FEBRUARY 2
OPENING DINNER
5:30–7:00 PM.
AFRIKAN HERITAGE HOUSE
Join the African Heritage House for its annual dinner to kick off Oberlin College’s celebration of Black History Month.

FEBRUARY 6–8
FOLLOW ME TO NELLIE’S
DOMINIQUE MORISSEAU, PLAYWRIGHT, AND JUSTIN EMERA, DIRECTOR
8 PM.
HALL AUDITORIUM
The dynamic voice of emerging playwright Dominique Morisseau brings the early civil rights movement to vivid life in this tale of Madame Nellie’s house in 1955 Natchez. Inspired by a family memoir, Morisseau recounts a dramatic story “of an aspiring blues singer who is looking for a way out, a voting rights activist looking for shelter, a flood of wounded women looking for change.”

FEBRUARY 13
THE 1964 CIVIL RIGHTS ACT: NOW AND THEN
6:30–8:00 PM.
HALLOCK AUDITORIUM
In recognition of the 50th anniversary of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, Pam Brooks (Oberlin College) will moderate a discussion between historians Françoise Hamlin (Brown University), Hasan Jeffries (OSU), Charles McKinney (Rhodes College), and Renee Romano (Oberlin College) about the historical importance of the Act and its contemporary implications in an age of changing election and voting expectations.

FEBRUARY 13
ANGELIQUE KIDJO, 8:00 PM.
FINNEY CHAPEL
A performance by the Grammy Award-winning Beninoise singer, songwriter, and activist. Sponsored by the International Committee. Tickets: $10 $18, $20 Public.

FEBRUARY 14
IDENTITY MASK: COMMUNITY MIXED MEDIA PROJECT
4:30–6:30 PM.
WILDER HALL 215
Sponsored by African Studies Association, this project gives individuals a chance to look at the multiple parts of self from a holistic point of view and create mixed media masks to define their identities.

FEBRUARY 15
AN AFTERNOON WITH RYAN COOGLER, DIRECTOR OF FRUITVALE STATION
1:00–4:00 PM.
APOLLO THEATRE
A screening and discussion of the film Fruitvale Station in celebration of the 100th anniversary of the Apollo Theatre. Ryan Coogler, director of the highly acclaimed film, will discuss his work in conjunction with a screening. Sponsored by the Office of Government and Community Affairs.

FEBRUARY 18
SAMPL COLE RIDGE-TAYLOR AND HIS MUSIC IN AMERICA, 1900–1912
7:30 PM.
AFRIKAN HERITAGE HOUSE
This film tells the story of the Afro-English composer and his influence on American music and culture in the early 20th century. The film features performances of Coleridge-Taylor’s compositions—some never before recorded—by professional African-American musicians such as soprano Angela Brown, tenor Rodrick Dixon, baritone Robert Hopestalker, and a Chorus of nearly 2 dozen professional opera singers. Sponsored by the Oberlin College Black Musician’s Guild.

FEBRUARY 20
WHY BLACK MAGICIANS?
AMIRI BARAKA IN WORD AND IMAGE
7:30 PM.
AFRIKAN HERITAGE HOUSE
A commemoration of the writings of poet, essayist, novelist, playwright, and activist Amiri Baraka. Included in a screening of the 1967 cinema adaptation of Baraka’s award-winning play The Dutchman, starring Al Freeman, Jr. and Shirley Knight. Sponsored by the African Heritage House and the Department of African Studies.

FEBRUARY 22
CONVOCATION: AN EVENING WITH AVERY BROOKS ’70
7:30 PM.
FINNEY CHAPEL
Avery Brooks is an accomplished actor, director, musician, and teacher. His extensive stage experience includes title roles in the Shakespeare Theatre production of The Oedipus Trilogy, Paul Robeson, and the opera X: the life and times of Malcolm X. Television viewers will recognize him as Captain Sisko in Star Trek: Deep Space Nine and as the host of the recent PBS/BBC documentary Bible Mysteries.

FEBRUARY 26
DR. EARL LEWIS
7:30 PM.
DYE LECTURE HALL
SCIENCE CENTER
Earl Lewis is the president of the Mellon Foundation.

MARCH 3
REV. JAMES LAWSON
7:30 PM.
FIRST CHURCH OF OBERLIN