CONTENTS

Introduction........................................1
Black Buffalo History.........................2-4
A Culture of Festivals.........................5-8
The Spoken Word Circuit......................9
Cultural Institutions.........................10-13
Historic Sites & Landmarks.................14-17
Food for the Soul..............................18-19
The Night Scene..............................20
Shopping Stops..............................21-22
Houses of Worship............................23-25
Itineraries......................................26-33
Family Reunion &
  Group Event Planner......................34-35
References &
  Acknowledgements.........................36
Buffalo is an heirloom quilt stitched with the tenacity and triumph of the African American spirit. The city was a final stop on the freedom train north from slavery and the Jim Crow South. In its heyday, Buffalo represented hope and self-empowerment for black Americans, and a better life for generations to come.

Black frontiersman Joseph Hodges was one of Buffalo’s earliest non-white settlers. Local griots - oral historians - know that Underground Railroad conductor Harriet “Mother Moses” Tubman led bands of runaways through the Niagara region. Abolitionist William Wells Brown lived on Pine Street in Buffalo and helped fugitives cross the water into Canada when he worked for the Lake Erie Steamship Co.

Frederick Douglass spoke to a full sanctuary at the Michigan Street Baptist Church. In 1905, W.E.B. DuBois, with other black leaders, planned the Niagara Movement and Booker T. Washington addressed crowds in Buffalo. Mary B. Talbert campaigned for anti-lynching legislation from her home on Michigan Avenue.

Buffalo is where jazz legends like Dizzy Gillespie, Ella Fitzgerald and Louis Armstrong jammed with local musicians at the Colored Musicians Club. Writer Ishmael Reed and pop R&B icon Rick James hail from Buffalo. “Queen of Soul” Aretha Franklin (and her sisters) sang in a Buffalo church choir where her father served as a pastor. Buffalo is where the late Grover Washington, Jr. cultivated the smooth in his sax. Cleveland Witherspoon invented the electronic car starter here. The vibrations of the African American experience are palpable in Buffalo. Catch the rhythm and realize the whole American story is right here.
At the beginning of the Civil War, the African American population in Buffalo numbered about 500; most were fugitive slaves or their descendants. Proximity to Canada — and to points West — made the city an important Underground Railroad station. Buffalo was pivotal in abolitionist and turn-of-the-century “race relations” movements.

Early houses of worship became cornerstones of activity dedicated to building a free life in the urban North. The Michigan Street Baptist Church (511 Michigan Ave.) is the oldest property in the region built and continually owned by African Americans, dating back to 1845. During the peak of Underground Railroad activity, the church, which is now a National Historic Landmark, harbored tired runaways before they crossed the border into Canada.

In Broderick Park, on the Niagara River at the foot of Ferry Street, a plaque marks where other runaways crossed treacherous water to salvation. During the first wave of the Great Migration at the turn of the 20th century, black southerners found plentiful work in Buffalo’s steel mills and factories and as domestics. And nearly as soon as they arrived, they founded businesses, established services and organized social groups to support their segregated communities.

There were black-owned hotels, nightclubs, funeral parlors, cleaners, drug stores and restaurants in Buffalo. The city was home to nine black newspapers, of which The Buffalo Criterion, founded during this period, is still a vital source of community information.

Already established were a grocery cooperative, a Negro Businessman’s League, an American Colored Worker’s League and the Michigan Avenue YMCA, which was built in 1926 by a black architect named John R. Brent.

Buffalo’s proximity to Canada made the city an important Underground Railroad station.
Mary Burnett Talbert was one of the most committed, versatile and tireless champions of social and political reform for race relations, anti-lynching and women's rights.

In 1899, as a member of the Michigan Street Baptist Church, Talbert helped found the Phyllis Wheatley Club, the city’s first affiliate of the National Association of Colored Women’s Clubs (NACWC).

By 1910 Talbert was lecturing nationally and internationally. In 1916 she became president of the NACWC. She was president, vice president and director of the NAACP, and as chairman of its Anti-Lynching Committee lobbied nationally for passage of the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill. During World War I, she assisted with war loan drives, and became a Red Cross nurse with the American expeditionary forces in France. A year before her death in 1922, Talbert became the first African American woman to receive the prestigious NAACP Spingarn Award. She rests today in Forest Lawn Cemetery.

In 1899, as a member of the Michigan Street Baptist Church, Talbert helped found the Phyllis Wheatley Club, the city’s first affiliate of the National Association of Colored Women’s Clubs (NACWC).

She also played a pivotal role in the advent of the Niagara Movement. In 1905, she opened her Michigan Avenue home to W.E.B. DuBois and 27 others for a secret planning meeting of the famous civil rights summit.

By 1910 Talbert was lecturing nationally and internationally. In 1916 she became president of the NACWC. She was president, vice president and director of the NAACP, and as chairman of its Anti-Lynching Committee lobbied nationally for passage of the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill. During World War I, she assisted with war loan drives, and became a Red Cross nurse with the American expeditionary forces in France. A year before her death in 1922, Talbert became the first African American woman to receive the prestigious NAACP Spingarn Award. She rests today in Forest Lawn Cemetery.
The Niagara River was often the last crossing for people escaping slavery in the United States. From the early 1800s until the end of the Civil War in 1865, thousands of people passed through Western New York as they traveled to freedom in Canada. The Underground Railroad, a secret network of people who assisted those escaping slavery by providing money, food, clothing and temporary shelter, made the journey possible.

The dramatic and heart-rending stories of the people who risked their lives for freedom, as well as the lasting heritage of their ancestors, can now be experienced at Freedom Crossing, the Regional Underground Railroad Interpretive Center, at the Niagara Arts & Cultural Center, 1201 Pine Avenue in Niagara Falls. Freedom Crossing tells the story of the Underground Railroad in Buffalo Niagara through historic photographs, artifacts, stories, audio stations, and art.

Admission is free. For more information, visit www.freedomcrossingniagara.com or call 716-282-7530.

MY BUFFALO
Ruben Santiago-Hudson

When I came home to Buffalo after receiving my college education, it was then I saw that Buffalo has amazing architecture – if you just stop and take the time to notice it. Many great architects - like Frank Lloyd Wright - built homes in Buffalo. You can find any style from a Cape Cod to a California bungalow to great mansions made with marble imported from Italy. It’s important that these buildings are preserved so that visitors can come to Buffalo and appreciate its architecture. When I visit Buffalo, now, I always point out my favorite buildings to my wife - especially places like the Albright-Knox Art Gallery, The Hotel @ The Lafayette and the huge wooden homes lining Humboldt Parkway. Buffalo has great opportunities to enjoy nature in places like Chestnut Ridge Park and Como Park; the hills and streams surrounding the area are beautiful. And Buffalo is in a great location. I like its proximity to places like Darien Lake, Niagara Falls and Toronto. And I have to admit: Buffalo’s snow is a highlight. I love it!

Tony Award-winning actor and screenwriter Ruben Santiago-Hudson premiered his life story as told in “Lackawanna Blues” at the 2005 Sundance Film Festival. He appeared with Halle Berry on the ABC-TV movie “Their Eyes Were Watching God” and on Broadway in August Wilson’s “Gem of the Ocean.”
Galveston, Texas with news of the Emancipation Proclamation.

The two-day celebration of family, culture and tradition, one of the largest in the nation, draws more than 100 vendors from Canada and the Eastern seaboard, and often features Universoul Circus, the country’s only African American owned and operated circus. Other festival events include the annual 5K Run and Juneteenth Festival Parade, main stage and cultural performances by local and regional groups, a basketball competition, food court and book fair - and much more.

July

CMC Jazz Fest
Colored Musicians Club
145 Broadway, Buffalo
716-855-9383
www.cmctheclub.com

For over 100 years, the Colored Musicians Club has shared amazing musi with Buffalo. The CMC Jazz Fest is an annual celebration of all things jazz, hosting legendary performers, from esteemed local players to national acts.

March

Harriet Tubman Holiday Celebration
Frank E. Merriweather, Jr. Library
1324 Jefferson Avenue, Buffalo
716-602-5877

An annual affair that gives the community time to reflect on the contributions of Harriet Tubman while ultimately trying to achieve the goal of attaining a national holiday for her. If successful, she would be the first female and the second African American so honored. On March 10th, the date of Harriet Tubman’s death, members of the community sing, dance, recite poetry and perform dramatizations at the library in commemoration.

June

Juneteenth Festival of Buffalo
Martin Luther King Jr. Park
Best Street and Fillmore Avenue, Buffalo / 716-891-8801

Since 1975, Buffalonians have celebrated the historic day in June 1865 when Union soldiers rode into
Jefferson Avenue Renaissance Arts Festival
Jefferson Avenue between East Utica Street & East Ferry Street, Buffalo / 716-882-7594 or 716-883-4367, ext. 11
A celebration of community and creativity founded by a group of civic-minded women with a vision for economic development and reinvigoration of Buffalo’s East Side. The two-day block party starts with a parade and showcases visual artists from Buffalo, Rochester and Syracuse, as well as vendors, food, cultural exhibits, entertainment by local performers and children’s activities.

Masten District Jazz Festival
Steps of the Buffalo Science Museum 1020 Humboldt Parkway, Buffalo 716-851-5145
Two consecutive Sunday afternoons celebrating the American institution of jazz with old school, new generation and “Buffalo Cool” jazz. Alumni include Toronto’s Nick “The Brownman” Ali, Serious Young Musicians and Maggie Brown (daughter of the legendary Oscar Brown Jr.).

Gospelfest
Martin Luther King. Jr. Park, Buffalo Best Street and Fillmore Avenue, Buffalo / 716-855-1569
Each summer, a host of church choirs from Buffalo and surrounding communities come together to make a joyful noise under the sun! The one-day event traditionally includes sermonettes by local pastors, vendors, and performances by local and regional Gospel artists.

Harriet Tubman Annual Retreat
Bus Excursion from Buffalo to Harriet Tubman Home in Auburn, NY 315-252-2081
A celebration of Harriet Tubman’s life, commitment, courage and sacrifice. This family-oriented event leaves Buffalo and travels to Tubman’s home in Auburn, New York — with videotaped history lessons along the way. The Auburn visit includes a tour of the home and a ceremony at the gravesite of “Mother Moses,” as well as interactive history exhibits tracing African American history from Ancient Africa through the Escape to Freedom on the Underground Railroad.

Taking It to the Streets Rally Weekend
Martin Luther King Jr. Park Best Street and Fillmore Avenue, Buffalo / 716-891-4760 gmodstreets@yahoo.com www.takingittothestreetsbuffalo.com
Two-day open air event, with Gospel singing; preaching; drill, step and drama teams; vendors; health fair; kids zone; senior activities; national & local recording artists; free book giveaways and family reunions.
During the ‘50s and ‘60s, the Pine Grill Nightclub was the jazz hot spot in the City of Buffalo. Jazz icons graced its stage and people from all walks of life met there. Eventually, the nightclub closed its doors; its reign, however, became a Buffalo legend. So, for two weekends each August since 1989, the African American Cultural Center presents the free concerts at the Pine Grill Jazz Reunion to honor the local, national and international artists who carry the legacy of jazz forward. From year to year, the reunion is a highly anticipated Buffalo summer tradition that draws together thousands of Buffalonians, past and present, and attracts new visitors, to bring alive old memories and make new ones under the summer sky.

The Freedom Crossing Monument was sculpted by local artist Susan Geissler, and depicts a scene from the novel, Freedom Crossing, by local author Margaret Goff Clark. The heroine of the story is Laura Eastman who helps Underground Railroad Conductor Josiah Tryon, a Lewiston tailor, to assist an enslaved family to freedom in Canada. Laura Eastman is a fictional character, but Josiah Tryon was a real “Station Master”. He helped countless enslaved people find their freedom in Canada.
December

**Buffalo Kwanzaa Celebration**

Various community locations  
716-578-3571

The Buffalo Kwanzaa Celebration is held at community centers and churches throughout Buffalo each of the seven nights of the Nguzo Saba (seven principles of Kwanzaa). Each year since 1981, Kwanzaa founder Maulana Karenga has been a part of the collective celebration in Buffalo, which is among only a few of its kind in the country. "First Night Kwanzaa" (Umoja/Unity - December 26), is a much-anticipated event traditionally held at the Buffalo Visual and Performing Arts High School. It is a spiritually uplifting evening filled with African drumming, libations to the ancestors, children reciting the Nguzo Saba and families joining together to celebrate their heritage.

---

**MY BUFFALO**

**Shane Depree**

Q: What happens at Verve Dance Studio?  
A: Verve Dance Studio is a place to learn about the art of B-boying, Hip Hop culture and to educate the community as a whole. We have classes for breaking as well as other urban dances. We also have a monthly dance competition called Battle @ Buffalo.

Q: Tell us more about Battle @ Buffalo – what is that? Is anyone welcome?  
A: Battle @ Buffalo is the city’s first all-ages urban dance competition that happens the last Saturday of every month. People from all walks of life come to the school to compete, dance in open circles, observe, talk or just chill out. All B@B events are kid-friendly and anyone is welcome to come and have fun! We partner up with New Era Cap once a year on the last Saturday in August to throw Under The Lights. The event is a special edition of the regular monthly B@B. The main attraction to the event is a 32-crew B-boy Battle, as well as a 16-person All Styles Battle. We also have live music acts, a graffiti exhibition and an interactive art tent where kids can create pictures and paintings on the spot. The event also has between 4-6 different world renowned special guest judges and DJs every year.

Q: Describe Buffalo’s B-boying and Hip Hop culture in three words.  
A: Fresh, New, Flavor.

Shane Depree is the founder of Verve Dance Studio, where he teaches B-boying, the dance element of Hip Hop culture. www.vervedancestudio.com
Depicting twenty-eight portraits of notable civil rights leaders. The Freedom Wall is an homage to the efforts and accomplishments of these figures in local and national African-American history. Positioned at the northern entrance of the Michigan Street African American Heritage Corridor, these large murals are the works of four local artists, John Baker, Julia Bottoms-Douglas, Chuck Tingley, and Edreys Wajed, in collaboration with the Albright-Knox Art Gallery.
Buffalo is among the few northern urban centers able to boast one of two long-standing African American cultural institutions and two African American theater companies.

### African American Cultural Center, Inc.
350 Masten Avenue, Buffalo
716-884-2013
www.africancultural.org

Founded in 1956, the African American Cultural Center, Inc. is a not-for-profit multipurpose cultural arts performance and education agency dedicated to the development of urban Buffalo to its highest potential. The organization serves as a protectorate of the African American experience, a promoter of diversity education, a stronghold of cultural heritage, and a champion of African American youth in the City of Buffalo. The African American Cultural Center program includes:

- AACC Dance and Drum Performance Company
- Pine Grill Jazz Reunion
- Jumpin’ Jambalaya Summer Program
- AACC Cultural Enrichment Program
- Educational Directives for After School

### Ujima Company, Inc.
356 Norwood Avenue, Buffalo
ujimacoinc.com

Ujima Company, Inc. is a professional theatre company dedicated to the development and presentation of work by African-Americans and other Third World artists. Of all the theatre companies in Buffalo, Ujima supports the longest-standing acting ensemble. It is among the most heralded and awarded arts organizations in the region.

### Paul Robeson Theatre at the African American Cultural Center
350 Masten Avenue, Buffalo
716-884-2013
www.paulrobesontheatre.com

The Paul Robeson Theatre is the oldest African American theatre in Buffalo Niagara. Founded in 1968 and named for the multi-talented Harlem Renaissance actor and scholar Paul Busti Robeson - it remains dedicated to nurturing and showcasing the artistic talents of African American playwrights, directors, actors, and stage technicians.
Designed by a local African American architect, Robert Traynham Coles, the 20,000 sq. ft. facility incorporates a circular design, with interconnected interior spaces to bring to mind an African Village. The library includes an African American Resource Room, a technology lab, 150-seat auditorium and an African motif in the block façade.

The carved doors of this facility are a work of art as well. Designed by local sculptor Valeria Cray-Dihaan, the design features West African Adinkra symbols. This library is named after Frank E. Merriweather, Jr., editor & publisher of The Buffalo Criterion newspaper, which is the oldest minority newspaper in upstate New York.

Saxophonist and bandleader George Scott has been a musician for more than 50 years. He’s played in Toronto and with the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra—but these gigs were years after he first fell into the embrace of the Queen City’s historic Colored Musicians Club on Broadway.

“This place is one of the jewels of Buffalo,” says Scott, who first walked into the cozy CMC at 13 years old and is now its president. “It’s Buffalo history. We’ve had a cross-section of everyone who’s been here, particularly if they were into the music. It’s everybody’s club.”

Whether because of its first floor museum, or the Sunday night jam sessions in its speakeasy-style upstairs space where legends like Dizzy Gillespie and Miles Davis once jammed, the CMC is an indispensable piece of the city’s fabric. And George Scott has seen it all.

Visit Buffalo Niagara: Why is this place so special for Buffalo’s music community?

George Scott: “Back in the day, this was the hub for musicians. Whether they were playing here or finishing a gig somewhere else, they ended up here—and you had crowds of people waiting outside just to catch a glimpse of who might come in here.”

VBN: Is this the type of place that musicians feel like they can just come in and be themselves?

Scott: “When I was young guy, I would sit in between players who were old enough to be my grandfather, but they gave such guidance and knowledge. It’s always been a nurturing place for young musicians to come here and learn.”

Interview by Michael Farrell
Muhammad School of Music
617 Main Street, Suite 105, Buffalo
716-881-5088
www.muhammadschoolofmusic.net

Muhammad School of Music (MSOM) has been enriching the community with music since 1999! The school serves youth and adults from Buffalo, Niagara Falls, the surrounding suburbs, Toronto, Ontario (Canada), in addition to students who travel into Buffalo from all over the country. MSOM also provides violin classes at numerous schools throughout the City of Buffalo and community outreach programs. The MSOM Chamber Players and Maestro Henri L. Muhammad have performed nationwide and have appeared in several television, radio, newspaper, and magazine features, as well as CD and video recording projects.

The Niagara Movement

The Niagara Movement began when scholar W.E.B. DuBois called for opposition to Booker T. Washington’s position that African Americans accommodate segregation and accept legalized white supremacy. (Washington was founder and president of the all-black Tuskegee Institute in Alabama, and at that time regarded as the nation’s official Negro spokesperson.) DuBois, the first African American to earn a doctoral degree from Harvard, recruited a group of well-educated black professionals he called “The Talented Tenth.” He urged this group to create a formal platform for equal rights. A summit was planned for Buffalo in July of 1905. The first Niagara Movement meeting was held in the Erie Beach Hotel in Fort Erie, Ontario. The Declaration of Principles authored by DuBois as a result of this meeting became the basis for the founding of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP).
El Museo Francisco Oller y Diego Rivera
91 Allen Street, Buffalo
716-578-3782 / 716-464-4692
www.elmuseobuffalo.org

Featuring fine art by Latin-American, African American, Native American and other artists of color. Annual events include Day of the Dead celebration, Allen Street Samba Festival and Invitational exhibit.

Buffalo City Ballet Co. Inc.
Tri-Main Building, Suite 351
2495 Main Street, Buffalo
716-833-1243
www.buffalocityballet.org

Buffalo City Ballet Co. Inc. was established in 1972 as Buffalo Inner City Ballet to provide young people of color with opportunities to develop skills in classical dance, including ballet, tap and jazz. Its founding mission is to identify and refine talents through instruction and public performance.
The African American experience as it relates to Buffalo is as broad, deep and symbolic as the Niagara River that Underground Railroad passengers crossed to freedom in Canada. Throughout the city and Buffalo Niagara region, historic safe houses, landmarks, scenic locations and cultural institutions give testimony to this history and its relationship to the America that exists today.

Michigan Street Baptist Church
511 Michigan Avenue, Buffalo
716-854-7976

The Michigan Street Baptist Church has been a central part of the history and culture of the African American community in Buffalo for more than 150 years. It is one of the oldest properties in Buffalo Niagara continuously owned, operated and occupied by African Americans. The building was erected in 1845 by its African American congregation, and became a legendary Underground Railroad station, providing final sanctuary for hundreds of freedom seekers before they crossed the border to freedom in Canada. It was a central meeting place for abolitionists and later for anti-lynching activists during the early 1900s. Over the years, Frederick Douglass, William Wells Brown, W.E.B. DuBois and Booker T. Washington, among other great historical figures have graced its sanctuary.
Colored Musicians Club
145 Broadway, Buffalo / 716-855-9383 / www.cmctheclub.com

The Colored Musicians Club was established as Local No. 533 in 1917 and chartered in 1935. The Union Hall is still located at 145 Broadway. During the '30s, '40s, and '50s, any musician that visited Buffalo had to check in with the Colored Musicians Club. Dizzy Gillespie, Art Blakey, Duke Ellington, Count Basie, Billie Holliday and Ella Fitzgerald are among the jazz legends who jammed there. In 1999, the Colored Musicians Club was designated a historic preservation site. Currently, the Club promotes research and the preservation of jazz in Buffalo. Members offer free jazz lessons to community youth, and hold a jam session at the club on Sunday evenings. An interactive museum dedicated to the history of local jazz is downstairs.

Drew Brown
Colored Musicians Club Museum
145 Broadway, Buffalo / 716-842-0969 / www.cmctheclub.com/jazz-museum

The giants of jazz come alive at Colored Musicians Club Museum, which retraces Buffalo’s role as one of the great cities of jazz. Visitors learn about the musical luminaries who jammed at the club, and the homegrown talent cultivated there who played with some of the towering figures of that era. Pick up an audio stick to hear musical clips from some of these legends, or sample each instrument’s contribution to a jazz band through a series of interactive exhibits. A must-see for music lovers!

Hours: Thursday-Saturday 11 a.m.-4 p.m. or by appointment; email club president George Scott at gscott2679@aol.com for more information.
Broderick Park  
Foot of Ferry Street, Buffalo  
Located at the foot of Ferry Street on the scenic Niagara River. Recently designated the “Black Rock Ferry Network to Freedom Site.” Recent improvements include an amphitheater, Contemplative Garden, Interpretive Center and Freedom Walk providing images and local stories of the men and women who were escaping slavery by crossing at the Black Rock Ferry site to freedom in Canada.

Buffalo and Erie County Naval & Military Park  
One Naval Park Cove, Buffalo  
716-847-1773  
www.buffalonavalpark.org  
This waterfront attraction is the largest inland park of its kind in the nation, and houses an African American Soldiers exhibit. All branches of the Armed Forces are represented in the park’s exhibits. Tour the decks and hulls of a guided missile cruiser, destroyer and WWII submarine. Inspect uniforms and memorabilia in the museum and exhibits aboard the ships.

Buffalo History Museum  
One Museum Court, Buffalo  /  716-873-9644 /  www.buffalohistory.org  
This National Historic Landmark was built in 1901 during the Pan-American Exposition. The research library includes a large repository of genealogical information and the museum features exhibits and an extensive collection of artifacts, manuscripts, books and photographs that chronicle the development of the Niagara Frontier. The newest exhibit is Icons: The Makers and Moments of Buffalo Sports, which explores our rich sports history and investigates the unique connection between fans and our beloved teams and sports idols.
Forest Lawn Cemetery
1411 Delaware Avenue at Delavan, Buffalo
716-885-1600
www.forest-lawn.com

Featuring the final resting sites of several famous African Americans, the cemetery includes the gravesites of Mary B. Talbert, Reverend J. Edward Nash, President Millard Fillmore and Seneca Nation orator Red Jacket.

Jefferson Street Heritage Gallery
607 Jefferson Avenue, Buffalo
716-854-8392

The Jefferson Street Heritage Gallery features such historic contents as antiques and research papers. It also includes information about the Little Harlem Hotel where such entertainment greats as Lena Horne, Sarah Vaughn, Bing Crosby and Frank Sinatra performed and dined.

Rev. J. Edward Nash & the Nash House

Tall, distinguished and diplomatic, Reverend Jesse Edward Nash provided spiritual and civil rights leadership in Buffalo for more than half a century. The son of freed slaves, he arrived in the city from Virginia in 1892, at age 24, to take the pulpit of the prominent Michigan Street Baptist Church. During his 60 years as pastor, Rev. Nash helped to plan and implement the Niagara Movement and hosted both W.E.B. DuBois and Booker T. Washington, among other African American leaders. He also was a catalyst for the formation of Buffalo branches of the National Urban League and the NAACP.

In 1999, members of the Michigan Street Preservation Corporation opened the house at 36 Nash Street where Rev. Nash formerly lived with his family. The opening led to the discovery of a remarkable collection of his personal papers and mementos that had connections to historic civil rights leaders and the civil rights movement. The collection included correspondence between Nash and Rev. Adam Clayton Powell Sr., his old classmate and nationally noted pastor of Harlem’s Abyssinian Baptist Church during the early 20th century.

The Nash House has been restored by the Michigan Street Preservation Corporation, a not-for-profit coalition whose mission is to preserve and restore the historic sites along Buffalo’s Michigan Street corridor. The house includes a public museum on the upper floor, and research and office space on the lower level. The historic Nash Papers are also available for viewing by historians, researchers and visitors.

36 Nash Street, Buffalo / 716-856-4490 / www.nashhousemuseum.org
From genuine Southern soul food to satisfying Jamaican roti, exquisite Pacific Rim cuisine and sinful homemade four-layer chocolate cake, Buffalo offers dining from throughout the diaspora of the African American experience.

The Caribbean Experience  
2897 Bailey Avenue, Buffalo  
716-838-5131

Doctor Bird's Caribbean Corner  
842 E. Delavan Avenue, Buffalo  
716-892-7454

Doctor Bird's Caribbean Rasta-Rant  
3104 Main Street, Buffalo  
716-837-6426

Em Tea Coffee Cup Café  
80 Oakgrove Avenue at Hughes Street, Buffalo  
716-884-1444  
Coffee, tea, smoothies, light fare, pastries and desserts  
Open mic poetry (call for times)

Freddie J's BBQ  
195 Grant Street, Buffalo  
716-931-5300  
Bar-B-Que, Caribbean and African cuisine

Mattie’s Restaurant
Golden Cup Coffee Cafe & Roastery
883 Jefferson Avenue, Buffalo
716-883-7770

Ingram Brothers Catering
716-308-6780
Old-fashioned soul food

Lee’s Barbecue
1269 Fillmore Avenue, Buffalo
716-896-8887

Lucy Ethiopian Restaurant
916 Tonawanda Street, Buffalo
716-597-2305

Mattie’s Restaurant
1412 Fillmore Avenue, Buffalo
716-597-0755
Soul food specialties, featuring “the Best Breakfast in Town”

The Oakk Room
1435 Main Street, Buffalo
716-885-6255

Pandora’s Sports Bar & Restaurant
2261 Fillmore Avenue, Buffalo
716-803-1335

PhatCatz of WNY
965 Kensington Avenue, Buffalo
716-235-8549
Soul food and bar

Richies Soul Food Restaurant & Lounge
3199 Main St, Buffalo
716-313-8034
www.richiessoulfood.com
Soul food

FRATERNAL AND MASONIC ORGANIZATIONS

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity
Rho Lambda Chapter
PO Box 971, Buffalo

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority
Xi Epsilon Omega Chapter
PO Box 1861, Amherst

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority
Gamma Phi Omega Chapter
PO Box 3231, Buffalo

Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity
Buffalo Alumni Chapter
PO Box 2676, Buffalo

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity
Phi Omega Chapter
PO Box 1193, Buffalo

Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity
Theta Sigma Chapter
PO Box 583, East Amherst

Zeta Phi Beta Sorority
Kappa Upsilon Zeta Chapter
PO Box 900, Buffalo

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority
Buffalo Alumnae Chapter
PO Box 625, Buffalo

Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority
Eta Rho Sigma Chapter
188 Jewett Parkway, Buffalo
716-883-1438

Master Craftsman Lodge #110
248 E. Utica Street, Buffalo

Iconic Lodge #88
453 Porter Avenue, Buffalo

Paramount Lodge
248 E. Utica Street, Buffalo

St. John’s Lodge
17 Kingsley Street, Buffalo

19
Buffalo’s night scene reflects a diverse array of entertainment options. Here are some top spots for an evening out on the town.

**Club 1210**  
1210 Broadway, Buffalo  
716-939-3149  
Urban adult, nightclub, dancing, food

**Mike’s Lounge**  
1343 Jefferson Avenue, Buffalo  
716-883-1344  
Urban adult, nightclub, dancing, food

**The New Golden Nugget**  
2046 Fillmore Avenue, Buffalo  
716-834-3967  
Urban adult, jazz, R&B, oldies  
Dancing, bar, food

**The Old Arthur’s Pub**  
596 Genesee Street  
716-854-3640  
Urban adult, R&B, Bar, dancing, food

It’s rare to find a music venue largely unchanged from its heyday at the height of the Jazz Age. But that’s exactly what you’ll discover on Sunday, Monday and Thursday nights at the Colored Musicians Club. Ring the doorbell, get buzzed in, head upstairs and saunter up to the club’s original 1930s wooden bar for a drink. Just a few feet away, local musicians and big bands jam from the same spot where Dizzy Gillespie, Miles Davis and John Coltrane performed decades earlier.

Sunday nights at 6 p.m. feature one of the longest-running weekly jam sessions of local musicians in the United States – at over 80 years and counting. The George Scott Big Band takes the stage every Monday night at 7, while the Carol McLaughlin Big Band headlines every Thursday night at 8. Feel the presence of generations past while listening to some of the city’s best current talent at one of Buffalo’s truly unique music venues.
Black Buffalonians have deep roots as entrepreneurs and shopkeepers. Today, you’ll find businesses in the Queen City offer everything from women’s wear, men’s fashions and cool urban threads, to eclectic collectibles to rich ancestral clothing and cloth, jewelry, art, oils & incense.
How can you take a whirlwind trip to India, Burma, China, Ethiopia and Peru in just 30 minutes? By making a stop at the West Side Bazaar on Grant Street in Buffalo, where immigrants from around the world sell colorful wares and traditional foods from their home countries.

**West Side Bazaar**
25 Grant Street, Buffalo
716-464-6389
www.westsidebazaar.com
From its earliest African American community, Buffalo churches have forged the spiritual faith, and harnessed the social and political strength needed to build a free life in the urban North. Today, houses of worship of all denominations and faiths populate the city. Their leadership still provides, in addition to spiritual sanctuary, an array of programs and services that address the needs of the African American community.

**Baptist**

**Antioch Baptist**
1327 Fillmore Avenue, Buffalo
716-895-0198
Sunday worship at 10:30 am

**Calvary Baptist**
1184 Genesee Street, Buffalo
716-895-3642
Sunday worship at 10 am

**First Shiloh Baptist**
15 Pine Street, Buffalo
716-847-6555
Sunday worship at 10 am

**Friendship Baptist**
402 Clinton Street, Buffalo
716-847-1020
Sunday worship at 9:45 am

**Humboldt Parkway Baptist**
790 Humboldt Parkway, Buffalo
716-896-4363
Worship services Tuesday-Friday at 11 am

**Macedonia Baptist**
237 E. North Street, Buffalo
716-886-3489

**Mt. Olive Baptist**
701 E. Delavan Avenue, Buffalo
716-895-7494
Sunday worship at 9:45 am

**New Hope Baptist**
543 Richmond Avenue, Buffalo
716-883-0821
Sunday worship at 10:00 am

**New Zion Baptist**
318 High Street, Buffalo
716-883-2250
Sunday worship at 10 am

**St. John Baptist**
184 Goodell Street, Buffalo
716-852-4504
Sunday worship at 10 am

**True Bethel Baptist**
907 E. Ferry Street, Buffalo
716-895-8222
Sunday worship at 7:45 and 9:30 am

**Apostolic**

**Greater Emmanuel Temple Church**
151-161 Richmond Ave. Buffalo
716-882-2700
Sunday worship at 11 am

**Greater Refuge Temple**
943 Jefferson Avenue, Buffalo
716-886-2199
Henry Louis Taylor is the director of the Center for Urban Studies at the University at Buffalo and a professor in the department of urban and regional planning. The Center for Urban Studies is the only institution in Western New York exclusively focused on the engagement, research, and improvement of Buffalo’s black community.

Q: What do you think sets Buffalo’s African American heritage apart from other U.S. cities?

“We’re a black community that’s part of an international city; we sit on the border of Canada. That location on the shores of Canada made Buffalo an important waystation on the Underground Railroad. Much of our large black community is of more recent heritage; it was not until after 1940 and the Second Great Migration that a substantial number of African Americans were living in Buffalo.”

Q: What do you love most about Buffalo?

“I want to be part of the battle to make this a better place to live. I love the gritty, tough, working class persona of Buffalo. It’s anchored in the black community but it’s part of the persona of the entire region. There’s a lot of character here. Buffalo represents one of those places that reflects the challenges the American people face at this moment in time. I’ve even come to love the weather. The cold and the snow bring the toughness and love here to the surface in a very powerful and creative way.”
As owner of Urban Legacy Filmworks, Doug Ruffin chronicles the stories, traditions and history of Buffalo’s African-American community. Each year, he photographs key events in Buffalo’s black community like the Pine Grill Jazz Reunion, the Juneteenth Festival and Jefferson Avenue Arts Festival; Ruffin has also produced documentaries on the last several decades of Buffalo’s African American history, from the civil rights era onward. “If you can document these events today, they become history tomorrow,” Ruffin says.

Q: What do you think sets apart Buffalo’s African American Heritage from other U.S. cities?

A: “Buffalo has a special connection with its history. People love to reminisce on the rich history that exists in this city. Most cities plan for their future. But in Buffalo, you’re going forward without forgetting where you came from.”

Q: What do you love most about Buffalo?

A: “What I love most is the sense of community. I like the renewed sense of enthusiasm, ambition and entrepreneurship in Buffalo these days, not just from the younger people but from the older generations as well.”

Seventh Day Adventist

Emmanuel Temple
300 Adams Street, Buffalo
716-856-6044
Sunday worship at 11 am

Church of God in Christ

Holy Temple C.O.G.I.C.
572 Clinton Street, Buffalo
716-855-2031
Sunday worship at 11:30 am

Pentecostal Temple C.O.G.I.C.
618 Jefferson Avenue, Buffalo
716-852-5502
Sunday worship at 8 am & 11 am

Catholic

St. Martin De Porres
555 Northampton Street, Buffalo
716-883-7729
Sunday worship at 8 am & 9:30 am

Episcopal

St. Philip’s Episcopal Church
15 Fernhill Avenue, Buffalo
716-833-0442
Sunday worship at 8 am and 10:30 am

Independent

Bethesda Full Gospel World Harvest International
1365 Main Street, Buffalo
716-884-3607
Sunday worship at 9:30 am

Elim Christian Fellowship
22-25 Central Park, Buffalo
832-7698
Sunday worship at 9 am

Muslim

Masjid Nu’man
1373 Fillmore Avenue, Buffalo
716-892-1332

Muhammad Mosque #23
230 Moselle Street, Buffalo
716-335-2292
Meetings on Sunday at 11 am
City of Good Neighbors: A Buffalo Day Trip

The city of Buffalo offers its guests a mix of heritage, cultural and entertainment options. Begin your tour with breakfast at Mattie’s Restaurant, (1412 Fillmore Avenue). After breakfast, proceed south on Fillmore Avenue and turn right on Northampton Street where you will arrive at the Buffalo Museum of Science (1020 Humboldt Parkway). For more than 140 years, the Buffalo Museum of Science has provided learning experiences for its visitors by showcasing scientific collections and national traveling exhibits.

From the museum, turn right onto West Parade Street. Turn right onto Best Street. Turn left onto Route 33 West. Exit at Goodell Street. Turn left on Michigan Avenue/ Harriet Tubman Way and look for the Michigan Street Baptist Church (511 Michigan Avenue). Built in 1845, it is the oldest structure in Western New York that was built for and continuously occupied by African Americans. It was a legendary rest stop on the Underground Railroad. It was also a meeting place for 19th Century abolitionists.

Next, take Michigan Avenue, turning right onto Broadway and then right onto Nash Street. Arrive at The Nash House (36 Nash Street). Reverend J. Edward Nash, Sr. was the pastor of the Michigan Street Baptist Church from 1892-1953. Reverend Nash’s statewide and national reputation allowed him to host national civil rights leaders like Booker T. Washington and many others. A wealth of speeches, notes and letters have been preserved highlighting Buffalo Niagara’s importance to the nation’s civil rights movement.

From the Nash House, return to Broadway and make a left, then cross Michigan Avenue. The Colored Musicians Club Museum on your left (145 Broadway) brings the stories of the towering jazz figures who played that venue to life. Pick up an audio stick to listen to the music of some of those legends, or single out an instrument’s contribution to a jazz band through a series of interactive exhibits.

Return north on Michigan Avenue. Turn left onto Goodell Street. Turn right onto Main Street for lunch at one of the many restaurants in the neighborhood. Around the corner and within walking distance are El Museo (91 Allen Street) and an assortment of specialty boutiques. El Museo is dedicated to the exhibition of art by Latin, Caribbean, African American and other artists of color. After a tour of the shops, turn right on Elmwood Avenue and arrive at Albright-Knox Art Gallery (1285 Elmwood Avenue). The Albright-Knox enjoys a worldwide reputation as an outstanding center of modern art. Or, enjoy an afternoon at the Buffalo Zoo (300 Parkside Avenue). Continue north on Elmwood Avenue past the Albright-Knox and turn right onto Nottingham Terrace. Turn right onto Amherst Street and right again on Parkside Avenue. Enter the Zoo parking lot at Jewett Parkway.

For dinner try any of the great number of restaurants on nearby Hertel Avenue. Greek coffee shops, Italian restaurants, pizza and chicken wings can all be found along this friendly neighborhood strip.
Start the day off with breakfast at  Pano’s Restaurant  (1081 Elmwood Avenue). After breakfast, go west on Ferry Street until you arrive at  Broderick Park. Slaves gathered here to cross the Niagara River to freedom in Canada. Leaving Broderick Park, turn right onto Niagara Street into downtown Buffalo. Turn right onto South Elmwood Avenue. Cross Church Street to the Lower Terrace and turn right on Erie Street.  

Continue on to  Canalside, Buffalo’s revitalized waterfront district. There you’ll find the Erie Basin Marina Gardens, Buffalo & Erie County Naval & Military Park, boat cruises, kayaking, places to grab a bite to eat (or just an ice cream cone) and so much more. Walk the  Erie Basin Marina Gardens, which have the distinction of being one of 25 All-American Rose Selection test gardens in the United States. Specialty annual flowers include over 200 worldwide varieties.  

Stroll along the beautiful banks of the Buffalo River and visit the  Buffalo and Erie County Naval & Military Park. It is the largest inland naval park of its kind in the United States and home to the guided missile cruiser USS Little Rock (which houses an African American Soldiers exhibit), the destroyer USS The Sullivans and submarine, USS Croaker. The  Spirit of Buffalo  is docked nearby. Sail back in time aboard this classic 73 foot topsail schooner. This beautiful schooner with its magnificent red sails is available for private charters, public cruises, children’s pirate adventures and educational excursions. Join the crew and hoist the red sails, or sit back, relax and see the city in a new way. Or paddle your way down the Buffalo River to Elevator Alley, Buffalo’s grain elevator district, with BFLO Harbor Kayaks.  

Make a lunch (or snack) stop at  Liberty Hound  restaurant. Sit outside on the patio while sampling their fish tacos or local craft brews.  

Need more time at Canalside? We don’t blame you. Canalside pays homage to Buffalo’s heritage, while offering some 1,000 events, ranging from outdoor yoga to crafts for kids to Canalside concerts by national acts.  

From Canalside, make your way to Tifft Nature Preserve, one of the largest urban nature preserves in the United States. From Erie Street turn left onto Bingham Street (directly under highway overpass). Turn left at Church Street, followed by another left onto 190 South. Bear right towards Route 5/ Lackawanna. Exit at Tifft Street/ Fuhrmann Boulevard. Turn left onto Tifft Street. Make an immediate left onto Ohio Street. Arrive at  Tifft Nature Preserve  (1200 Fuhrmann Boulevard). This 264-acre habitat features walking trails, a 75-acre freshwater cattail marsh and attracts over 200 species of birds annually.  

Departing from Tifft, go right onto Ohio Street, then left on Fuhrmann Blvd.Take Route 5 West to Ridge Road Exit. Turn left on Ridge Road. Then make a left on South Park Avenue and arrive at the  Buffalo & Erie County Botanical Gardens  (2655 South Park Avenue). Take a stroll through the most intact Frederick Law Olmsted landscape and arboretum in the country. Exotic horticultural treasures from different climates can be found in the Victorian tri-domed conservatory, one of only two crystal palaces left designed by Lord & Burnham in an Olmsted-designed park.  

A short walk away, you’ll find  Our Lady of Victory Basilica and National Shrine  (2760 South Park Avenue). This Roman Catholic church is an exquisite combination of Italian Renaissance and French Baroque styles. You’ll be amazed by this architectural masterpiece.  

For dinner, try the Caribbean fare at nearby  Curly’s Bar and Grill  (647 Ridge Road).
After breakfast at the Towne Restaurant (186 Allen Street) you’ll be ready for a day of fun in Niagara Falls. Start on Allen Street and turn left on Elmwood Avenue. Turn right onto Church Street and immediately onto the New York State Thruway/I-190 North towards Niagara Falls. Proceed to the Robert Moses Parkway North/Buffalo Ave. Exit. Continue towards Niagara Reservation State Park entrance. Proceed to the Visitor Center and purchase tickets to one of the world’s great tourist attractions, The Maid of the Mist. This world-famous cruise will take you to the very heart of the thundering Horseshoe Falls. It’s a fantastic journey through crashing water and alongside massive rocks.

Next, visit the Cave of the Winds. You’ll take an elevator to the base of the American Falls, where you’ll be led by a tour guide on a series of twisting and turning trails and catwalks that will bring you a mere ten feet from the billowing torrents of the Bridal Veil Falls. Feel the rushing water looming above, dousing you with a generous spray as you face the thundering Falls head-on. Rainbows are visible day and night. Have lunch at one of the assortment of eateries in the Park before departing for historic Lewiston. From Niagara Street, turn left onto Rainbow Blvd. North and continue onto Robert Moses Parkway North. Exit at Lewiston/Artpark. Turn left on Center Street before taking a left onto South Fifth. Turn left onto Cayuga Street and look for the First Presbyterian Church of Lewiston (505 Cayuga Street). The church gave shelter to runaway slaves and conducted them to freedom in Canada. While in Lewiston, you should also visit the Freedom Crossing Monument on North Water Street. It’s a moving tribute to the struggle to find freedom across the Niagara River in Canada.

Take some time to reflect on the tales of the people who risked their lives for freedom and the lasting heritage of their ancestors at Freedom Crossing, the new Regional Underground Railroad Interpretive Center located inside the Niagara Falls Arts and Cultural Center. View contemporary works that possess themes of slavery, personal and political freedom, spiritual values and racism.

For some afternoon excitement, take a ride on the Whirlpool Jet Boat Tours (115 S. Water Street). Going back towards South Fifth, turn left on Center Street and drive to the end of the street. Turn left on South Water Street and look for the Jet Boat dock. Passengers six and up will enjoy an hour-long whitewater adventure through the Niagara Gorge.

To end your day, take a tour of Murphy’s Orchards, a historic safe house on the Underground Railroad that remains virtually unchanged from the mid-1800s. Follow Center Street until it becomes Ridge Road. Turn left on Ewings Road, make another left on McKee Road before turning right on West Creek Road. Make a left on Ide Road, then turn right on McClew Road to arrive at Murphy’s Orchard (2402 McClew Road). The barn that harbored slaves in its secret hideaway still offers a profound experience for a visitor.
Follow The North Star: A Day Trip To Canada

PASSPORT REQUIRED

Start your day with breakfast at \(\text{EM Tea Coffee Cup Café} \) (80 Oakgrove Avenue), then onward to the Peace Bridge and Canada. Follow East Delavan to Main Street. Go right onto Main until you reach Humboldt Parkway. Take a left and merge onto Route 198/Scajaquada Expressway. Follow the 198 to the New York State Thruway/1-190 South. Follow the signs to the Peace Bridge. After a toll and Customs check, make an immediate right onto Goderich Street and go two blocks to Queen Street. Turn right and proceed three blocks to the Niagara Parkway, one of the world’s great scenic drives. Drive by 657 Niagara Boulevard. Its basement is said to have a tunnel used by the Underground Railroad for smuggling slaves escaping from the United States.

The Follow the North Star exhibit chronicles the story of slaves who fled the United States into Canada via the Niagara. Next, visit \(\text{Salem Chapel British Methodist Episcopal Church} \) (92 Geneva Street). Through its association with Harriet Tubman, Salem Chapel played an important role in the abolitionist movement in Canada.

Visit the lovely village of Niagara-on-the-Lake via the QEW South and Route 55. Spend the afternoon visiting wineries and enjoying the specialty shops, or see a production at the internationally-acclaimed \(\text{Shaw Festival} \). Shaw offers a dazzling variety of live theatre, from George Bernard Shaw to Oscar Wilde. \(\text{Niagara-on-the-Lake} \) is a beautifully preserved 19th century village that is worthy of a visit based on its rich atmosphere. There are several wineries close by that offer free tours. There are also many excellent restaurants for lunch or dinner.

Return to Fort Erie and the Peace Bridge via the scenic Niagara Parkway. This lovely stretch of road will take you through the charming village of Queenston, past the extraordinary \(\text{Niagara Parks Botanical Gardens, the Butterfly Conservatory} \), and into downtown \(\text{Niagara Falls, Ontario} \). Stop and walk through Queen Victoria Park and along the edge of the Niagara Gorge before heading south along the Parkway. Follow the signs to the Peace Bridge and back to Buffalo.
Visit Buffalo Niagara
716-852-0511 or 888-228-3369
www.visitbuffaloniagara.com
Visit Buffalo Niagara offers a variety of FREE services to help you plan your next convention, reunion or meeting in Buffalo, from arranging site inspections, to coordinating press coverage and finding hotel rooms and meeting space.

Motherland Connexions
716-282-1028
www.motherlandconnexions.com
Underground Railroad tours and excursions. Kevin Cottrell, Founder and Station Master

Tradition Keepers - Black Storytellers of Western New York
716-834-8438 or 716-886-1399
Karima Amin and Sharon Holley, Master Storytellers

Visit Buffalo Niagara
716-852-0511 or 888-228-3369
www.visitbuffaloniagara.com
Visit Buffalo Niagara offers a variety of FREE services to help you plan your next convention, reunion or meeting in Buffalo, from arranging site inspections, to coordinating press coverage and finding hotel rooms and meeting space.

Motherland Connexions
716-282-1028
www.motherlandconnexions.com
Underground Railroad tours and excursions. Kevin Cottrell, Founder and Station Master

Tradition Keepers - Black Storytellers of Western New York
716-834-8438 or 716-886-1399
Karima Amin and Sharon Holley, Master Storytellers

Media

The Challenger
1337 Jefferson Avenue, Buffalo
716-881-1051
www.challengercn.com
Al-Nisa Banks, Publisher and Editor

The Buffalo Criterion
625 William Street, Buffalo
716-882-9570 / www.buffalocriterion.com
Francis Merriweather, Editor

WUFO 1080 AM
Gospel / 716-834-1080
www.wufoam.com

WWWS 1400 AM
Classic Soul, R&B / 716-843-0600
www.am1400solidgoldsoul.com

WBLK 93.7 FM
Hip Hop and R&B / 716-644-9393
www.wblk.com

Community Organizations

Buffalo Urban League
716-250-2400
www.buffalourbanleague.org

NAACP
716-884-7242
www.apollo3.com/naacp

Organizational Resources

Association for the Study of Classical African Civilization (ASCAC)
176 Texas Street, Buffalo
716-896-1430
Bro. Modell Gault

Afro-American Historical Association of the Niagara Frontier
716-834-4982 / www.aahanf.org
The Buffalo Association of Black Journalists
716-849-5598
Dedicated to getting more balanced media coverage of minorities and increasing minority representation at both staff and management levels.

Buffalo Genealogical Society of the African Diaspora
bgsad@verizon.net
Sonia Walker, President

Buffalo Quarters Historical Society
PO Box 1542, Central Park Station, Buffalo, 716-834-2584
Lillian Batchelor, Founder and President

Daughters of Creative Sound
Karima Amin / 716-834-8438
African American women’s drum and percussion group performing at many public venues and private celebrations.

Harriet Tubman 300s
716-896-7016
Velma Ferguson, President

Jackson Parker Communications, LLC
Tri-Main Center
2495 Main Street, Suite 402, Buffalo
716-866-4174 / www.jparkerpr.com
Public relations, graphic design, social and digital media, event planning and management.

National Black MBA Association Inc.
Western New York Chapter
716-716-7341 / www.nybmba.org
The association fosters and enhances job performance among members by offering networking opportunities, professional workshops, and seminars.

Trent Communications
142 N. Pearl Street, Buffalo
www.trentcomm.com
Provides not-for-profits and growing businesses with cost effective public relations services.

Uncrowned Queens
716-832-7928
www.uncrownedcommunitybuilders.com
African American Women Community Builders of Western New York

EVENT VENUES

These African-American owned venues in Buffalo are the perfect space for your next reunion, event or party in Buffalo.

The Landmark on Pearl
318 Pearl Street, Buffalo
www.landmarkonpearl.com
An elegant downtown building with a warm design for a classic experience. Features a full bar, stage and 34’ ceilings, the hall accommodates up to 350 guests, perfect for banquets or concerts.

Metropolitan Entertainment Complex
1670 Main Street, Buffalo
716-440-5171
facebook.com/metroentcomplex
4,000 square foot banquet space for weddings, performances, dances, parties, anniversaries, etc. Features a dance floor next to the stage, with the main room accommodating 350 guests.
REFERENCES

Strangers in the Land of Paradise
Lillian Serece Williams, Indiana
University Press, 1999

The African Village Directory of
Compiled by Sonya J. Rice

African American Experience
in Western New York
Sharon Holley, Afro-American
Historical Association of the Niagara
Frontier

African Americans and the Rise of
Buffalo’s Post-Industrial City, 1940 to
Present - Vol. I: An Introduction to a
Research Project
Henry Louis Taylor Jr., 1990

Buffalo’s Blacks - Talking Proud
Eva M. Noles, 1986

Western New York Heritage
Volume 5, Number 4, winter 2004

The Challenger
Al-Nisa Banks, Publisher and Editor
PO Box 474
716-881-1051

The Buffalo Criterion
Francis Merriweather, Editor
625 William Street
716-882-9570

Uncrowned Queens
African American Women
Community Builders of
Western New York
www.uncrownedcommunity
builders.com

DISCLAIMERS

The Buffalo Niagara African American Heritage Guide offers a sampling of cultural events and activities, as well as business and personal services and resources in Buffalo and is not intended to be a complete listing. Visit Buffalo Niagara makes no representation, warranties, recommendations, endorsements or guarantees regarding the vendors, enterprises or services listed in or referred to herein. Visit Buffalo Niagara is not responsible for errors, omissions and information, which may no longer be applicable because of the time element. The materials in this publication may not be reproduced without written permission by Visit Buffalo Niagara.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Text and information compiled by Outside the Box.

We would also like to thank the following community consultants: Al-Nisa Banks, Publisher and Editor, The Challenger; Sharon Holley, Extension Services Administrator, Buffalo and Erie County Public Library / Co-Founder, Tradition Keepers - Black Storytellers of Western New York; and Enid Wright, Juneteenth of Buffalo, Inc. Board of Trustees. Special thanks to Kevin Cottrell, Founder/Station-Master, Motherland Connextions; Agnes Bain, Executive Director, African American Cultural Center, Inc.; Jennifer Parker, President, Jackson Parker Communications, LLC; Carlanda Meadors; El Davis; Buffalo historian Eva Doyle.

Printed in cooperation with funding from the County of Erie.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Visit Buffalo Niagara

1-800-BUFFALO
VisitBuffaloNiagara.com