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## City of San Diego Public Library Celebrates Black History Month

UPCOMING EVENTS INCLUDE CREATIVE WORKS CONTEST, VIRTUAL AND IN-PERSON PROGRAMS FOR ALL AGES

SAN DIEGO – This month the San Diego Public Library (SDPL) is celebrating the history and achievements of Black Americans with a full schedule of programs and events at several library locations and online. The library's Black History Month programming includes a creative works contest for school-aged students, author talks, virtual and in-person storytimes for children, take-home craft kits and recommended readings.

"We're inviting our patrons and all San Diegans to learn about the history, achievements and stories of Black Americans," said Library Director Misty Jones. "Whether it's attending a thoughtprovoking author talk, creating a piece of art that celebrates Black history or picking up a recommended read, there are many ways to explore the contributions Black Americans have made throughout history."

As part of the celebration, SDPL is holding a creative works<u>contest</u> for young people. Students in grades four through 12 are encouraged to showcase their talent and creativity by submitting an essay, poem, song, artwork or other creative work that represents a Black historical figure or events in Black American history. Every student who enters will receive a gift.

SDPL will also host an in-person event with Heather McGhee, author of "The Sum of Us: What Racism Costs Everyone and How We Can Prosper Together." The event is a collaboration with the University of San Diego. The author will discuss the ramifications of racism, the ripple effect it has for everyone in society and how people can achieve great things by working together.

- <u>The Sum of Us An Evening with Heather McGhee</u>.
  - o Monday, Feb. 28, at 6:30 p.m.
  - Event hosted at San Diego Central Library and via live stream.

To register for the author event and for more information on the library's Black History Month program and recommended reading, visit the SDPL Black History Month <u>web page</u>.

## About the San Diego Public Library

With a vision of being the place for opportunity, discovery and inspiration, the San Diego Public Library is a hub for knowledge and lifelong learning. As the largest library system in the region, it serves a population of more than 1.4 million people. Learn about events at the San Diego Central Library @ Joan A Irwin Jacobs Common and 35 community branch libraries, find links to programs and resources or search for materials in the online catalog at www.sandiegolibrary.org.