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BOSTON, January 26, 2011 – This February, the Greater Boston Convention & Visitors Bureau (GBCVB) encourages visitors to choose from an impressive sampling of performances, tours and special events, and celebrate Black History Month in Boston! Visitors to BostonUSA.com, Boston's official website for visitors, can search the

[Calendar of Events](#)

and find the following:

- **Guided Visit of the Museum of the NCAAA on the Eve of Black History Month:** The National Center of Afro-American Artists (NCAAA) fosters and presents the finest in contemporary, visual and performing arts from the global Black world. The museum presents a wide range of historical and contemporary exhibitions in many media, including painting, sculpture, graphics, photography and decorative arts. Tour the museum with Director E. Barry Gaither, hear of the building's history and of the current exhibitions.

Saturday, January 29, 1pm-3pm. Meet at the Museum of the NCAAA, 300 Walnut Ave, Roxbury, at 12:50pm. \$5. Details 617-417-1006 or

<http://www.discoverroxbury.org>

- **"Treasures" Exhibition at the Museum of African American History:** Treasures from the Collections is an enlightening glimpse into the collections of the Museum of African American History and fascinating early African American domestic, cultural and activist life in New England. The Museum has gathered over 3,500 items in its diverse collections: narratives of the formally enslaved James Williams published in 1838 and in narratives of Frederick Douglass published in 1845; formal photographic portraits by Hamilton Sutton Smith; works by African American women sculptors, Edmonia Lewis, Meta Warrick Fuller and Elizabeth Catlett; hand-crafted and porcelain black dolls; and marvelous art from Haitian to Allan Crite's vibrant painting of Smith Court on Beacon Hill.

Museum of African American History, Joy Street, Boston throughout February 2011,
www.afroammuseum.org

- **Roxbury's Black History Trolley Tour, February 12, 2011:** Boston's Black community has been on the move politically, socially, and artistically for centuries. Once centered in the North End, the community moved to Beacon Hill, the South End, and then the highlands of Roxbury. Join fellow travelers on an informative trolley tour through three centuries of Boston's historic Black neighborhoods. Follow the progression of the Black churches, gain an appreciation for the importance of the arts, learn about the struggles during the civil rights movement and become more familiar with the movers, shakers, and strivers in Boston's Black

history. Children under 10 ride free, with a limit of one child per paying adult. Tickets can be reserved by calling the Discover Roxbury office at 617-427-1006. Reservations recommended.

Trolley tour pick up locations: Roxbury Heritage State Park/DCR, 183 Roxbury St. at 12:30 pm and Hotel 140, 140 Clarendon St., Boston at 12:50pm. Tickets are available at 617-417-1006 or

www.discoverroxbury.org.

- Boston's Villa Victoria Center for the Arts Black History Month Performances & Brunch
February 5, 2011: Villa Victoria will celebrate Black History Month with the joyous sounds of outstanding youth and community groups, this exciting intercultural and all-ages event will feature a special performance by Gospel and R&B sensation Ayana McDonald .
Villa Victoria Center for the Arts, 85 W. Newton St, Boston. Details (617) 927-1707 or
www.villavictoriaarts.org

- John F. Kennedy Presidential Library & Museum Celebrates Black History Month:
International storyteller Valerie Tutson shares tales adapted from African myths and songs, and African-American history. Some stories are filled with magic, others are filled with hope, and all will excite your imagination.
February 22, 2011, John F. Kennedy Presidential Library & Museum, Columbia Point, Boston, MA.
www.jfklibrary.org

Berklee College of Music Berklee Performance Center concerts during Black History Month:

- Richard Smallwood February 3, 2011. Six-time Grammy Award-winner and Gospel Music Hall of Fame inductee Smallwood will perform with Berklee's gospel choir The concert is produced by Africana Studies students and faculty, led by Bill Banfield, director of Africana Studies.

- Wayne Shorter Quartet February 8, 2011. Wayne Shorter's continually expanding body of work is inextricably linked to the history of modern music. Regarded as one of the most significant and prolific performers and composers in jazz, Shorter has received substantial recognition from his peers, including 6 Grammy Awards.

- **The Spiritual Song with John Blake Quartet and Afro Blue February 10, 2011.** The John Blake Quartet and Howard University's Afro Blue alumni explore the spiritual song.

- **Night of Soul with the Neo-Soul Ensemble and Guests. February 14, 2011.** The Berklee Harmony Department presents GUIT(h)ARmony, a concert featuring the work of its four faculty guitarists: Eric Byers, Steve Kirby, Steve Rochinski, and John Stein. Each of these fine musicians has a distinctive approach to composition, improvisation, and the guitar and will lead his own group consisting of Harmony faculty members and guests in original works and arrangements.

- **Caribbean Songs February 17, 2011,** The music of African American Composers will be featured. Come and hear Berklee's Steel Pan Ensemble, the Afro-Cuban Ensemble, and the Bob Marley Ensemble.

- **Blues at the Crossroads: The Robert Johnson Centennial Concerts February 18, 2011** . The Robert Johnson Centennial Concerts features Big Head Todd and the Monsters, David "Honeyboy" Edwards, Hubert Sumlin, Cedric Burnside, and Lightnin' Malcolm.

- **Remembering the Legendary Miss Lena Horne February 22, 2011.** Miss Lena Horne was America's first International superstar of African descent, who was a trailblazer in film, music, and human and civil rights. Berklee faculty, students, and staff—along with special guest the incredible Jo Thompson from Detroit—will star in an elegant evening of dance, song, and spoken word as we pay homage to Miss Lena Horne. Miss Lena Horne was America's first International superstar of African descent who was a trailblazer in film, music, and human and civil rights. Her dignity, courage, pride, and talent influenced many who came after her. Berklee faculty, students, and staff—along with special guest the incredible Jo Thompson from Detroit—will star in an elegant evening of dance, song, and spoken word as we pay homage to Miss Lena Horne. The tribute will consist of an all star big band concert on February 22, a clinic with Thompson, and a panel discussion featuring Berklee veteran faculty who will recount their stories of working as musicians during this turbulent period in American history.

- **Bobby McFerrin February 24, 2011** Bobby McFerrin performs an improvisational concert with students as part of Berklee's Africana Studies program. Ten-time Grammy Award–winner Bobby McFerrin is best known for his 1988 hit song "Don't Worry, Be Happy." His sound has been described as superhuman, demonstrating matchless improvisational skills. This concert is a culmination of a weeklong residency. Bobby McFerrin performs an improvisational concert with students as part of Berklee's Africana Studies program. Ten-time Grammy Award–winner Bobby McFerrin is best known for his 1988 hit song "Don't Worry, Be Happy." His sound has been described as superhuman, demonstrating matchless improvisational skills. This concert is a culmination of a week-long residency.

- **Jetro Da Silva: The Secular Meets the Sacred February 28, 2011.** After a long world tour with Whitney Houston, faculty pianist Jetro da Silva returns to the stage, but this time, celebrating his 43rd birthday in The Secular Meets the Sacred: My Life Story. He will perform some of his favorite compositions by J.S. Bach, Andrae Crouch, Djavan, José Maurício Nunes Garcia, Villa-Lobos, and others. Da Silva will be joined by the Berklee Jazz/World String Orchestra conducted by Eugene Friesen, plus many surprise guests from the music business. Don't miss this spiritual and emotional experience.

Berklee Performance Center, 136 Massachusetts Avenue, Boston. <http://www.berkleebpc.com>

Additional events and activities as well as tips on visiting and Great Deals! can be found on the Greater Boston Convention & Visitors Bureau's official website, www.BostonUSA.com

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