

# newsletter

## committee updates

### Happy New Year!

The Greater Tulsa African American Affairs Commission had a splendid 2025 and is excited to show more growth in 2026.

### 2025 Accomplishments

- Successful launch of a year-long newsletter series featuring history, civic updates, and committee reports
- Second Annual Dr. LaVerne F. Wimberly Black Educator Excellence Awards honoring outstanding educators
- Expanded cross-commission collaboration, including the first Title V Commissions Retreat
- Strengthened policy focus on housing, transportation, and community transparency
- Increased commissioner engagement with district councilors to elevate African American constituent voices
- Addition of new commissioners expanding representation across economic development, youth technology, civic advocacy, and community leadership

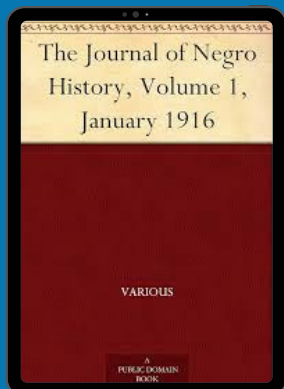
### 2026 Goals

1. Achieve full 23-member commission.
2. Complete a comprehensive 2026 civic engagement and education calendar.
3. Provide op-ed pieces from Policy and Education Committees.
4. Deepen district-level assessments of African American needs while partnering with councilors and agencies to address these issues.
5. Strengthen the Network Engagement Protocol initiated in 2025.
6. Advance policy recommendations centered on equitable housing development, transportation access, and community-centered decision-making.
7. Expand visibility efforts.

## history corner

The Journal of Negro History was founded in 1916 by historian Carter G. Woodson and Jesse E. Moorland under the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History. Its purpose was to provide a scholarly platform for accurate research on African American life and history, countering distorted narratives in mainstream historiography. Woodson served as editor until his death in 1950, and the journal became the leading venue for Black scholars to publish research and reviews.

In 2002, it was renamed The Journal of African American History to reflect its broader scope and continues to be published quarterly by the University of Chicago Press on behalf of the Association for the Study of African American Life and History.



On December 11, the Human Rights Commission honored two Tulsans with the Humanitarian of the Year Award. Commissioners Maybelle Wallace (GTAAAC) and Winnie Perdue (Indian Affairs Commission) were celebrated for their commitment to making Tulsa a better place for all Tulsans.

## events

**5:** American Indian Chamber of Commerce Luncheon with Mayor Nichols – River Spirit Casino & Resort, 11:30 a.m.

**10:** Fandom Fest – Central Library, 10 a.m.

**15:** Third Thursday Jazz – Tulsa Club Hotel, 5:30 p.m.

**16:** Ok So Tulsa Story Slam – Living Arts, 7 p.m.

**19:** M.L.K. Parade – Downtown Tulsa, 11 a.m.

**26:** Devices for Beginners – Rudisill Library, 12 p.m.

**27:** Tommy Terrific Wacky Magic Show – Suburban Acres Library, 10 a.m.

**28:** Comic Fair – Suburban Acres Library, 3:30 p.m.

**31:** New Year Sista' Chat: Suburban Acres, 2 p.m.