

Staff Activity and Community Impact Report

February 19, 2026

EVENTS, PROGRAMS, AND SERVICES OF NOTE

Black History Month

For many years, London Public Library has proudly partnered with the London Black Heritage Council to create programming and partnership opportunities which highlight the rich heritage and fundamental contributions that the Black community has made in London.

Central Library Staff attended the Black History Month Opening Ceremony at Museum London on February 7 to promote library collections, services and programming that highlight Black voices and connect with community members.

The Library assists in the creation and distribution of the annual Black History Month events calendar, providing Londoners with information on Black history events throughout the month of February.

The Central Library will host two programs this month - The Family Celebration, in the Library Commons on February 14 and the Black History Month Closing Ceremony in the Wolf Performance Hall on February 28.

Family Literacy Day

On January 24 at the Central Library, staff joined 13 community partners to offer a celebration of family literacy to 400 attendees. Partners included *La Ribambelle*, *N'Amerind*, *London Children's Museum*, and *Investing in Children*, who organized activity stations focused on literacy themes.

Literacy bags were distributed to 100 families which included literacy-based activities and a family cookbook to align with the Make Mealtime Family Learning Time. Family Literacy Day is funded by the Friends of the London Public Library.

Financial Literacy Programming

In January and February, the Library held four online financial literacy programs in partnership with the Canada Revenue Agency. The workshops helped participants prepare to file their taxes by providing information about tax credits and benefits, and new initiatives like *SimpleFile*. The programs hosted 55 attendees, some of whom were filing their taxes for the first time in Canada.

Volunteer Fair

On January 17, the Central Library hosted its fourth Volunteer Fair, with 43 organizations participating. 630 attendees made connections to volunteer opportunities

in the community and volunteer groups discussed their opportunities with many potential volunteers.

Western International Global Cafe

On January 8, Library staff participated in the International Global Café held at Western University - a great place to meet people from around the world and learn about different cultures and experiences. 65 attendees were introduced to Library services and energized to learn more.

Western International Welcome Event for New Students and Families

Held at Western University, Library staff connected with 45 new international students and families to discuss the many services and programs offered by the Library. Staff issued Library cards and helped attendees set up eAccounts.

LPL NEWS

Jan. 27, 2026 - Celebrating Black History Month at the Library; <https://www.lpl.ca/news/celebrating-black-history-month-library>

Feb. 4, 2026 - Listen to Heated Rivalry Now!; <https://www.lpl.ca/news/listen-heated-rivalry-now>

Feb. 5, 2026 - Catalogue Account Changes; <https://www.lpl.ca/news/new-way-manage-your-library-account>

Feb. 9, 2026 - Partnership Expands Access to Period Products; <https://www.lpl.ca/news/partnership-expands-access-period-products>

IN THE MEDIA

Jan. 26, 2026 - Nature in the City series begins; <https://www.cbc.ca/listen/live-radio/1-158-london-morning/clip/16194199-nature-city-series-begins>

Jan. 30, 2026- XFM Q&A: In-residence writer wants to see your creative writing; <https://www.1069thex.com/2026/01/30/xfm-qa-in-residence-writer-wants-to-see-your-creative-writing/>

Feb. 01, 2026 - Take part in Black History month with these London events; <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/london/london-ontario-black-history-month-2026-9.7068554>

Feb. 05, 2026 - Haven't read Heated Rivalry yet? The library just expanded access to the audio books; <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/london/haven-t-read-heated-rivalry-yet-the-library-just-expanded-access-to-the-audio-books-9.7074322>

UPCOMING EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

Celebrating Stories of Home: An Art & Storytelling Workshop Series for Adults

Explore the meaning of home through art, memory, and storytelling. Guided by artists Amsa Yaro and Ani Sarian, participants will create a small 3D diorama reflecting their identity, culture, and personal history during two workshop sessions on February 21 and April 18. This community-based project encourages connection, self-expression, and the sharing of stories, both similar and different, especially among Newcomer communities. This project is supported by the London Arts Council through the City of London's Community Arts Investment Program EDI Micro Grants.