



# Black History Month at U Prep

*“Not only is the University Prep Schools vision rooted in providing a culturally responsive educational experience for all U Prep students, but we also strive to celebrate Black Excellence every day through our words, actions, teaching and learning. We make intentional efforts to ensure that our students are represented in the curriculum and in classroom spaces. It is who we are. As such, we will provide even more emphasis on the accomplishments that people of the African diaspora have made on this country as well as globally.” – Sharon Hopkins*

February is traditionally designated to celebrate Black History Month. As such, below you gain insight into the many celebrations and efforts hosted at each of our campuses in celebration of accomplishments and contributions of African American, both past and present.

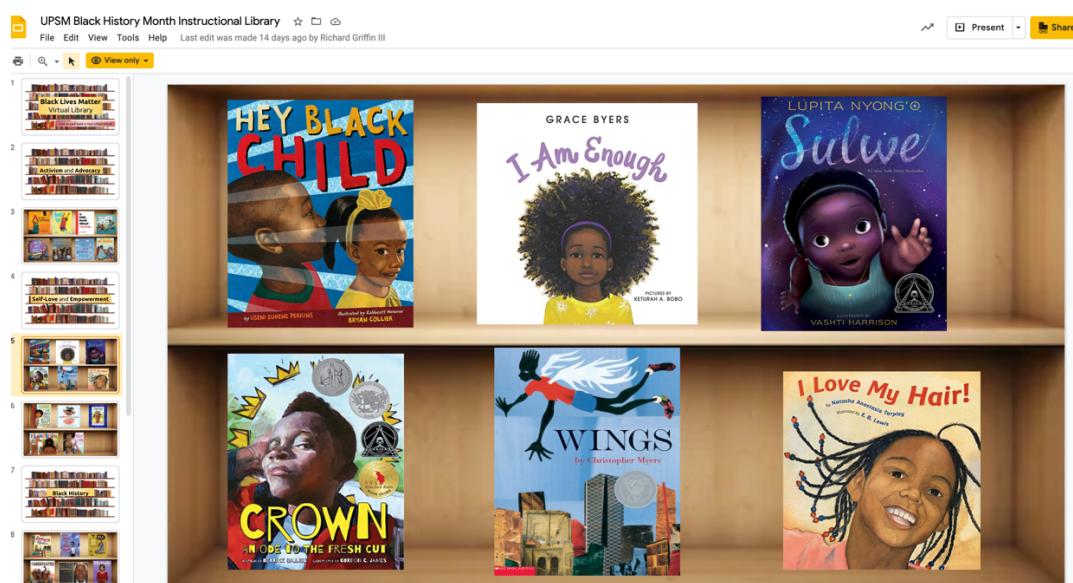
## **University Prep Science & Math Elementary School**

UPSM Elementary has taken advantage of the Black History Month Instructional Library that Instructional Coach, Bianca Morgan, designed for students and staff. Teachers are encouraged to use the links for the various read a louds during Crew and/or instructional time as a way to educate and possibly have a conversation with students regarding the past and current contributions of African Americans.

In addition to this, one of our kindergarteners Robyn McKee has been featured on Good Morning America and many other talk shows! She has gone viral from posting Black History Month educational videos where she dresses up and impersonates an important African American woman role model.

Click [here](#) to see her feature on Good Morning America

Click [here](#) to see here interview with Fox 2 Detroit



### **University Prep Science & Math Middle School**

UPSM Middle School students will be participating in a Black History Month Virtual Wax Museum. This is a voluntary opportunity for scholars to become a live part of history and celebrate Black History Month while we celebrate *Black Excellence*. Scholars will select a famous or impactful African American role model to research, and impersonate that individual in the living wax museum. Scholars will create a two-five minute video using the Flipgrid platform, acting as the famous African American.



### **University Prepatory Academy Elementary-Ellen Thompson**

Every day at ET, each class opens with celebrating someone from the past, present and future that is or was a revolutionary for the African American community. Teachers aid as think partners with their students, and guide them in a discussion surrounding identifying individuals with whom they come into contact that spark even the smallest change in their community, and can therefore be considered revolutionaries. The next step is to help students realize themselves as revolutionaries and lead them to the path of sparking change in *their* community. Included in this lesson series is the opportunity for students to read or watch a video clip or movie about a person from the past or present that is school-aged, and has sparked change. Using individuals they know and also to see themselves in a way that inspires them to make a change in their community, is the main goal.

## **University Prepatory Academy High School**

The essential question for scholars during this project is: We are Panthers, aren't we? At UPA High, scholars will attempt to argue that the legacy of the Black Panther Party isn't as complicated as most would be led to believe, and that the legacy of the movement can still be felt across many U.S. institutions. Over the course of the month, scholars will primarily focus on the following aspects of the movement:

### **The Ten Point Program**

The set of guidelines that the Black Panthers created that established their intention for operation.

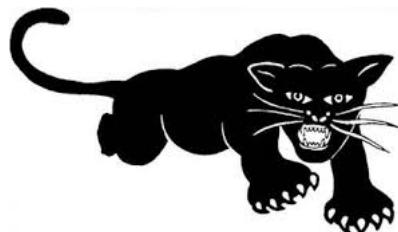
### **Youth and Women**

The Impact Youth and Women had on the Black Panther Party.

### **COINTELPRO**

COINTELPRO, in full Counterintelligence Program, conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) from 1956 to 1971 to discredit and neutralize organizations considered subversive to U.S. political stability. It was covert and often used extralegal means to criminalize various forms of political struggle and derail several social movements, such as those for civil rights and Puerto Rican independence.

This will be a multi-platform experience that uses social media, unique during and after school learning opportunities, an art installation, and Crew to help students get closer to answering that essential question.



## **University Prep Art & Design High School**

UPAD students, staff, families, and community members are making efforts to support their National Honor Society Chapter and Student Council groups as part of their Black History Month Campaign. The theme for this year's Black History Celebration is *Love is Our Legacy*. Students voted on this theme after listening to Amanda Gorman's Inaugural Poem "The Hill We Climb." The shirt was designed by 11th grader, Zamia Wilson. The message being sent is that Black History is something to be celebrated because African-American history is grounded in love and the generation coming forward now will focus on Love as a legacy. The shirts can be ordered using Custom Ink who is handling all the orders and shipping. The fundraising campaign will last from now through February 18th. Delivery for the shirts is scheduled for the first week of March. The goal is to sell at least 100 shirts, and the cost is \$20. The Black History Month Program will take place online on February 25th.