

Black History Month

February 2023

The month of February has received national recognition as Black History Month. In 2017 the Boulder Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) was established in Boulder with the purpose of promoting civic engagement, eradicating racial prejudice and eliminating racial discrimination in education, employment, housing, and civil rights.

The Boulder County Branch of the NAACP is celebrating its annual Freedom Fund, a long-standing tradition that brings together NAACP members and community supporters to raise funds to support the operations of our local Branch. The Boulder County Branch of the NAACP is dedicated to upholding the mission of equality and justice for all as championed by the NAACP since its founding in 1909. Educating and fostering a sense of community, inclusive and respectful of all, is needed to effect understanding and facilitate positive change.

The Arts have always been an important expression of Black Culture, shared and emulated worldwide. African-American musicians are underrepresented in formal ensembles, despite a deep musical tradition, including aerophones --flutes, reeds pipes, trumpets and horns, rooted in the bounty of the African Landscape. The Boulder County Branch of the NAACP is honored to extend an invitation to all to attend a performance by the premier Nashville African American Wind Symphony, an ensemble comprised of 65 Black Musicians, Music Educators, and Professionals on February 19th, 2023, during the annual Freedom Fund, at Macky Auditorium on the University of Colorado's Boulder campus.

If you are looking for other ways to celebrate, the First United Methodist Church invites the community to a free event on February 4 which includes a full day of Music and Guest Panels ending with a Soul Food Dinner.

In another part of the city with our university partners, we congratulate Dr. Reiland Rabaka and everyone who worked to establish the University of Colorado Boulder's new Center for African and African American Studies (CAAAS), which celebrates its grand opening on February 1. The mission of CAAAS is to research, promote, preserve, interpret, and disseminate knowledge about the histories, cultures, and arts of Africa, African Americans, and the wider world of the African diaspora.

We, the City Council of the City of Boulder, Colorado declare February 2023 as

**Black History Month:
Uplifting the Community Through the World of Art**



Aaron Brockett, Mayor

