

Dear LSC Campus Community:

February is a busy close-to-the-end-of-winter month for all of us. We notice more minutes of daylight, tiny signs of early spring, and a lot less ice in the driveway. It is also the month we celebrate as Black History Month.

It is fitting that Black History Month begins with National Freedom Day (February 1), the date Abraham Lincoln signed a joint resolution that proposed the 13th Amendment to outlaw slavery. The Amendment was ratified on December 18, 1865.

Each year, Black History Month has a theme and this year it is **African Americans and Labor**:

“The 2025 Black History Month theme, African Americans and Labor, focuses on the various and profound ways that work and working of all kinds – free and unfree, skilled, and unskilled, vocational and voluntary – intersect with the collective experiences of Black people. Indeed, work is at the very center of much of Black history and culture. Be it the traditional agricultural labor of enslaved Africans that fed Low Country colonies, debates among Black educators on the importance of vocational training, self-help strategies and entrepreneurship in Black communities, or organized labor’s role in fighting both economic and social injustice, Black people’s work has been transformational throughout the U.S., Africa, and the Diaspora” (available at <https://asalh.org/black-history-themes/>).

Watch for upcoming Newsplash or Icehawk Talk newsletters for Black History Month events scheduled on campus and around the Duluth/Superior area. Let’s celebrate and honor the countless contributions of African Americans everywhere.*

February is also known as American Heart Month, Canned Food Month, Great American Pie Month, Library Lovers Month, National Bird Feeding Month, National Cherry Month, National Children’s Dental Health Month, and National Pet Dental Health Month. And do you know that when you type the word “month” too many times it starts to look weird?

February also houses Valentine’s Day (Feb 14), Groundhog Day (Feb 2), National Pizza Day (Feb 9), Do a Grouch a Favor Day (Feb 16), President’s Day (Feb 17), and International Polar Bear Day (Feb 27).

Be well, stay warm, and be kind to each other.

*Read more about the origins of Black History Month at <https://asalh.org/about-us/about-black-history-month/>