And if fishing isn’t really your thing, the waterways also provide a great backdrop for relaxation sans electronics.

4. Volunteer work

Michigan’s wildlife isn’t just fun and games. It takes hard work to keep the parks and environment in tip-top shape. For families, this means a variety of volunteer opportunities, like The Greening of Detroit program and the DNR Stewardship Workdays.

These programs are designed to help plant trees and upkeep green spaces in the city and also clear invasive species and keep the local parks clean.

Check greeningofdetroit.com or michigan.gov/dnr for upcoming events near you.



CONTENT SPONSORED BY THE

ABOUT THE MICHIGAN WILDLIFE COUNCIL

The Michigan Wildlife Council is entrusted with educating the public about the importance of wildlife conservation and its role in preserving Michigan’s great outdoor heritage for future generations. The council is dedicated to increasing public knowledge about how wildlife and Michigan’s outdoors are managed and funded so that we can continue to enjoy them as we do today. Find out more at hereformioutdoors.org.

MICHIGAN
WILDLIFE
COUNCIL

FULLY IMMERSED

Detroit-born artist Morgan Bouldes studied photography at Wayne State University and is a recent graduate of Cranbrook Art Academy. Her recent work focuses on her role as an “experience curator,” making immersive, experience-based work. This can take the form of film, performance or installation, all with the goal of forging an internal connection with the viewer. “My goal is to make you feel something – to awake something within you,” Bouldes says. “That could be to spark an old memory or make a connection. I’m really big on connecting fibers between strangers.”

Her most recent work, which had been on display at the 2021 Graduate Degree Exhibition at Cranbrook Art Museum through mid-May, showcased this sensibility. A collection of mason jars was arranged on the museum wall in a circle, each filled with items from a person chosen by Bouldes. Visitors were able to remove the jars from the wall to investigate its contents. “The experience is you being confronted with this wall of mirrors, but then you’re invited to open a jar. It’s a completely immersive experience because you can smell things, touch them, feel different fabrics, read and find out about new people.”

Another recent performance-based piece involved inviting a small audience to observe a conversation between Bouldes and her great-grandparents in a secluded courtyard. “It’s this intimate moment between the living and the dead, ancestor and descendant,” she says. Bouldes feels this work is most successful when it’s able to create an internal change within the viewer. “I really want your first initial thoughts to create a shift, even if it’s an invisible shift.”

This summer, Bouldes will be presenting work with Library Street Collective for their exhibition with Art Mile Detroit. In the fall, she will be pursuing a teaching fellowship at the Milwaukee Institute of Art & Design. **B**

@morganbouldes
morganbouldes.com





The Jet Set

Perfect suitcase staples for everywhere easy, breezy and white sand beachy.

Andrea Iyamah

Mino Cocoa Bikini
\$165 • andraiyamah.com



Andrea Iyamah

Reni Dress
\$225 • andraiyamah.com



Lemlem

Neela Belted One Piece
\$250 • lemlem.com



Ashya

Palmetto Mini
\$425 • ashya.co

Undra Celeste

Bubble Crop Top
\$295 • undracelesteny.com



Christopher John Rogers

Satin Wide-leg Pants
\$795 (Net-a-Porter) • christopherjohnrogers.com



Diarrrablu

Umy Ben Jumpsuit
\$195 • diarrablu.com



Autumn Adeigbo

Maisie Dress
\$785 • autumnadeigbo.com



Undra Celeste

Peplum Bug Top
\$275 • undracelesteny.com



Brother Vellies

Burkina Slides
\$285 • brothervellies.com



Mateo

14kt Gold Turquoise Anklet
\$550 • mateonewyork.com

Hanifa

Gia Skirt
\$139 • hanifa.co



Jonathan Kish 2001

JUSTICE FOR ALL?

BY JOHN SLOAN III • ART BY JONATHAN KIMBLE

Last spring, a bang rang out in Minneapolis and reverberated the world over. Fast forward and Derek Chauvin is found guilty in the killing of George Floyd. We sighed, we rejoiced, we danced a little, but now what? What does true justice look like for Black America?

There are probably very few people in the world who don't know the name Derek Chauvin. The now convicted murderer has crafted an identity inextricable from his heinous acts. But how many of us know the name Brian Encinia, the Texas state trooper who arrested Sandra Bland? How many people know the names Betty Shelby, the officer who shot and killed Terence Crutcher; Joseph Weekley, the officer responsible for killing 7-year-old Aiyana Stanley-Jones; or Brett Hankison, the Louisville detective who shot Breonna Taylor?

Of the many reasons their names aren't as ubiquitous, the most impactful, perhaps, is the fact that none of them have actually been convicted in the deaths of these Black people. Data collected and analyzed by the Henry A. Wallace Police Crime Database, according to CNN, shows that of the 140 officers arrested on murder or manslaughter charges related to on-duty shootings since 2005, only seven (5%) were convicted of murder and only one-third were convicted of any charges at all.

For weeks, the trial of Chauvin occupied the headlines, commanding attention from news outlets across the world. And, for many, his conviction was cause for celebration. But should it have been? The murder of George Floyd is so present in our minds because we were able to watch it. There was seemingly irrefutable evidence of Chauvin's guilt. However, many of us still held our breaths, expecting a result more in alignment with this nation's history. Many of us prepared for the familiar inevitability of erasure, understanding that each time an officer is acquitted and allowed to remain unaccountable for their role in ending Black life, our nation is declaring a fervent belief

in our lack of value.

When Shelby, Encinia, Weekley and Hankison are allowed to remain free, it is an irrefutable statement on behalf of the government that the lives of Bland, Crutcher, Stanley-Jones and Taylor are deemed worthless. Or, at least, worth less than the necessary effort. And so, we rejoice in the small victories. We celebrate the outlying events, settling for the unfulfilling punishment of one man rather than the belated justice of an entire system.

I remember as a child watching the legendary Johnnie Cochran strut across the television screen. Whether contesting in the courtroom, advocating at a press conference or arguing in an interview, Cochran exuded an unabashed confidence, a belief in his ability to see justice done. An entire generation of Black youth grew up admiring this belief. We watched Cochran with awe. Unable to have seen Thurgood Marshall in action, we crafted Cochran into our generation's hero and used him as an entrance into the understanding of American justice.

We ran to the library and – yes, using the Dewey Decimal System – immersed ourselves in knowledge, learning the names Constance Baker Motley, Damon Keith, Barbara Jordan, Jane Bolin and Fred Gray. We devoured information, seeking an understanding of the intersection of legal advocacy and grassroots activism and wondering how to reconcile the ideologies of Malcolm X, W.E.B., Marcus Garvey and Dr. King. We embraced the belief that participation in the system was the pathway to reform and that reformation was the pathway to justice. We needed this to be true.

But now, after shouting sometimes seemingly into the wind, we have to ask ourselves: were we ►

“This system is not broken; it is functioning with the intent of those by whom it was built.”



JUSTICE FOR ALL?

wrong? Some individuals have, over the past few weeks, attempted to use Chauvin's conviction as a barometer of change, a predictor of progress. It has been suggested that this is a microcosm of the moment, a metric with which we can measure the arc of societal advancement. We know things are getting better because we can see it. "See!" These well-meaning individuals shout. "Chauvin was convicted. Things are improving. This wouldn't have happened before. Please let me know how I can hold space for you as you process your generational trauma."

For the recently woke, this conviction is a water-

how can we ever imagine an eventual loosening of the grip on our steering wheels? It is unfair to paint the picture that progress has been mute. We can clearly see the fruits of our ancestors' labor. But it is perhaps equally unfair to see this moment as a promise of equity. Incarceration is not accountability. Accountability, as a process, seeks a measure of reconciliation, offering a pathway to restoration – no matter how eventual.

So where do we go from here? For those of us that grew up with the expectation that we could reform this system of injustice, that perception has been shattered. You don't build a house on

present persistence of their oppression. In order to fundamentally shift the way we hold killers accountable, we must first all agree in the necessity of accountability.

That is what these words mean; they're a collective cultural cooperation in the seeking of equity, an agreement that restoration is preferable to incarceration, and that systems of safety are best defined by the most affected, marginalized communities. These concepts are not foreign to our culture. They aren't the scary screams of an unruly rabble. They are the cries of common decency, the acknowledgement that what we are

“And so, we rejoice in the small victories. We celebrate the outlying events, settling for the unfulfilling punishment of one man rather than the belated justice of an entire system.”

shed moment. Why then do we remain angry? Why are we not pacified? Black people across the country cringe every time we see police in our rearview mirror. Our heartbeats quicken and beads of sweat form at our temples. Regardless of whether or not we've done anything wrong, we hope that everything will be OK. We cross our fingers that the officer is in a good mood and won't react too quickly as we reach for our wallets. We send up prayers that we will get home alive.

The world watched as for nine minutes and 29 seconds one man ended the life of another. We all watched George Floyd die. And if this is what it took to convict his murderer, then it seems all our prayers are necessary. If this overwhelming tidal of evidence was required to bring Chauvin to a measure of accountability, then the fears of every Black mother are motivated. If this is what was needed to reach a semblance of justice, then

sand and wonder why it shakes. This system is not broken; it is functioning with the intent of those by whom it was built. This system uplifts those who share the identity of its designers, maintaining social hierarchy rather than creating equity. We need therefore to divorce ourselves from the idea that it can be reformed.

Names matter. Words are important. The words "abolition," "divestment," and "defund" have taken on lives of their own, their common cultural definitions still in process of becoming. The controversy inspired by their mere utterance rips across the headline of media outlets and causes arguments within communities. Disinformation mixes with mistruths, and clearly defined concepts become muddled. In order to *abolish* a system of inequity, a new structure of justice needs to be built in its place. In order to invest in an equitable future for our youth, we need to *divest* from the

doing now works to the benefit of some and the oppression of others.

When I was a child I embraced a wide-eyed idealism, a seemingly naive hope in the power of American justice. And maybe that childlike earnestness was not entirely misplaced. The conviction of George Floyd's murderer may very well prove to be a guidepost, a propelling moment in the ongoing quest for equity. Perhaps, once we are able to acknowledge the absurdity in its uniqueness, we can see in this moment the hope for who we can become. Perhaps we can use recent events as propulsion to a more just system. Perhaps, someday, we can truly overcome – if we're first willing to acknowledge that this moment is not enough. **B**

JOHN SLOAN III IS AN ARTIST AND CO-LEAD ORGANIZER FOR BLACK LIVES MATTER DETROIT.

A portrait of Patrice Brown, a Black woman with short dreadlocks, smiling. She is wearing a dark grey zip-up sweatshirt with an Eastern Market logo on the left chest. The background is a solid red color.

"Eastern Market is the heart of our food system."

I'm a third-generation shopper, fourth-generation Black farmer, & a third-generation leader in community food programs!

It will take multigenerational Detroiters to sustain our market."

- Patrice Brown

Patrice Brown is a lifelong Detroiters, a farmer, a founding member of Michigan's Food Security Council, & the Senior Food Access Manager at Eastern Market Partnership.



EASTERN MARKET
is my market.



Patrice Brown

GIVE YOUR
INBOX
SOMETHING
TO LOOK
FORWARD TO.



Sign up for BLAC® Fridays

Get all the latest on Black life, arts & culture with the BLAC® Fridays newsletter.

Enjoy exclusive content, weekly playlists and everything you need to get your weekend started.

Sign up now at BLACdetroit.com.

Your inbox will thank you.

BLAC®
Black Life, Arts & Culture

AROUND

The Way

ROAD TRIPPIN' ACROSS MICHIGAN AND HER NEIGHBORS

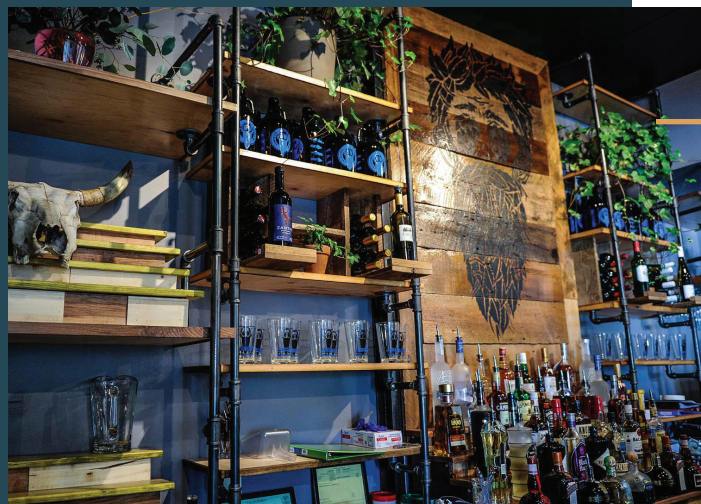
GRAND HOTEL
MACKINAC ISLAND,
MICHIGAN

IF WE'VE LEARNED ANYTHING OVER THIS PAST YEAR, IT'S THAT SIMPLE CAN BE JUST AS SPECIAL. SURE, WE'RE STILL LOOKING AHEAD TO THAT TWO-WEEK EUROPEAN VACAY, BUT IN THE MEANTIME AND LUCKILY FOR US, THERE'S NO SHORTAGE OF GEMS CLOSER TO HOME. ›

BY PARIS GILES



WHERE TO *grub*



HARMONY HALL

GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN

Dubbed Beer City, USA, you can't visit GR and not swing through a brewery. Add this "beer castle" opened in 2015 to your list. Enjoy house brews, sausages, burgers and more – sourced from local ingredients – in this boisterous, 100-year-old brick house modeled after a German beer hall.

harmonybeer.com

HEN QUARTER **B**

DUBLIN, OHIO

Elevated Southern food is the greatest marriage, where comfort meets spontaneity. Add handcrafted cocktails to the mix and you've got the perfect throuple. Join in at this Black-owned spot where tea smoked lamb chops, chicken and waffles, and a tower of seafood are on the dinner menu.

henquarterdublin.com



TEA'S ME CAFE INDY **B**

INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

Start your day of sightseeing off right with a hot cup of tea and a quick breakfast bite. This café has two locations owned by Olympic gold medalist Tamika Catchings and specializes in loose leaf tea including black, green, oolong, herbal and white. Get it by the mug or sign up for a subscription.

teasmeindy.com

ELEVEN ELEVEN **B**

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Rub elbows with the stylish crowd at this hip and trendy Black-owned restaurant and bar. Browse the extensive cocktail and wine list while you decide between elevated American fare like a 16-ounce bone-in ribeye, shrimp and grits, or roasted halibut.

elevenelevenchicago.com

SAN GIORGIO PIZZERIA NAPOLETANA

MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN

Looking for a meal that'll please the kids and the grandparents? Pizza is a cheesy and crispy crusted no brainer. This place boasts authentic Neapolitan pizza cooked in just 90 seconds in a 900-degree, wood-fired oven. Or go for other Italian classics like rotisserie chicken or tiramisu.



B BLACK-OWNED BUSINESS



WHERE TO *Rest*



GRAND HOTEL

MACKINAC ISLAND, MICHIGAN

After you've gorged yourself on fudge and soaked in the scenic views from the waterfront, retire at this accolade-draped historic hotel. This lodge has been checking in guests since 1887 and welcomes you to enjoy individually decorated sleeping rooms, golf, a spa and afternoon tea in the parlor.

grandhotel.com

RENAISSANCE CINCINNATI DOWNTOWN HOTEL

CINCINNATI, OHIO

Situated and stylish in the heart of downtown Cincinnati, and just minutes from key attractions, this boutique hotel offers onsite car rental and an award-winning restaurant.

marriott.com

LUXURIOUS DOWNTOWN CONDO AIRBNB

INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

If you need a place to crash during a girls' trip or family reunion, this three-bedroom, two-bedroom Airbnb sleeps nine and is being offered from a highly rated "superhost." It boasts a pool table, exposed brick, 20-foot ceilings and is walkable to downtown must-sees.

airbnb.com

DEER PATH INN

LAKE FOREST, ILLINOIS

Off the beaten path and 45 minutes north of Chicago, this lodge is chock-full of rustic charm. Named the No. 1 Midwest resort hotel by Travel + Leisure magazine, guests have been lounging in front of the property's fireplaces since 1929. After you wake in one of the English country estate-themed rooms, enjoy Sunday brunch in the English room.

thedeerpathinn.com

BEAUTIFUL BAY VIEW AIRBNB

MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN

Rent the upper level of this charming 1870s Polish flat in the heart of Bay View. It's the perfect getaway for two. Rented by a "superhost," it boasts plenty of light, eclectic art and an efficiency kitchenette, all just steps away from Milwaukee's best restaurants and shopping. ►





WHAT TO Do



AIR ZOO AEROSPACE & SCIENCE MUSEUM

PORTAGE, MICHIGAN

Young and grown-up science lovers alike will appreciate this interactive, educational museum just two hours from Detroit and halfway to Chicago. Make a day of learning about what makes an aircraft go, getting up close and personal with space artifacts, and testing your skills in flight simulators.

airzoo.org

NOSTALGIA WINE & JAZZ LOUNGE **B**

CINCINNATI, OHIO

This seductive spot recalls the heyday of Cincinnati's own Cotton Club of the 1940s and '50s. Uncork a bottle of red from one of the women- and minority-owned options in stock, and sit back and settle in for a series of live traditional and contemporary jazz sets happening three nights a week.

nostalgiaotr.com



CITY MARKET CATACOMBS

INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

If you like your holidays a little haunted, then walk the 20,000 square feet of passageways that wind beneath the city featuring brick archways and limestone columns belonging to Tomlinson Hall, a building opened in 1886 and destroyed by fire in 1958. Book a 30-minute tour of the dilapidated remains.

indianalandmarks.org

ABRAHAM LINCOLN PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY & MUSEUM

SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS

More than 50% larger than any other presidential library, this 200,000-square-foot complex built in 2005 includes archives, a library, museum, theater and galleries. View artifacts and get into immersive technologies that tell the story of the 16th president.

lincolnlibraryandmuseum.com



POTAWATOMI CASINO

MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN

Get lost in the lights, and the bells and whistles, as you try your luck at slots, blackjack, poker and bingo at the country's first off-reservation gaming operation and one of the Midwest's largest entertainment destinations.

paysbig.com

B BLACK-OWNED BUSINESS



NEXT TO *Nature*



TAHQUAMENON FALLS STATE PARK

PARADISE, MICHIGAN

Encompassing close to 50,000 acres and stretching across 13 miles of the Upper Peninsula, this park is home to the Tahquamenon River and its waterfalls. Camping is an option year-long if you'd like to see one of the largest waterfalls east of the Mississippi up close.

michigan.org

FOSSIL PARK

SYLVANIA, OHIO

Take it back, way back, and go on the hunt for fossils at one of only two prime Devonian era (416 million to 358 million years ago) sites on Earth. Nearly 375 million years ago Northern Ohio was a great sea teeming with life. Now, this park is rich in fossilized brachiopods, coral and more than 200 species of prehistoric life. Take home what you find, and also enjoy the bike and walking trails while you're there.

olanderpark.com

MARENGO CAVE

MARENGO, INDIANA

Camp, lodge and explore the caverns at Indiana's most visited natural attraction and a site on the U.S. National Natural Landmark list. Discover a wide variety of speleothems (cave formations) and a sophisticated ecosystem. When you emerge from the cool darkness, let the kids sift through the dirt and see if they can unearth any gemstones.

marengocave.com

CAMP ARAMONI

TONICA, ILLINOIS

Looking to get one with nature but not willing to give up your nighttime skin care routine? Then this soon-to-open glamping destination is for you. Launching this summer just 90 minutes south of Chicago, this is where nature meeting luxury. The campgrounds boast 96 acres of lavish safari-style tents with all the amenities of a hotel room, elevated cuisine and curated activities.

camparamoni.com

CAVE POINT KAYAK TOUR

DOOR COUNTY, WISCONSIN

Door County is nestled between Lake Michigan and Green Bay. A kayak makes for the perfect vehicle by which to explore the thousand-year-old cave systems and scenic waterways of Cave Point County Park and Whitefish Dunes State Park.

doorcountykayaktours.com **B**

PARIS GILES IS BLAC DETROIT'S
SENIOR EDITOR.



Ask the Expert

HEALTH ADVICE FROM ASCENSION MICHIGAN

How are minimally invasive procedures used to treat uterine fibroids?



Omar Zwain, M.D.

A range of options are available to treat and manage uterine fibroids, or noncancerous growths that form on the wall of the uterus and can cause pain, cramping, heavy bleeding and pressure. Ascension Medical Group physician Dr. Omar Zwain, a minimally invasive gynecologic and robotic surgeon, sees women who suffer severe fibroid symptoms and have not experienced relief from other therapies.

The most recommended and least risky procedure for women who may still want to become pregnant afterward is myomectomy, the surgical removal of fibroids from the uterus. “Minimally invasive myomectomy surgery is just as it sounds. It’s not as invasive or impactful as removing the uterus,” Dr. Zwain says. “Minimally Invasive Gynecologic Surgery describes a group of surgical techniques in which the doctor enters the abdomen through either small incisions or natural orifices. Usually, the surgeon views the inside of the body on a video screen. The most

common of these is a laparoscopy, which can be used for diagnostic or operational purposes.”

Dr. Zwain says the advancements in minimally invasive surgery are many and may allow the patient to avoid a hysterectomy, which is the removal of the uterus. “Overall, minimally invasive techniques produce fewer cases of incisional infection, less post-operative pain and blood loss. They typically lead to shorter hospital stays as well. Though any procedure can have side effects and complications we can’t account for,” he says.

Treatment for and the symptoms of fibroids can vary, but so too can the types of fibroids. Submucosal fibroids, which grow inside the uterine cavity, require a hysteroscopic procedure generally. Subserosal fibroids grow outside the uterus and can be attached to the uterus directly or by a thin stalk; those need a myomectomy, for instance.

“No one can walk into an office and say ‘I think I have fibroids,’ and we know exactly what to do for them right away,” Dr. Zwain says.

“The most recent treatment we’ve found that still counts as minimally invasive would be laparoscopic ultrasound-guided surgery in which we use an ablation device to shrink fibroid tissue. Pregnancy isn’t recommended after for most women, but it’s possible. So, it’s really best to know your own situation and

might seem easy to diagnose yourself at home, but women don’t experience the same symptoms. Heavy bleeding is more common than abdominal pressure, for example.” Ascension Michigan now has its own center specifically dedicated to the diagnosis and treatment of fibroids and other gynecologic conditions, the first of its kind in metro Detroit.

“Overall, minimally invasive techniques produce fewer cases of incisional infection, less post-operative pain and blood loss. They typically lead to shorter hospital stays as well.”

narrow down what would work best with your doctor.”

With most other conditions, the earlier treatment is sought the better. Fibroids are no different. A quicker diagnosis makes the possibility of minimally invasive surgery more likely, Dr. Zwain says. “It

Dr. Zwain helped found the center and serves as a core specialist team member. He says, “Establishing a focus on fibroids and other issues like ovarian cysts and endometriosis lets us develop new and more innovative ways to relieve women of these symptoms while also keeping their personal concerns in mind.”



Good COMPANY

Whether your style is weekly soul food Sundays or one epic end-of-season blowout, hosting friends and family is synonymous with summertime. Does it get much better than laughing and chitchatting through sticky days that turn to crisp nights?

BY PARIS GILES • PHOTOS BY LAUREN JEZIORSKI



Certain songs are hangout staples. Find our curated playlist at [BLACdetroit.com/GoodCompany](https://blacdetroit.com/goodcompany).





The foliage provided by plant boutique **Leaf Me** made for the perfect backdrop.



The DÉCOR

Presentation is key.

The place mats, napkins, candleholders and trivets were procured from Black-owned, socially conscious online marketplace **GOODEE**.

- ① Jipi Plate Mats by Ames
- ② Candle Holders by Léa and Nicholas
- ③ Congolese Napkins by Siafu Home
- ④ Stone Trivet by Graf Lantz





The DRINKS

This Tipsy Mermaid
Punch is equal parts
fizzy and festive.

You'll need:

- Ice
- ½ cup Blue Curaçao
- ¼ cup Midori
- 1 bottle of prosecco (or champagne)
- 1 ½ cup pineapple juice
- 1 cup light rum
- 2 cans seltzer water
- Pineapple wedges, for garnish
- Maraschino cherries, for garnish

Fill a large punch bowl or beverage dispenser with ice, then pour over Blue Curaçao and Midori. Top with prosecco, pineapple juice, rum and seltzer. Stir to combine. Make skewers of pineapple and cherries as garnish for your guests' glasses. Toss what's left over in the punch.

PARTY TRICK!

For a virgin version for the kids, nix the rum, replace the prosecco with Sprite, and the Blue Curaçao and Midori with blue and green Hawaiian Punch.

All the buzz

FIND MORE BLAC
HAPPY HOUR
RECIPES AT BLACDETROIT.COM



THE *menu*

Our spread courtesy of
Beans & Cornbread was made
with a whole lot of love and
plenty of soul.

Salmon croquettes with grilled portobello
mushrooms with a roasted red pepper sauce

Grilled pork rib tips glazed with housemade
barbecue sauce

Jerk-style grilled whole chicken wings

Whole fried chicken wings

Vegan sloppy Joes

Baked mac and cheese

Coleslaw

Sautéed green beans, onions and peppers

Sweet potato muffins

Skillet cornbread

Old fashioned peach cobbler





Looking for a
new weeknight
favorite? Head to
[BLACdetroit.com/
GoodCompany](https://BLACdetroit.com/GoodCompany)
for Beans & Cornbread's
Harlem Burrito recipe.



The SWEETS

Whether Oreos are your thing or if you're all about the gummies, an interactive sundae bar is sure to be a hit with the kids – and adults.

PARTY TRICK!

Add salt to your ice bath to ensure that it keeps the ice cream cold all party long.



THE Games

#CultureTags

This promises hours of fun for your multigenerational family. Think you know the culture? Prove it. Grab a card, show your team the acronym and try to get them to guess the phrase without saying it. Categories include: Black Twitter, Church, Daily Sayings, Family & Friends, Songs & Lyrics, TV & Film, and Words to Live By.

We all know and love the hangout classics, but why not incorporate a few new, Black-centric games into the rotation – for the culture?

Rhyme Antics

Are you nice on the mic? Showcase your skills with this hip-hop vocabulary game that allows you to engage in a battle of words and wits. Take turns freestyling lyrics that end with a word that rhymes with the word at play.

Black Card Revoked

Here's another game that's meant to test your cultural knowledge. Choose from one of five editions. Surely you can answer the questions on these cards, like, "Approximately how long did Sophia have to fight?"



PARTY TRICK!

Take it to the grass for Yard Yahtzee. For a DIY element that the kids will love, help them paint or decorate the game bucket. Or if you want to go all out, the dice are DIY-able, too. Instructions are easy to find on YouTube and elsewhere online.



Photos by Lauren Jeziorski • Décor styling by Kelly Buren and Katie Sachs-Howard

Credits

FOOD

Beans & Cornbread

29508 Northwestern Highway, Southfield
248-208-1680
beansandcornbread.com

DÉCOR

GOODEE

goodeeworld.com

Target

target.com

Leaf Me

leafme.co

HomeGoods

homegoods.com

GUESTS ▶

A special thanks to our homeowners Loretta Davis-Bush and Ron Bush for hosting us at their stunning West Bloomfield home. Also pictured, from left in above photo:

Ly'Kenda Marshall
Hayden Connelly
Paris Giles
Ron Bush
Rita Giles
Salone Jackson
Loretta Davis-Bush
Houston Marshall

Anthony Jackson
Phillip Foster
Danny Foster
Evon Foster
Faith Foster
Rebekah Sharpe
Carlton Hardaway

Safe Options for Fall 2021

At Detroit Public Schools Community District, we have safely reopened our schools and are offering families support in navigating options for the 2021-22 school year. Whether enrolling in an outstanding neighborhood school or applying to a specialty examination or application school, we are preparing for your rise!

ENROLL TODAY

detroitk12.org/enroll • (313) 240-4377
Text RISETODAY to 22999

DPSCD does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, age, religion, height, weight, citizenship, marital or family status, military status, ancestry, genetic information, or any other legally protected category, in its educational programs and activities, including employment and admissions. Questions? Concerns? Contact the Civil Rights Coordinator at (313) 240-4377 or dpdcd-compliance@detroitk12.org or 3011 West Grand Boulevard, 14th Floor, Detroit, MI 48202.



**STUDENTS RISE.
WE ALL RISE.**



Leaf *your life*



THE PLANT SHOP
THAT HELPS YOU GROW

Introducing **Growth Elixir**

100% Plant Based  Made in Detroit
Contains NO Animal Products

**We are proud to be the first
Black owned plant fertilizer in existence!**

Leafme

For more information please visit our website
www.leafme.co

access

DETROIT | JUNE 2021

The city prepares to do Juneteenth up right

JUNETEENTH FAMILY REUNION

CATALPA OAKS, SOUTHFIELD

Join this third annual celebratory event featuring giveaways, food trucks, music and local Black-owned vendors.

Saturday, June 19, 8 a.m.-8 p.m.
juneteenthfamreunion.org

HAMTRAMCK'S JUNETEENTH CLEANUP

SARAH GARRETT PARK, HAMTRAMCK

Help prepare the park for a monument unveiling happening later in the month.

Saturday, June 19, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
facebook.com/events

JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION OF FREEDOM ART EXPO

ZAB CULTURAL COLLECTIVE, DETROIT

Discover and celebrate local artists and artisans.

Saturday, June 19, noon-5 p.m.
zabcultural.com

JUNETEENTH JUBILEE STROLL

AVENUE OF FASHION, LIVERNOIS, DETROIT

Support Black-owned businesses and take advantage of special deals, swag bags and more.

Saturday, June 19, noon-6 p.m.
eventbrite.com



LEFT:

Miss Juneteenth Film

BOTTOM:

Juneteenth Family Reunion

RIGHT:

Juneteenth Celebration of Freedom Art Expo



JUNETEENTH POP-UP SHOP

SHEPHERD PARK, OAK PARK

Entrepreneurs, business owners, chefs and artists are invited to network. Discover new Black-owned businesses, and enjoy food and entertainment.

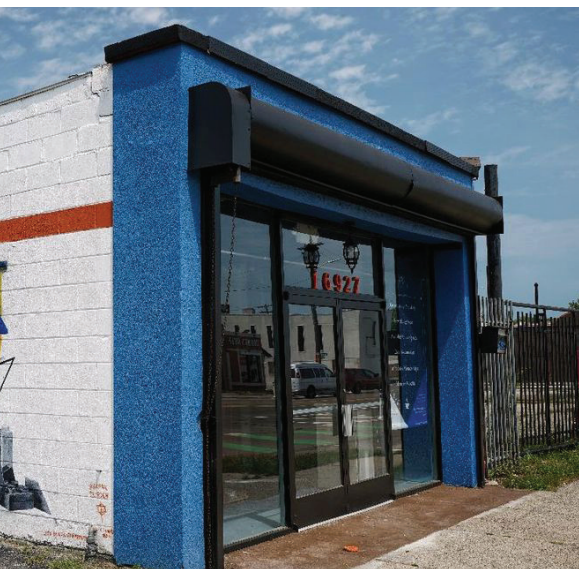
Saturday, June 19, 3:30-7 p.m.
eventbrite.com

MISS JUNETEENTH FILM

NEW CENTER PARK, DETROIT

A former beauty queen and single mom prepares her rebellious teenage daughter for the "Miss Juneteenth" pageant.

Wednesday, June 23, 8 p.m. (film at dusk)
newcenterpark.com **B**



BLACdetroit.com

Enroll Now for the 2021-2022 In-Person School Year!

Loyola High School Detroit. A Catholic High School in the Jesuit Tradition.

Celebrating 11 Consecutive Years of 100% College Acceptance!



Men for Others. Men for Detroit.

For information contact Admissions Director Mr. Paul Davis at pdavis@loyolahsdetroit.org or call 313-861-2407, ext. 510



We've got more! Rock a BLAC T-shirt or hoodie and remind everyone everywhere that you honor Black Life, Arts and Culture. Available in men and women's cuts and sizes.

SHOP.BLACDETROIT.COM

Bert's Open Mic Comedy

On a Friday night in late April, we caught up with folks enjoying a laugh and a good time at Bert's Warehouse Theatre's open mic comedy show.



Lazar Favors, Mike Bonner



Mike Bonner



Foolish



Dashawn Cooper, Nate Tillman



Stacey Oakes, James Oakes



Brian Covington



Brian Covington, Marvin Dixon, Foolish

Find Your Fit



Busted Bra Shop offers seasoned, full-service, professional fittings to help you find your fit!



We carry intimates in sizes XXX-XXX, bras in band sizes 28-56, and cup sizes AA-D.



At Busted Bra Shop, we strive to make everyone who walks into our stores feel welcomed, included and comfortable.



Shop online at bustedbrashop.com
or book an appointment to come in!

14401 S. JEFFERSON AVE.
Des Moines, IA 50315
515.288.0099

CHILLIC PLACE, GROUND FLOOR
3044 W. Grand Blvd.
Cleveland, OH 44102
216.835.0078

3340 WASHINGTON AVE.
Ann Arbor, MI 48104
734.766.4040

1813 W. B. ROAD, ST.
Chicago, IL 60645
773.452.8878

134 N. MAIN
Village of Bushong Hills
Next to Chip's n' Pop
Whole Foods Market



PRESENTED VIRTUALLY



VIEW EXHIBITION at dia.org/dpscd2021

The 84th Detroit Public Schools Community District Student Exhibition is organized by the Detroit Institute of Arts and the Detroit Public Schools Community District. This exhibition is made possible by the generous support of the Ruth T.T. Cattell Education Endowment Fund.

Left: Donald Calloway, *Stuck in the Lines (Beta II)*, digital art, Grade 10, Cass Technical High School, Teacher: Natalie Barnosek.
Right: Hana Woodberry, *In My Eyes (detail)*, drawing, Grade 9, Cass Technical High School, Teacher: Natalie Barnosek.

