

Events and exhibitions

January

Great Reading Adventure

January to March

People in Bristol, Liverpool, Hull and Glasgow will be encouraged to read Andrea Levy's book *Small Island*. The book has been chosen for its focus on black history.

www.smallislandread.com

February

Othello

The Tobacco Factory

9 February – 17 March

Part of the Shakespeare at the Tobacco Factory season, the story of Othello, an African general and his white love-match Desdemona, is one of the most powerful tragedies in the English language.

<http://www.sattf.org.uk/>

HMS Ledbury visit

Bush Corner adjacent to Arnolfini, Bristol Harbour

14-19 February

The Royal Navy will be represented by HMS Ledbury in support of Bristol's commemoration of the Bicentenary of the Abolition of the Slave Trade Act. She will be open to the public from 1330-1700 on Saturday 17th and Sunday 18th February.

<http://www.royal-navy.mod.uk/server/show/nav.2017>

Launch of Great Black Music Series

St Georges

February 22

Sufi musicians from Egypt launch a series of concerts celebrating African and Diaspora music as part of Bristol's Abolition 200 commemoration.

One for Me

Circomedia, Portland Square

February 22

'One for me' is a dramatic new play that escorts you through the history of our society and traces the wealth that we all take for granted.

www.bristolfairtradenetwork.org.uk

**Walter Tull Sports & Arts Development Association presents:
African Fusion**

Passenger Shed, Empire and Commonwealth Museum

February 24

An evening of entertainment, featuring local and international musicians, poets and storytellers, marking 200 years of African history.

**Duke Ellington's Sacred Concert
The Ballroom, Council House**

February 24

Performed to mark the 200th anniversary of the Abolition of Slavery Act, the concert features performances from Exultate Singers, the Big Buzzard Boogie Band, Jacqui Dankworth and pianist Zoe Rahman.

Fairtrade Fortnight

February 26th – March 15th

A series of events including food tastings, promotions and a concert at Colston Hall on March 5th will take place to promote fair-trade.

www.bristolfairtradenetwork.org.uk

African Soul Rebels

Colston Hall

27 February

A triple bill of musicians from the African continent tour to the UK as part of the Music Beyond the Mainstream series. Nigerian band leader and saxophonist Femi Kuti, Algerian reggae and blues singer-songwriter Akli D and Guinean kora master Ba Cissoko and his band bring a mix of fresh African music to Bristol.

www.colstonhall.org

An evening with Andrea Levy

Council House

28 February

Join author, Andrea Levy, as she talks about her book 'Small Island' that has been chosen this year as the book for Bristol's annual reading adventure.

March

Black Atlas

Kuumba Arts Centre

March 3

A touring performance, Black Atlas tells the true story of two slaves. One, from Africa, is given the benefit of an English education, learning to read and write: the other isn't, and became the first famous black prize-fighter in Britain.

www.kuumba.org.uk

Black Heroes in the Hall of Fame

Colston Hall

11 March

Black Heroes in the Hall of Fame tells the story of the great Black heroes and sheroes with a compelling mix of dance, music and colour, and shares with its audiences, the triumphs and struggles of African people over the past 5000 years.

www.colstonhall.org

HMS Cattistock

Bristol Harbour

14-19 March

HMS CATTISTOCK will visit Bristol Harbour from 14-19 March and will be open to the public from 1330-1700 on Saturday 17th and Sunday 18th March

<http://www.royal-navy.mod.uk/server/show/nav.1985>

Art Exhibition

Pierian Centre

March 24-25

A weekend of events and launch of a new book to commemorate the Abolition of the Slave Trade Act.

www.pierian.co.uk

Service of Remembrance and Reconciliation

Bristol Cathedral

March 25th

Bristol Cathedral will host a commemorative service to mark the date that King George III signed the Abolition of the Slave Trade Act.

April

“ Breaking the Chains” exhibition

British Empire and Commonwealth Museum

23 April 2007 to 23 April 2009

“Breaking the chains” tells the story of Britain’s involvement in the transatlantic slave trade. It will pay tribute to the resilience and courage of those who were enslaved and the tireless abolition campaigners.

www.empiremuseum.co.uk

History of New Orleans Music

St Georges

April 26

Abram Wilson presents the History of New Orleans Music as part of the Great Black Music series.

May

**Adisa Project presents
Afrikan footsteps exhibition
Bristol's City Museum and Art Gallery.
5 May to 17 June 2007**

**Bristol Festival of Ideas
Bristol Harbourside
10-20 May**

This year's festival of ideas in Bristol's Harbourside offers debates, talks, films and conferences on the theme 'How are we going to live together?'
<http://www.ideasfestival.co.uk/>

**The Walter Tull Awards
Thistle Hotel
12 May**

**Civic Service
Lord Mayor's Chapel
18 May**

**Charles Wesley 300th birthday celebrations
May 20-28**

A series of events to mark the 300th birthday of abolitionist and Methodist preacher Charles Wesley.
www.newroombristol.org.uk/events

June

**New Orleans Nights
Colston Hall
June 7**

From the streets of New Orleans' French Quarter comes the Preservation Hall Jazz Band performing with Allen Toussaint, formed more than four decades ago as a means for the city's jazz elders to hand down their music to subsequent generations.

July

**Wynton Marsalis and his Lincoln Centre Jazz Orchestra
Colston Hall
25 July**

Wynton Marsalis and his Lincoln Centre Jazz Orchestra present the best of New Orleans Music.
www.colstonhall.org.uk

Bristol Harbour Festival

27-29 July

Bristol's annual harbourside event is a free three day event featuring a diverse programme of music and performance as well as visiting ships and vessels. This year will have a special focus on Africa with visiting artists from Beira.

www.bristol-city.gov.uk/harbourfestival

September

Rough Crossings

Bristol Old Vic

7-22 September

A world premiere by noted black writer, Caryl Philips of Simon Schama's best selling epic about the aftermath of the American War of Independence and its impact on the transatlantic slave trade.

www.bristol-old-vic.co.uk

Port City

Arnolfini

15 September –11 November

A large scale exhibition dealing with issues of migration, trade and contemporary slavery. It will be accompanied by a related live programme of art, music, film, literature, education and projects.

www.arnolfini.co.uk

October

Black History Month

Events across the city to mark Black History Month

La Bouche du Roi

City Museum and Art Gallery

15 September - 28 October

A sculptural installation by Romauld Hazoume from the republic of Benin featuring over 300 masks made from petrol cans arranged to evoke a slave ship.

www.bristol-city.gov.uk/museums

November

Barbados 41st Independence Dinner/Dance

Council House, College Green

24 November 6pm - late

For tickets and further information email BRPLHJA@bristol.gov.uk