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**Deval Patrick** in Governor's Office 

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**PATRICK-MURRAY ADMINISTRATION ANNOUNCES SERIES OF EVENTS AND DISCUSSIONS TO CELEBRATE BLACK HISTORY MONTH**

BOSTON - Friday, February 3, 2012 – The Patrick-Murray Administration today announced a series of events and discussions across the Commonwealth this February to celebrate Black History Month, commemorating the past, present and future of African-American culture in Massachusetts.

"It is important to remember that Black history is American history," said Governor Deval Patrick. "I hope we will use these occasions to reflect on the rich and diverse history that African-Americans have helped shape here in Massachusetts and around the world."

"The legacy of great African-American leaders lives on each and every day," said Lieutenant Governor Timothy Murray. "It is important to show reverence for Black history and commend the progress that has been made as we work together to build a stronger Commonwealth for today and for future generations."

Beginning tonight with a live appearance on WGBH-TV's "Basic Black," Governor Patrick will launch a conversation that will continue throughout the month of February with events in Brockton and Springfield, and closing with a reception at the newly-renovated African Meeting House in Boston. During the events, Governor Patrick and members of his Administration will join local officials and leaders in the academic, business and faith communities to celebrate African-American history.

Professor Charles Ogletree of Harvard Law School and Rev. Dr. Emmett Price III, chair of Northeastern University's African-American Studies department will serve as co-chairs of the Administration's Black History Month Committee and will assist in facilitating discussions at the various events.

[Patrick-Murray Administration Black History Month events:](#)  
(more details to follow)

- Friday, February 3, at 7:30 p.m. Governor Patrick joins hosts Callie Crossley and Phillip Martin on (Channel 2) WGBH TV's "Basic Black" for a live discussion on Black History Month and the Administration's agenda to promote jobs, education, health care and public safety.
- Thursday, February 16, Governor Patrick salutes the "pillars" of African-American history during a breakfast event for seniors and members of the South Shore community in Brockton.
- Thursday, February 23, Governor Patrick joins a panel at the Governor's Western Massachusetts Office in Springfield to explore the legacy of African-American leaders from the past, present and future.
- Wednesday, February 29, Governor Patrick attends a closing reception at the African Meeting House in Boston, featuring members of the faith community and civic leaders.
- During the last two weeks of February, African-American leaders from the Patrick-Murray Administration will appear live on TOUCH 106.1 FM radio to discuss the Administration's goals and priorities.

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