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Black History Month events: 5 ways for music fans to celebrate

Oakland Interfaith Gospel Choir hosts 7th annual Black Interfaith Gospel Choir on Feb. 20.



Ray Chavez/staff archives

Artistic director Terrance Kelly directs the Oakland Interfaith Gospel Choir during a concert at Sweetwater Music Hall in Mill Valley, Calif., on Wednesday, Oct. 10, 2018. (Ray Chavez/Bay Area News Group)

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Here are 5 ways for music fans to celebrate Black History Month:

Oakland Interfaith Gospel Choir

Get ready for some glorious gospel music as this award-winning Oakland choir hosts its 7th annual Black History Month event at 7 p.m. Feb. 20. The choir, which has performed with such acts as Joshua Nelson, the Prince of Kasher Gospel, the Blind Boys of Alabama, the Duke Ellington Orchestra, Linda Ronstadt, MC Hammer and Tramaine Hawkins, is led by artistic director Terrance Kelly. For more information, visit oigc.org.

Miss Faye Carol, Mistah F.A.B.

The one and only Dynamic Miss Faye Carol, one of the Bay Area's best jazz, blues and R&B vocalists, and Oakland rapper Mistah F.A.B. are doing something cool for local students. The two talents will be teaming up for a free livestream music program for thousands of Oakland Unified School District students, hailing from 25 different schools, in celebration of Black History Month at 1 p.m. Feb. 4. The event explores "connections from blues to hip-hop" and shares "information on Black music from the early 1900s to the present day and its prominent practitioners and unique history in Oakland," according to a news release. Not a student at Oakland Unified School District? No worries. The rest of us can later catch the recording of the livestream, which premieres via a watch party/live chat event at 7 p.m. Feb. 27 on Carol's YouTube and Facebook pages. Visit www.fayecarol.com for details.

Jazzschool

Jazzschool, the Berkeley-based jazz conservatory, has a number of intriguing Black History Month events scheduled for February. Programs include: New York City vocalist Pyeng Threadgill offers "Embodying Ancestry," which is billed as "an exploration in sound, body, ancestry and storytelling," at 12 p.m. Feb. 20. The Bay Area's own Wayne Wallace explores the "History and Role of Trumpets and Trombones in Afro-Caribbean Music " at 2 p.m. Feb. 27. These workshops are held on Zoom. For more information, visit www.cjc.edu/jazzschool.

Rhino Records

The incredibly popular Rhino Records label celebrates Black History Month with a flurry of cool stuff for music fans, including a series of high-profile vinyl reissues and first-ever digital releases from such artists as Nina Simone, Ray Charles, Curtis Mayfield and Lil' Kim. The celebration starts on Feb. 5 with the release of Donny Hathaway's "A Donny Hathaway Collection," George Benson's "Breezin'" and the Jungle Brothers' "Done by the Forces of Nature." Visit rhino.com for more information.

AXS TV

AXS TV's "Celebrating Black History Month" series runs each Saturday in February and spotlights such musical talents as Ice Cube, Buddy Guy, Diana Ross, Prince, Patti LaBelle, B.B. King, Tina Turner, Little Richard, James Brown and Run-DMC. For more information, such as show times and daily lineups, [click here](#).