The origins of Black History Month

Most people are familiar with the idea of Black History Month, yet few would be able to describe how this annual celebration came to be. It turns out that this celebration is not a novel concept, as seeds of this event were planted during the beginning of the 20th century.

The foundation of Black History Month was laid in September 1911, when Harvard-educated historian Carter G. Woodson and minister Jesse E. Moorland founded an organization dedicated to researching and supporting the achievements of African-Americans. The organization, now known as the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH), first sponsored a Negro History Week in 1926. The idea for the event came to Woodson when he became disturbed by the underrepresentation of African-Americans in educational literature.

Having earned two degrees in history, Woodson knew that African Americans had a greater impact on American history than students were led to believe. His Negro History Week was intended to bring attention to the issue and improve history curricula.

The first Negro History Week was planned for the second week of February in order to correlate with the birthdays of Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln. Negro History Week caught on and inspired communities across the nation to organize their own black history clubs. Subsequently, city mayors began to issue yearly proclamations recognizing Negro History Week.

Encouraged by the civil rights movement of the 1960s, the event evolved into Black History Month on numerous college campuses. In 1976 President Gerald Ford recognized Black History Month as a national observance. Since then, every U.S. president has decreed February as Black History Month and announced the year’s theme. The Black History Month theme for 2017 is “The Grains of Black Education.”

During this month, Americans can take the time to recognize the significant contributions African-Americans have made to our society. Hopefully, we can lift up Carter Woodson’s hopes by keeping the conversation going and continuing to seek new knowledge.

**LIVESTREAM:** SG CANDIDATES’ DEBATE

**SPORTS:** Siros’ leadership underlines Cocks’ charge into SECHC playoffs

**Black History Month Events**

**Taylor Evans**

You're invited to celebrate Black History Month, but you don't know what's going on? Arts and Culture writer, Taylor Evans, compiled a list of Black History Month events in Columbia to help you open your eyes.

Black History Month presents an opportunity to learn more about the achievements of African-Americans and acknowledge their triumphs in the face of adversity. There are a lot of events occurring both on and off campus that students can attend. Events range from discussions to live performances, so there is something for everyone if you want to help start planning how you are going to celebrate Black History Month.

**Feb. 6**

*Human Family* 7:30 p.m., Eau Claire High School, 4800 Mounts Road

*Human Family* is an event featuring performances from the USC Gospel Choir, Richard Green’s Roy Hart and Steel, and Brookland Baptist Church. Tickets are $5, or free with ASALH membership.

**Feb. 7**

*Association of African American Homes* 6:30 p.m., Russell House Theater, 1830 Main St.

This event hosted by AAAS will involve a discussion of African-American history at the University of South Carolina.

**Feb. 8**

*Poetry Slam: We Wear the Mask* 7–9 p.m., Russell House Theater, 1830 Main St.

*Artrekkers* will have the opportunity to share experiences of “double-consciousness” and reflect on poetry performances. There will be music, poetry and performance readings.

**Feb. 9**

*Exploring Subcultures and Dance* 7 p.m., Russell House Theater, 1830 Main St.

Leisha Williams will display a collection of African-American Stories and discuss South Carolina’s involvement in the Civil Right’s Movement.

**Feb. 9**

*Jonathan Green and the Divine 9* 7 p.m., RH Ballroom, 1830 Main St.

The Divine 9 will highlight their triumphs in the face of adversity. There are a lot of events open to students.

**Feb. 10**

*Human Family* 7:30 p.m., Eau Claire High School, 4800 Mounts Road

*Human Family* is an event featuring performances from the USC Gospel Choir, Richard Green’s Roy Hart and Steel, and Brookland Baptist Church. Tickets are $5, or free with ASALH membership.

*February Specials: Black History Month in Columbia* 6 p.m., RH Ballroom, 1830 Main St.

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**Feb. 10**

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*Human Family* is an event featuring performances from the USC Gospel Choir, Richard Green’s Roy Hart and Steel, and Brookland Baptist Church. Tickets are $5, or free with ASALH membership.

**Feb. 11**

*Back II Black* 7 p.m., Brookland Baptist Church, 1830 Main St.

This OMSA event involves highlights members of its constituency as they explore the Afro-Latino culture. The organization will feature cultural elements that are important to the organization.

**Feb. 12**

*American Heritage Sites Resting Places: An African American Stories* 6 p.m., Richland Library Main, 3801 Main St.

Visitors can enjoy songs, stories, and more related to the African American experience.

**Feb. 15**

*Carving Civil Rights* 6 p.m., Richland Library Main

This event will include a screening of the Netflix documentary that examines the topics of the American prison system and the criminalization of Blacks in the US.

**Feb. 17**

*Capturing Civil Rights* 6 p.m., Richland Library Main

This event will include a screening of the Netflix documentary that examines the topics of the American prison system and the criminalization of Blacks in the US.

**Feb. 18**

*Carving Civil Rights* 6 p.m., Richland Library Main

This event will include a screening of the Netflix documentary that examines the topics of the American prison system and the criminalization of Blacks in the US.

**Feb. 19**

*Carving Civil Rights* 6 p.m., Richland Library Main

This event will include a screening of the Netflix documentary that examines the topics of the American prison system and the criminalization of Blacks in the US.

**Feb. 20**

*Empower: Can you be Black and Latina?* 6:30 a.m., The Intersection: Multicultural Student Lounge, 1830 Main St.

This OMSA event explores the Afro-Latino identity and what it means for their individuals.

**Feb. 21**

*AASAA meeting: Colorism* 6 p.m., Russell House Theater, 1830 Main St.

This event is an opportunity to discuss the impact on the black community.

**Feb. 22**

*Back II Black* 6 p.m., Brookland Baptist Church, 1830 Main St.

This OMSA event involves highlights members of its constituency as they explore the Afro-Latino culture and identity and what it means for their individuals.

**Feb. 23**

*American Heritage Sites Resting Places: An African American Stories* 6 p.m., Richland Library Main

Visitors can enjoy songs, stories, and more related to the African American experience.

**Feb. 25**

*Back II Black* 6 p.m., Brookland Baptist Church, 1830 Main St.

This OMSA event involves highlights members of its constituency as they explore the Afro-Latino culture and identity and what it means for their individuals.

**Feb. 25**

*American Heritage Sites Resting Places: An African American Stories* 6 p.m., Richland Library Main

Visitors can enjoy songs, stories, and more related to the African American experience.
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**“I’m not talking politics at all.”**

— Tom Brady in response to his and the Patriots' close association with President Donald Trump

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**“WE WANT ZION!”**

— U of SC fans chanted towards 5-star recruit Zion Williamson who was at Colonial Life Arena on visit Saturday
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Cops discovered a student with a backpack containing an entire portable beer pong game complete with 13 red Solo cups, two ping pong balls and a bottle of Captain Morgan. They were responding to a verbal fight at Woodrow College Saturday when they noticed the suspicious bag that also contained 4.7 grams of marijuana and rolling papers. The student told the officer the backpack was not his and he didn’t know what was inside. Even so the ‘party on the go’ landed him with a minor in possession and simple possession of marijuana citation.

One student just couldn’t shell out the approximately $10 for his protein bars and instead stole them. A male took three Quest bars from the Russell House Barnes and Noble Monday morning and left without paying. Staff provided officers with an image of the shoplifter, but did not identify him. For all the trouble the thief caused, I hope they were at least S’mores flavored.

An intoxicated male ended his Saturday night early when he was observed around 5 pm banging his head against the wall in the Cliff Apartments elevator. The RM led police to his room where he was lying in his bed surrounded by vomit. The student told them he had six beers and four shots earlier at Columbia Hall and he believed he was still there during the entire incident. Unclear whether the excessive alcohol consumption or banging of his head caused the confusion. They don’t just call it ‘Green’ Quad because its dedication to environmentally friendly practices and sustainability. Police were advised of a drug complaint early Monday morning at the dorm. The smell of marijuana was evident and when police entered the room the residents directed them to their room mates door where the odor was coming from. She admitted to smoking prior to their arrival, but the cops didn’t find anything incriminating other than a single bottle of Heineken, a bowl and a grinder.
New Brookland Tavern is traveling back to 2007 on Saturday, Emo Night — a monthly event that celebrates the sunny serenade and overly straightened hair of the emo genre — will be held on Feb. 11 at New Brookland Tavern.

“People love nostalgia, because our last live event was in 2007,” said Jenna Schiferl, the organizer, said of Emo Night’s popularity. “We were ‘Devil’s Carnival,’ ’Easton Rat’ at Prom Night,’ and so it’s a throwback to all the emo glam station featuring plenty of {Zoe Nicholson}

Although no live performances are scheduled yet, the stage is open for guests to belt out the lyrics to ‘Dear Diary, Count Me In’ or ‘Oh Is for Loves.’ Other prom posters will be stapled all over New Brookland to give the full prom experience (along with the existential crises)

Cheery prom photos, roses and an emo glam station featuring plenty of yelling and black nail polish will be set up as well as raffles for limited edition singles and other emo merchandise.

The night will end the way any prom would, with the crowning of the Emo Queen and King.

New Brookland has partnered with local vintage clothing store HipWaZee to outfit you in people pleader, suspenders and as many starched buttons you can think of for the event. All week, HipWaZee will help you get together the perfect outfit and give you the clothes to look the part — it’s up to you to find some company and dress up into the ensemble. You get to figure out the details and details, as well as raffles for limited edition singles and other emo merchandise.

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Other sandwiches and burgers, like the crispy BBQ tofu and the grilled three-cheese sandwiches are typical of Thirsty Fellow’s style — simple and classic ideas given a signature twist.

Another option is a specialty pizza consisting of a pesto base, tomatoes, and a specialty blend of shredded provolone and mozzarella on an airy crust delivering a filling meal. Pizza, which is one of their top-sellers, was Durkin’s passion project when Thirsty Fellow first opened. Studying under “world-renowned bread maker” Peter Reinhart, Durkin learned the art of dough making and created Thirsty Fellow’s signature dough style. The crispy, thin dough is reminiscent of New York Style pizza, but thicker. Whatever toppings are chosen, the pizza at Thirsty Fellow will inevitably be tasty and fresh. All of the pizzas are prepared in a stone-fire oven and are build-your-own. Choosing from a plethora of toppings and bases, it’s easy to meet any pizza-lover’s needs.

If you aren’t looking for a big meal, a pub food menu is available. Snacks like Antipasto, calamari and potato chips are perfect while watching a game or meeting friends for happy hour.

Durkin doesn’t believe that the Vista takes away his regular customers, but rather persuades people to come more. “I believe this is true that a lot of our people come here because they don’t want to go to the Vista,” Durkin said.

Durkin believes that the Vista’s casual atmosphere and menu is a similar atmosphere and menu to The Salty Nut Cafe in Five Points but, with a more central location and older crowd.

Thirsty Fellow’s dual personality fits in nicely with its casual setting and proximity to the university. USC alumnus Tim O’Keefe frequents Thirsty Fellow when he’s back in town for football.

O’Keefe highlighted the restaurant’s kid-friendly atmosphere and said, “We have several people in our group that are coming that have children here and they can come in here and eat some pizza and we can act like adults and have a good time.”

The neighborhood mentality is a major draw to Thirsty Fellow. It’s a place to grab a bite and a drink while you watch the game, or a place to come on Sunday afternoon’s with your parents.

Durkin’s first vision for Thirsty Fellow was a similar atmosphere and menu to The Salty Nut Cafe in Five Points but, with a more central location and older crowd.

Thirsty Fellow has carved out a reputation that is uniquely its own. Offering fresh ingredients in classic dishes and a wide range of affordable drinks, Fellow is a haven for hospitality and good food.
Instead they have long because there is no light. Creatures have no eyes conditions. Many of the years and have changed in the cave for millions of animals have been trapped to leeches and even from snails to spiders the planet. Found anywhere else on of them have never been species in the cave and 33 Scientists have found 48 that have managed to live problems, there are beings without having kidneys stay in the cave for longer claims that humans can’t. While the BBC’s story claims that humans can’t stay in the cave for longer than five or six hours and emerge in air spaces, passageways in the lake swim through confining the cave requires you to oxygen. The next trial of and only contains 10% with carbon dioxide relax in since it is filled the type of lake you the bacteria have been how the animals got in lead scientists to question and look up Jasmin Fox-Skelly’s article titled “Romania’s poison cave.” While it was clear that and look up Jasmin Fox-Skelly’s article titled “Romania’s poison cave.” Studying these peculiar animals in this equally strange environment also lead scientists to question how the animals got in the care. “It’s very likely that the bacteria have been there a lot longer than I million years, but that the insects became trapped there around that time,” microbiologist J. Colin Murrell told the BBC. “They could have simply fallen in and become trapped when the limestone cast dropped, sealing the cave until it was discovered again in 1966.” These translucent, Evelyn slimy creatures could have been in this cave uninterupted for 5.5 million years before humans came along to crash the party. Sadly, if you are crazy enough to want to enter this care and hang out with waterscorpions and leeches and breathe air that has about 100 times more carbon dioxide than our air, you can’t. The cave is sealed by the Romanian authorities but you can take comfort in the fact that even in modern times our planet still has secrets to be found and places to be discovered. For photos of the animals in the Movile Cave, go to BBC.com and look up Jasmin Fox-Skelly’s article titled “The bizarre beasts living in Romania’s poison cave.”
### After hack, Yahoo failed users for two years

**Nick Sombrat**  
Cal Poly Pomona student

A news story that might have gone under the radar was Yahoo's hacking of its users two years prior in 2014. September of last year, the hacking actually occurred two years prior in 2014. The main issue of the Yahoo hack is that it is not the idea of industrial or transnational espionage. It is not a foreign power trying to bring down the institutions or capitalism. While it is concerning that such a large amount of data was stolen, we are probably more forewarned of private security and privacy aren't the main concerns of this breach either. My main concern is that they took so long to tell us why. If there were any reason could the company have done anything with their data then it was hacked? As consumers, we put our faith in technology companies that they don't only keep our information safe, but that they inform us whenever a breach occurs. Our relationship is built on trust and, like any other relationship, lying or hiding a mistake even when we have just admitted justifying the mistake under the guise of hacking attempts, whether they be small or large, may not scale, occur frequently. And the SEC only requires that a company disclose if a breach has occurred. Should we not inform the public that our principal is violated? Should we not report this to the authorities? Should the SEC replace our reporting?

### USC should expand excused absences

**Isabelle Carroll**  
First-year public relations student

Imagine the last time you were excused from classes due to a personal emergency. Were you able to go to a family wedding or a military function? Did you have to miss those events? I believe they should both be excused absences. I was able to see them whenever I wanted to because they're taken, joining smaller student organizations, or if they inform us whenever they're taken, joining smaller ones or starting your own group. There are almost infinite opportunities, varying proportionally with the complexity and diversity of our personalities, for each of us to move beyond the bubbles of our lives and the people and places we are comfortable with. It is important that we challenge and grow. I think it's time that we reclaim college as a time not to slide into your comfort zone but to grow as individuals and contribute to our community.

### College should be reformative

**Andy Wilson**  
English student

What is college for? I don’t know for sure how much college is a prerequisite to respond to this question, but from my conversations and other interactions with hundreds of fellow students, I’m going to posit that the majority view college as sort of prerequisite to the life they want to live. Or in other words, it’s a period of life one must pass through in order to get to where you really want to go.

If students think that college is just a prerequisite to the kind of life they want to live, they will likely treat it just as they treat academic prerequisites. It will be a time to put as little time as possible and pay attention only to what they think they will be useful later on, thereby freeing up time for what they think will be useful later on. 

What is the applicability/pleasure test to students of their personal lives? In my own life, I felt for a long time that my activities had to fall under either the “productive” or “enjoyable” category for my college experience to be useful. It made it difficult for me to do things that I supposedly needed to do and what I considered to be academic conversations for a few years.

Adopting this kind of mindset ultimately causes students to settle for easy rather than worthwhile things. It’s easier to scroll through the algorithm than to tackle Homer or Shakespeare. It’s easier to join the crowd with people who share your age, race, sex, nationality or interests than to get to know people who are unlike you. It’s easier to remain in a student organization than take on a leadership role. Yet in these instances, and countless more like them, easier thing is less worthwhile. I believe that due to this modern perception of college, we are viewing an entire demographic turn on in itself and become preoccupied with its own concerns. In their relationship with society, most college students are taken, not contributors. And that’s fine, up to a point. Transitioning from being dependent and relying on others to meet your needs, to becoming independent and meeting the needs of yourself and others, is the normal trajectory of growing up. But it needs to be a transition, a gradual taking of ownership of a realm of development. Trying to do it overnight is not only a difficult experience but from my conversations with professors I’ve realized that the most fun now is what is happening on campus. I feel myself becoming so self-absorbed.

I propose that we come to see college as a formative experience helping to mold your character, and learn how to tackle Homer or Shakespeare. It’s not our job to inform us of what you want to be. But what will this new college look like in practice? It’s inventing your leisure time in creative, past and present, not the here-today-world of social media, getting your eyes beyond the campus and the bar scene and beginning to live back through community involvement and service. What if you’re religious, or maybe even if you’re not, it’s attending a wedding of a house of worship where people of all backgrounds and stages of life mix. It means seeking out leadership roles in your student organizations, or if they’re taken, joining smaller ones or starting your own group.

There are almost infinite opportunities, varying proportionally with the complexity and diversity of our personalities, for each of us to move beyond the bubbles of our lives and the people and places we are comfortable with. It is important that we challenge and grow. I think it’s time that we reclaim college as a time not to slide into your comfort zone but to grow as individuals and contribute to our community.

### Letters to the editor

Letters to the editor must state a full name, major and year. Faculty and staff must include their full name, position and department. Community members must include their full name and applicable job title. Verifiable statements of fact must include at least one source. If you cannot verify a statement of fact, your letter will not be published until the writer implements necessary changes or provides reputable sources for any facts in question. Letters are not published in a timely manner.

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LEO
Make plans over the next two days. Review and revise financial matters. Discover and plug leaks. Dogma, overreach and hypocrisy are revealed this quarter.

Virgo
Friends help out today and tomorrow. Begin a four-month creative review process. Jupiter’s retrograde favors planning communications. Study, research and edit. Publish or launch next quarter.

Libra
Expect two days in the professional spotlight. Re-examine personal priorities this next quarter. Balance old practices and habits that no longer serve.

Scorpio
Study and explore over the next four months. Embrace peaceful contemplation and introspection. Spirituality and reafood comfort. Make long-term plans.

Sagittarius
Handle financial administration today and tomorrow. Get nostalgic with friends and enjoy old photos and memories. Share appreciations and acknowledgments.

Capricorn
Revise career plans over the next four months. Study and prepare for tests and challenges. Today and tomorrow are good for negotiations and compromise.

Aquarius
Refine the itinerary over the next four months. Reserve tickets and launch your next adventure this spring. Get physical today and tomorrow.

Pisces
Plot a profitable springtime launch. For the next four months, review financial matters. Prepare taxes and handle insurance. Today and tomorrow get fun.
Aside from his time with the Pride, Petz spent parts of five seasons with the Colonials Inferno. He began working at KW Beverage while with the team in 2002. Petz later bounced between the Inferno and teams in Florence and Augusta, Georgia, but ultimately settled in Columbia and began working full-time at KW. And when Petz heard Sirois had retired, the two began to discuss job openings.

“I was fortunate, my transition leaving hockey and entering the work field was very positive,” Petz said. “I couldn’t say enough about how good of a company Budweiser of Columbia was, and it seemed to be a good fit for Allan at the time as well.”

Sirois is still with KW eight years after leaving hockey and entering the work field. “I was fortunate, my transition leaving hockey and entering the work field was very positive,” Petz said. “I couldn’t say enough about how good of a company Budweiser of Columbia was, and it seemed to be a good fit for Allan at the time as well.”

Smith says he is confident in the Cocks’ ability to retain momentum, especially with proper coaching. “It’s all spirit. We got a spark on this team and when we hit that spark during the game, we’re gone,” Smith said. “It’ll be 15 and nothing, I guarantee you, if we hit that spark.”

With a spark on the ice and Sirois behind the bench, one can only feel for the Gators. As the Gamecocks look ahead to their matchup with No. 4-seeded Florida in the Southeastern Collegiate Hockey Conference (SECHC) playoffs Friday night, Sirois’ leadership will certainly be a factor. USC has never captured an SECHC title, and will seek their first on this year’s home ice of No. 2-seed Vanderbilt in Antioch, Tennessee. But the players are hardly discouraged.

“The dedication, the love of the game that [Sirois] brings to the team and when we hit that spark during the game is defnitely a big positive for us,” says veteran defenseman Nick Northcote. Of the impending clash with Florida, Smith says he is confident in the Cock’s ability to retain momentum, especially with proper coaching. “It’s all spirit. We got a spark on this team and when we hit that spark during the game, we’re gone,” Smith said. “It’ll be 15 and nothing, I guarantee you, if we hit that spark.”

“With a spark on the ice and Sirois behind the bench, one can only feel for the Gators.”

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A seasoned vet of the game’s backroads, Cocks hockey coach has seen it all

Michael Woodford

If you heard him at the name of the dinner table, or Community Table, or perhaps anywhere around any table between here and southwest Ontario, you’d have but one response: “What?”

“Tremendous. I’d love to be able to tell you that. He doesn’t have the name recognition of a Will Muschamp, or a Frank Martin. His scows don’t make the rounds on Deadspin, and ESPN won’t break into scheduled programming if he takes the open job at Mississippi State.

He’s Allan Sirois, and he stands at the helm of the South Carolina Gamecocks ice hockey club.

Much like Mushcup, Sirois knows his game backward and forward. But unlike Mushcup, who has patrolled sidelines since the age of 24, Sirois’ knowledge of the game of hockey comes almost entirely from having played it. A lot.

All that brings in that now dynamic of pro hockey to this team, and that’s something that I think makes for a successful college team,” says Viktor Sirois, the Gamecocks’ assistant coach, scoring no points and recording no rebounds in 12 minutes of play.

Kotsar, at least, gave just enough in the second half to make up for an otherwise entirely forgettable showing from the South Carolina big men.

It was able to score all seven of his points in the second half and help give some of the pressure off of the Gamecock guards that otherwise carried the team to victory.

Kotsar’s performance was just enough. The Gamecocks had a 21-13 margin through the first half as they both faced early foul trouble.

For the Kingfish, that meant grueling second halves in which neither player could be on the court for just 17 minutes of the final 20 minutes.

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