FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Marbles Kids Museum Celebrates Black History Month Honoring Influential Community Leaders

RALEIGH, N.C. – Marbles Kids Museum is celebrating Black History Month with interactive programming to honor Black leaders, entrepreneurs, doctors, artists and musicians throughout the triangle.

Programming will include a Trailblazer Quest where guests will seek and discover pictures and descriptions of Black heroes and learn about their impact on the community. Featured on the Trailblazer Quest is the late Wake County Commissioner, Dr. James West, who is remembered for his service and dedication to the Wake County community.



"As a young man, Dr. West walked alongside the heroes of the Civil Rights movement, and as he grew older, he dedicated his life to serving his community as a Raleigh City Council member and a Wake County commissioner," said Chair Shinica Thomas of the Wake County Commission. "He was a champion for the most vulnerable among us, and we're thrilled that visitors to Marbles will get to learn more about him and his legacy during the museum's Black History Month celebration."

In addition to the trailblazer quest, Marbles will host local guest stars like Ava The S.T.E.M. Princess® and jazz pianist Rony Thomas. "While we will forever honor those who have paved the way for Black Americans, we can do our part today by celebrating the impactful trailblazers who make history every day with their accomplishments and contributions to our community. Some of our guests and honored trailblazers share the same zip code and serve the same families as Marbles. Highlighting these heroic actions gives us a sense of pride, unity and inclusion in our own community," says Shenette Swann, Marbles' Guest Engagement Manager, Training and Inclusion.

Black History Month activities are included with museum admission. Ongoing activities will be occurring every day. Guests can learn about Black artists with activities in imagiFAB, listen to the sound of the blues when climbing up Stepnotes, and dance to curated tunes in Tumble 'n Twirl by Black musicians.

Marbles is open Tuesday through Sunday from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. and on Thursdays until 7 p.m. Members can enter early at 9 a.m. The museum will also be open Monday, February 19 from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. All visitors are required to purchase tickets in advance online.

Photo and Video Gallery


Brandon McCrimmon


Ava The S.T.E.M. Princess®


Dr. Akeadra Bell

Guest stars who will be visiting Marbles during the month of February:

Makayla Skai
Saturday, February 3, 2–2:45 p.m.
Walk the runway with Makayla Skai! Dress up and learn how to pose like a fashion superstar.

Kameron Draper
Sunday, February 4, 2–2:45 p.m.
Dance and play while learning ballet! Join us for an afternoon of ballet with Kameron Draper.

Ava The S.T.E.M. Princess®
Saturday, February 10, 2–2:45 p.m.
Experiment, explore and make slime with Ava The S.T.E.M. Princess®.

Dr. Akeadra Bell
Sunday, February 11, 2-2:45 p.m.
Work with Dr. Akeadra Bell and learn what it's like to be a dentist with hands-on activities.

Garden Gourmet with The Neighborhood Hero
Thursday, February 15, 5:30-6:30 p.m.
Enjoy juicin' and jammin' with Raleigh's healthy juice advocate, "The Neighborhood Hero". Show off your moves once you power up with your fresh cold-pressed juice.

Rony Thomas
Saturday, February 17, 2-2:45 p.m.
Sing along to songs played by jazz pianist, Rony Thomas.

Brandon McCrimmon
Saturday, February 24, 2–2:45 p.m.
Move and groove with Brandon McCrimmon, local hip-hop dancer and choreographer with Raleigh Rockers.

Taari Coleman
Sunday, February 25, 2-2:45 p.m.
Create hand puppets and put on a play with Taari Coleman.

About Marbles
Located in downtown Raleigh, Marbles Kids Museum is a community-based nonprofit children's museum with a mission to spark imagination, discovery and learning through play. Creative, play-based experiences at Marbles contribute to children's intellectual growth, social and emotional well-being and healthy development.

Marbles is committed to ensuring its unique, award-winning museum experience is available and accessible to every child. Marbles also offers Raleigh's only certified giant screen IMAX movie experience as well as a robust line-up of enriching programs and events for children, families, students, and adults, united in the power of play to promote positive outcomes and connect our community.

For more information on Marbles Kids Museum, visit MarblesKidsMuseum.org or follow us on Instagram, Twitter or Facebook.

Contact: Anna Webb, awebb@marbleskidsmuseum.org.