During these uncertain times in which the very nature of what the Association does—the teaching of areas of Black History which has been legally banned in seven U.S. states as “history that makes people uncomfortable,” ASALH presents its annual month-long Black History Month Festival.

**WILL CELEBRATE THE THEME...**

African Americans have resisted historic and ongoing oppression, in all forms, especially the terrorism of lynching, racial pogroms, and police killings since our arrival upon these shores. These efforts have been to advocate for a dignified self-determined life in a just democratic society in the United States and beyond its political jurisdiction.

**IN THE PAST...**

Historically and today in the 21st century, Black people have worked the political angle to seek their rightful space in the country. Where race is concerned, legislative or judicial action to deal with controversial issues has often come late. The historic Executive Orders 8802 and 9346 were responses to A. Phillip Randolph and the March on Washington Movement’s threat to lead a 50,000-strong Black worker’s march into Washington, D.C.

**PRESENT...**

And all three of the Acts: The Civil Rights Act, the Voting Rights Act, and the Fair Housing Act, were concessions to the Civil Rights and Black Power movements. Every advance, improvement in our quality of life and access to the levers of power to determine our destiny has been achieved through struggle.

**AND FUTURE.**

Join us for a month-long festival of events that will address “Black Resistance” in The Arts, the Black Press, the Black Church, and elsewhere. As the late Congressman John Lewis advised, “Do not get lost in a sea of despair. Be hopeful, be optimistic. Our struggle is not the struggle of a day, a week, a month, or a year, it is the struggle of a lifetime. Never, ever be afraid to make some noise and get in good trouble, necessary trouble.”