

SankofaSpirit

Looking Back to Move Forward

(770) 234-5890 • www.sankofaspirit.com

P.O Box 54894 • Atlanta, Georgia 30308

Movies with a Mission 2010 Season
Atlanta-Fulton Central Library Auditorium
1 Margaret Mitchell Square NW, Atlanta, GA 30303
Screening and Dialogue
Schedule Subject to Change

Sunday, January 31, 3:00-5:00pm

“The Lion Mountains: A Journey Through Sierra Leone’s History”



A documentary about a journey to Sierra Leone, West Africa seen through the eyes of a 25-year-old Jamaican English man who was born and grew up in England.

After a long desire to visit the continent of Africa and learn more about his history Louis Buckley finally decides to visit the country of Sierra Leone, as it was the head of British West Africa in days of the Empire.

Sierra Leone is rich in natural resources, yet today is recorded to be one of the poorest countries in the world. Louis arrives in Sierra Leone while it's recovering from an 11-year civil war, which devastated the whole country. He heads out to discover firsthand about the country's past, offering a unique narrative and perspective. The question is what happened in the days of the empire and how did this country get to this point?

Saturday, February 20, 4:00-6:00pm – Short Showcase

“Oxtails”



“Oxtails” is a comedy for anyone who believes in love...with a little assistance. Xavier subtly avoids eating his girlfriend's meal out of fear that she might be adding “roots” to her recipes. At the local bar, his commitment-phobic friends reinforce his anxieties, while others provide rational alternatives. Is “roots” alive and well, or is Xavier overreacting? “Oxtails” redefines the old adage, the way to a man's heart is through his stomach.

“In Time”

As a Nigerian-American, Bisi has lived her life balancing between the freedom of an American lifestyle and the beliefs of her Yoruba ancestors. On the eve her wedding tradition will take over, but it could cost her the man she loves.



Sunday, March 21, 3:00-5:00pm

“The Principal Story”



The Principal Story tells two stories, painting a dramatic portrait of the challenges facing America's public schools — and of the great difference a dedicated principal can make. Tresa Dunbar is a second-year principal at Chicago's Nash Elementary, where 98% of students come from low-income families; in Springfield, Illinois, Kerry Purcell has led Harvard Park Elementary, with similar demographics, for six years. Tod Lending and David Mrazek followed both women over the course of a school year, discovering each one's unique styles yet similar passions. **The Principal Story** takes the viewer along for an emotional ride that reveals what effective educational leadership looks like in the 21st century.

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Sunday, April 18, 3:00-5:00pm
"Bronx Princess"

BRONX PRINCESS follows headstrong 17-year-old teenager Rocky's journey as she leaves behind her mother in New York City to reunite with her father, a chief in Ghana, West Africa. Filmed over the tumultuous summer between high-school and college, BRONX PRINCESS tells Rocky's coming-of-age story. By confronting her immigrant parents' ideas of adulthood, Rocky reconciles her African heritage with her dream of independence.



Sunday, May 16, 3:00-5:00pm
"From Florida to Coahuila"

In Spanish with English subtitles



This second film by Rafael Rebollar Corona is a part of a series of films by Rafael Rebollar Corona on the African Legacy in Mexico. It focuses on those Africans who escaped from slavery in the United States, made their way to Florida, where they inter-married with the Seminoles (creating the group known as the Black Seminoles), fought to preserve their freedom, eventually made their way into Mexico, and gradually integrated into that culture. A fascinating exploration of a cultural identity that transcends the constraints of political borders.

Sunday, June 20, 3:00-5:00pm
"Quilombo Country"

Narrated by Chuck D, *Quilombo Country* provides a portrait of rural communities in Brazil that was either founded by runaway slaves or began from abandoned plantations. This type of community is known as a quilombo, from an Angolan word that means "encampment." As many as 2,000 quilombos exist today.



Contrary to popular myth, Brazil was a brutal and deadly place for slaves. But they didn't submit willingly. Thousands escaped, while others led political and militant movements that forced white farmers to leave. Many of the resulting communities founded by free blacks, known as quilombolas, survive today. "Quilombo Country" provides a glimpse into these communities, with extensive footage of ceremonies, dances and lifestyles, interwoven with discussions about their history and the issues most important to them currently.

The film takes place in three distinct settings: The Trombetas region of the Amazon, Marajo Island at the mouth of the Amazon River, and the Itapicuru-Mirim area in the state of Maranhao.

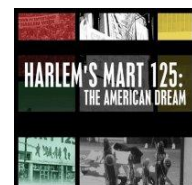
Sunday, July 18, 3:00-5:00pm
"Twelve Disciples of Nelson Mandela"



In the wake of his stepfather's death, Thomas Allen Harris embarks on a journey of reconciliation with the man who raised him as a son but whom he could never call "father." As part of the first wave black South African exiles, Harris's stepfather, B. Pule Leinaeng, and his eleven comrades left their home in Bloemfontein in 1960. They told the world about the brutality of the apartheid system and raised support for the fledgling African National Congress and its leader, Nelson Mandela. Twelve Disciples of Nelson Mandela tells an intimate story of family and home against the backdrop of a global movement for freedom.

Sunday, August 15, 3:00-5:00pm
"Harlem's Mart 125: The American Dream"

Harlem's Mart 125: The American Dream is a documentary film about the history of Mart 125 and how it correlates to the "revitalization" of 125th street. Harlem's main commercial sector. This film takes its viewers on a historical journey which depicts the economic transition of 125th street from the late 1960's to present day. Mart 125 is used as a metaphor which examines the plague of perplexities that surround this unique black community and its relationship with the plans of urban renewal from a commercial stand point. Harlem's Mart



125: the American Dream portrays a microcosmic analysis of the displacement of Black American communities today. This is a story that takes an introspective look at the changing face of the most well known African-American neighborhood and a complexity of issues that surround this community in peril.

Sunday, September 19, 3:00-5:00pm
"From Barbados to Carolina"



From Barbados to Carolina explores the connections between colonial South Carolina and the island of Barbados in the British West Indies. It presents a detailed look at the heritage and culture of both early Charleston plantation owners and African slaves of Barbadian ancestry.

Sunday, October 17, 3:00-5:00pm
"New Muslim Cool"

Puerto Rican American rapper Hamza Pérez ended his life as a drug dealer 12 years ago, and started down a new path as a young Muslim.

Now he's moved to Pittsburgh's tough North Side to start a new religious community, rebuild his shattered family, and take his message of faith to other young people through his uncompromising music as part of the hip-hop duo M-Team.



Raising his two kids as a single dad and longing for companionship, Hamza finds love on a Muslim networking website and seizes the chance for happiness in a second marriage.

But when the FBI raids his mosque, Hamza must confront the realities of the post-9/11 world, and challenge himself. He starts reaching for a deeper understanding of his faith, discovering new connections with people from Christian and Jewish communities.

NEW MUSLIM COOL takes viewers on Hamza's ride through the streets, projects and jail cells of urban America, following his spiritual journey to some surprising places — where we can all see ourselves reflected in a world that never stops changing.

Sunday, November 21, 3:00-5:00pm
"Taking Root: The Vision of Wangari Maathai"



Taking Root tells the dramatic story of Kenyan Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Wangari Maathai whose simple act of planting trees grew into a nationwide movement to safeguard the environment, protect human rights, and defend democracy- a movement for which this charismatic woman became an iconic inspiration.

Sunday, December 19, 3:00-5:00pm
"The Black Candle: A Kwanzaa Celebration"



The Black Candle is a landmark, vibrant documentary that uses Kwanzaa as a vehicle to explore and celebrate the African-American experience.

Narrated by world renowned poet Maya Angelou and directed by award-winning author and filmmaker M.K. Asante, Jr., The Black Candle is an extraordinary, inspirational story about the struggle and triumph of African-American family, community, and culture.

Filed across the United States, Africa, Europe and the Caribbean, The Black Candle is a timely illumination on why the seven principles of Kwanzaa (unity, self-determination, collective work and responsibility, cooperative economics, purpose, creativity and faith) are so important to African-Americans today.

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The first feature film on Kwanzaa, *The Black Candle* traces the holiday's growth out of the Black Power Movement in the 1960s to its present-day reality as a global, pan-African holiday embraced by over 40 million celebrants.

With vivid cinematography and an all star cast that features the best and brightest from the hip-hop and the civil rights generations, *The Black Candle* is more than a film about a holiday: it's a celebration of a people!

Screenings are Free and Open to the Public