

# The Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture Online Exhibitions



The Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture located in Harlem, New York, is a research unit of The New York Public Library system. The Center is recognized as one of the leading institutions focusing exclusively on African-American, African world, and African experiences that began with the collections of Arturo Alfonso Schomburg 90 years ago. The Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture has collected, preserved, and provided access to materials documenting Black life in America and worldwide. It has also promoted the study and interpretation of the history and culture of people of African descent. In 2015, it won the National Medal for Museum and Library Service. Today, the Schomburg continues to serve the community not just as a center and a library, but also as a space that encourages lifelong education and exploration. The main online site for the Center is at: <https://www.nypl.org/about/locations/schomburg>

The following 12 online exhibits can be found at:  
<https://www.nypl.org/about/locations/schomburg/digital-schomburg/online-exhibitions>

## **Black Power! The Movement, The Legacy**

2016 marks the 50th anniversary of the Black Power movement, one of the least understood and vilified movements in U.S. history. Yet the movement has had a tremendous impact on issues of race, identity, politics, criminal justice, culture, art, and education globally.

## **Ready for the Revolution: Education, Arts, and Aesthetics of the Black Power Movement**

Between 1966 and 1976, young men and women created countless cultural, educational, and social programs under the banner of the Black Power ideology. They developed a new Black (African) consciousness that galvanized millions of people in the broadest movement in African American history.

## **The African Diaspora in the Indian Ocean World**

Over the course of nearly 20 centuries, millions of East Africans crossed the Indian Ocean and its several seas and adjoining bodies of water in their journey to distant lands, from Arabia and Iraq to India and Sri Lanka. They Africanized the Indian Ocean world and helped shape the societies they entered and made their own. This presentation traces their truly unique and fascinating story of struggles and achievements across a variety of societies, cultures, religions, languages, and times.

## **Africana Age: African & African Diasporan Transformations in the 20th Century**

By the end of the 19th century, people of African descent—except the Ethiopians, the Haitians and the Liberians—were living under some form of European colonial domination. The history of Africa and its Diaspora was dismissed as insignificant at best, inexistent at worse. Black cultures were ridiculed, stereotyped, and scorned. But over the course of the last 100 years African people the world over launched epic struggles for freedom, civil rights, and independence. This exhibit retraces this turbulent history of challenges, tragedies, and triumphs.

## **The Abolition of the Slave Trade: The Forgotten Story**

The abolition of the Trans-Atlantic slave ordeal was a long, arduous, and tortuous process that spanned almost nine decades. Ultimately, a conjunction of economic, political, social, and moral factors contributed to the slow extinction of legal enslavement and the end of the illegal introductions that, in several countries, had taken its place. Explore this forgotten story with the help of essays, books, articles, maps, and illustrations.

## **Treasures of The New York Public Library**

Watch as curators, librarians, and special guests, such as Chef Lidia Bastianich and pianist Margaret Leng Tan, share their passion for the treasures of our remarkable collections. Travel the Spuyten Duyvil Creek in 1777, hear music recorded 100 years ago on wax cylinders, marvel at rare 1920s Japanese comics and other pop ephemera, enter the turnstile at the 1939–40 New York World's Fair, hit the road with the Beats, and witness how photographers have engaged the world from the 19th century up to the present-day work of photojournalist Stephen Dupont.

## **African Americans and American Politics: An Exhibition From The Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture**

Before Barack Obama, there was Crispus Attucks, Frederick Douglass, the Massachusetts 54th Regiment, Mary McLeod Bethune, Adam Clayton Powell, Jr., and a host of other heroes and heroines of the African-American struggle for freedom and human dignity, fighting to make America and American Democracy real for all of its citizens. Like Attucks, people of African descent were there at the founding of the nation. And since Attucks, millions have fought, bled and died to help define, defend and protect the ideals of freedom, justice and equality embodied in the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. *African Americans and American Politics* is a brief survey of that quest over the last 200+ years.

## **The African Burial Ground**

More than a decade ago in New York City, archaeologists excavated one of the most significant finds in American history: the largest known intact colonial African cemetery in America, the African Burial Ground. This exhibition explores some of the burial sites and artifacts found during the excavations. Slide shows and videos document the Rites of Ancestral Return which took place in October 2003.

## **Harlem 1900–1940**

This exhibition presents various elements of the history of the urban experience in Harlem's early days as the Cultural Capital of African Americans. This history education portfolio provides a timeline and lesson plans.

### **In Motion: The African-American Migration Experience**

This exhibit presents a new interpretation of African-American history, one that focuses on the self-motivated activities of peoples of African descent to remake themselves and their worlds. With 16,000 pages of text, 8,300 illustrations, numerous maps, and lesson plans, this exhibition documents 400 years of migration to, within and out of the United States.

### **Lest We Forget: The Triumph Over Slavery**

Though victimized, exploited and oppressed, African people in the Americas have been active, creative agents of their own history, culture, and political future; their story is about living, surviving, and winning in the face of seemingly insurmountable obstacles. The exhibit documents and interprets the obstacle-ridden but life-affirming experiences of the African people who were enslaved in the Western Hemisphere.

### **Malcolm X: A Search for Truth**

Based in part on the collection of personal and professional papers and memorabilia of Malcolm X deposited at the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, this exhibition presents a provocative and informative perspective on his life. It poses questions about the nature of the journey that Malcolm Little pursued to become El-Hajj Malik El-Shabazz and focuses on the process and products of his driving intellectual quest for truth about himself, his family, his people, his country, and his world.