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Woods Hole Black History Month Events Showcase Science, Local History, and a Feast

"Hallowed Grounds: Sites of African American Memories" is the national theme for 2016 Black History Month activities. In Woods Hole, events will be held February 1 and 18, with the annual Harambee on February 25. All events are free and open to the public and will be held at the Marine Biological Laboratory (MBL) in Woods Hole.

On Monday, February 1, Derrick Z. Jackson, author, photographer and contributing columnist at the Boston Globe, will present "Project Puffin: The Improbable Quest to Bring a Beloved Seabird Back to Egg Rock" at noon in the Meigs Room at the MBL's Swope Center.

Jackson has been a columnist and contributing columnist at the Boston Globe since 1988. He was a 2001 finalist for the Pulitzer Prize in commentary, a two-time winner of opinion awards from the Education Writers Association, and is a 9-time winner of writing awards from the National Association of Black Journalists. His photographs from Barak Obama's presidential campaign were exhibited in 2010 by Boston's Museum of African American History. In 2013 his images of Obama, wildlife and landscapes earned an exhibit at Harvard University's Graduate School of Education.

Jackson is co-author with Dr. Stephen W. Kress of the recent book, "Project Puffin: The Improbable Quest to Bring a Beloved Seabird Back to Egg Rock." Jackson also took images for the book, which recounts Kress' quest to bring puffins back to an abandoned nesting colony on Maine's Egg Rock. The last puffins disappeared from that site around 1885. Signed copies of the book and photographs by Jackson will be available for purchase at the event.

On Thursday, February 18, Richard Taylor will discuss "Woods Hole and Martha's Vineyard: Civil Rights Front Line" at noon in the Meigs Room at MBL's Swope Center. An author, executive in residence, and director of Suffolk University's Sawyer Business School, Taylor writes about African Americans who have made dreams come true. He is author of the forthcoming book, "Martha's Vineyard: Race, Property, and the Power of Place." An article adapted from the book, entitled "A Shared Vineyard Vision: Harry Burleigh, Luella Coleman and the Rise of an African American Summer Colony," was written for the Dukes County Intelligencer, a publication of the Martha's Vineyard Museum.

Harambee, an annual ethnic potluck feast celebrating everyone of every race, will be held on Thursday, February 25. Multicultural arts, food and entertainment will take place at 4:00 p.m. at MBL's Swope Center.

Woods Hole Black History Month events are sponsored by the Marine Biological Laboratory, National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA's Northeast Fisheries Science Center), U.S. Geological Survey Woods Hole Coastal and Marine Science Center, Woods Hole Research Center, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, and Sea Education Association.

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Related links:

Woods Hole Black History Month Activities (pdf flyer):

Association for the Study of African American Life and History: <http://asalh100.org/>

Woods Hole Diversity Advisory Committee: <http://www.woodsholediversity.org/>