

STORY CLUB

BOUNCE
THEATRE

WANDSWORTH
**BLACK
HISTORY**
MONTH 2020

WANDSWORTH
WANDSWORTH



collagism

Hello!

Welcome to a special edition of **STORY CLUB**.

We started **STORY CLUB** during lockdown for anyone who loves stories! Using the power of our imaginations, we took ourselves on wild adventures and travelled the world!

This month, we are back with a special edition. We're celebrating Black History Month, which first came to the UK in 1987.

Black History Month & Wandsworth

Black History Month first came to the UK in 1987. It was and is an opportunity to shine a light on the achievements of black people and the contribution they make to communities.

Here, in Wandsworth, the **Black Heroes Foundation** celebrates Black History Month, every month! The Black Heroes Foundation brings joy, using the arts to tell stories of Black Heroes. Developing cultural awareness, promoting a world where Black Heroes are acknowledged, respected and celebrated.

Here are some of the ways the Black Heroes Foundation uses art to tell stories:

Wall of Fame Exhibition

We interviewed people from Wandsworth and now share their stories. The people we interviewed are Marsha De Codova, Noel McKoy,

Collagism started by designing our front cover, blending Afrofuturism and traditional folk tales. Inside this issue you will learn about some of the brilliant Black British artists shaping our stories, walls and communities with their work since the 1980s.

Dive in, make sculpture, murals and letters to celebrate the people who inspire you.

Bounce Theatre

Barbara McLeod, Maurice McLeod, Freddie Morrison, Andrew Newel. Do you know who any of them are? [Visit our Wall of Fame exhibition](#) and meet some of the heroes of Wandsworth!

A Story Of Our Heroes

[Stormzy at Glastonbury](#)
[Go to our page and watch the Vlogs](#)

Join Our Event:

The Story of Sam King

Find out about Sam King. He served as an engineer for the Royal Air Force in WW2, and later came from Jamaica to settle in the UK via a ship called the Empire Windrush. Find out more on our Zoom event. [Book your FREE ticket on Eventbrite](#)



A dive into SOME of the firsts in Black British Culture since the 1980s

1982

The British black arts movement was founded. The art was inspired by anti-racist conversation and feminism. Artists reflected on issues around race and gender to highlight the importance of representation through their work.

1996

The First MOBOs were held
The MOBO Awards started to honour achievements in "Music of Black Origin" in the 80s and 90s Black British Music was emerging as a rich mix of sounds! The awards celebrated reggae, jazz, gospel, and African Music, hip hop, grime, R+B, soul and rap.

1990

EastEnders introduced its first black family to the soap.

ARTIST PROFILE

Sonia Boyce

Sonia Boyce was part of the BLK Art Group in the 80's. She makes, drawings, paintings, photographs, and videos about how the world sees her as a black woman. In 2020 she represented Britain at the Venice Biennale (a famous art event). She was the first black woman to do this.

ART CHALLENGE:

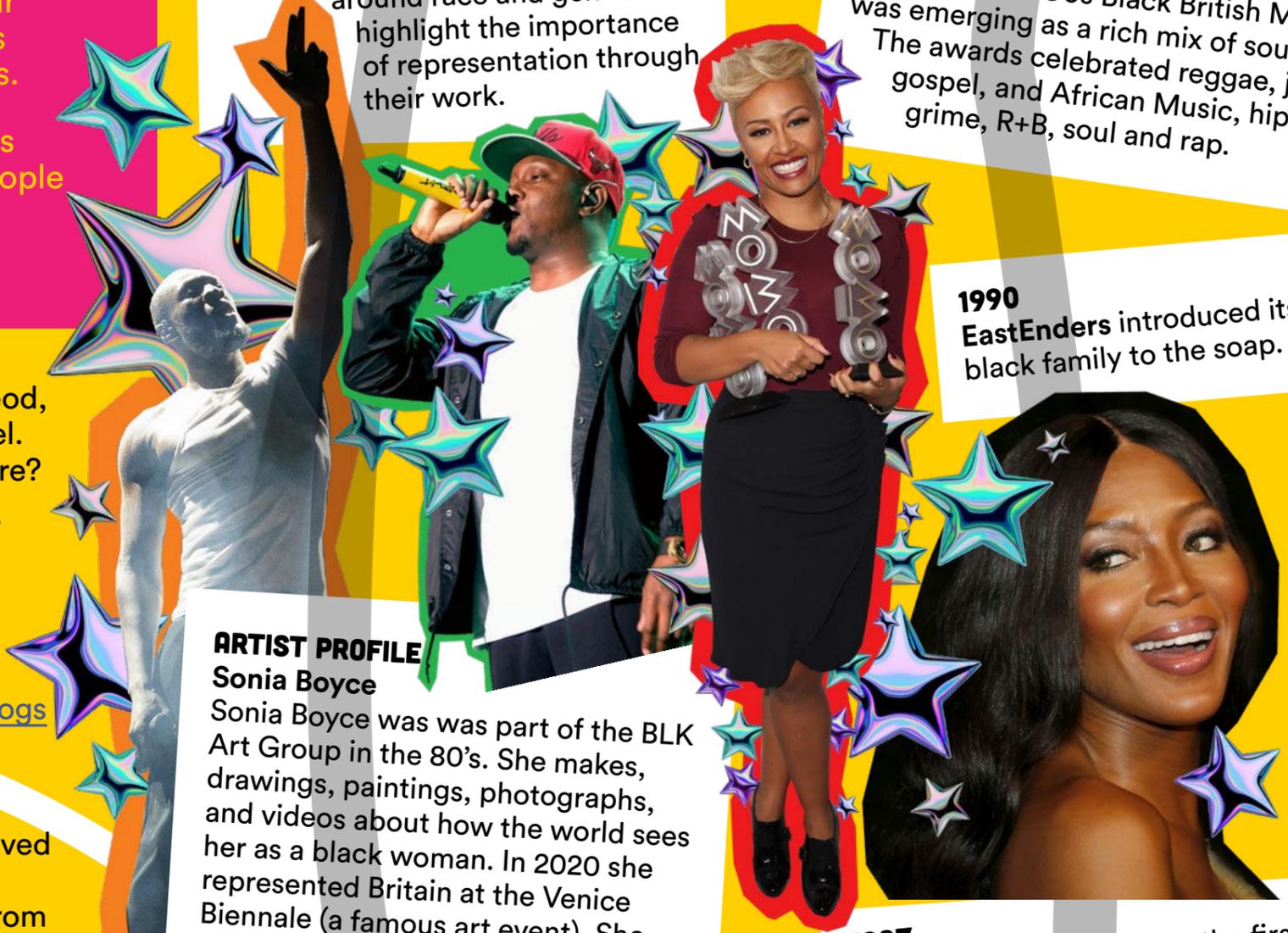
Do a drawing of yourself of how you'd like the world to see you, you might want to draw yourself as an artist, or an astronaut. Or anything you want to be.

1987

Naomi Campbell became the first black British model to feature on the cover of British Vogue.

1986

TALAWA THEATRE COMPANY formed and remains the UK's primary black-led theatre company.



ARTIST PROFILE

Rodney P was born in Balham and first gained attention in the 1980s on the UK hip hop scene with the London Posse. They inspired a whole generation of British emcees and producers by being the first to rap in authentic London accents.

When the London Posse came to an end, Rodney P continued his own work, building a fanbase in Europe, China, Japan, Australia, the Americas, and Africa. He's performed at festivals and with Jay-Z and Alicia Keys among others! Some would say he is the Godfather of British Hip Hop.

1998

Chris Ofili was the first black artist to win the Turner prize!

ARTIST PROFILE

Chris Ofili is a painter. He's known for using unusual materials in his art like elephant dung! He makes paintings about black culture and was inspired by music like hip hop and jazz.

What's the Fourth Plinth? The Fourth Plinth is an empty plinth (a stand for a sculpture or statue) in Trafalgar Square. Artists are invited to make sculptures that are temporarily displayed on the plinth for a set period of time.

ART CHALLENGE:

Can you make a sculpture celebrating your one of your heroes to go on the Fourth Plinth. You could use whatever you can find, like bottles of scrap paper. Think about things that represent your hero too, it might be a giant microphone for a singer for example.

ART CHALLENGE:

Can you make a piece of art inspired by music? How does it make you feel, what colours represent how it makes you feel? If it makes you feel happy and excited, you might want to use brighter colours. Or if the music is really calm, your lines might be wavy rather than zig zags.

2002

Miss Dynamite became the first solo black woman to win the Mercury Prize.

2002

The BFM (Black Film Maker) Film and TV Awards were launched* to celebrate the achievements of black British and international film and television talent of African Heritage. Winners included **Lenny Henry, Angelica Bell** and Tootings own **Lennie James!** *(They are now The Screen Nation Film & TV Awards)



2010

Yinka Shonibare, CBE had one of his sculptures on the Fourth Plinth in Trafalgar Square.

ARTISTS PROFILE

Yinka Shonibare makes paintings, sculptures, films and dance about the mixes of cultures that has shaped the world we live in now. He mainly makes are about the mix of cultures from Africa and Europe.



2019

Bernardine Anne Mobolaji Evaristo won the Booker Prize. She was the first black woman and the first British woman to win it. In 2020 she won the British Book Awards: Fiction Book of the Year and Author of the Year, as well as the Indie Book Award for Fiction. In June she became the first woman of colour and the first black British writer to assume the No.1 spot in the UK paperback fiction charts, where it held the top spot for five weeks!

2013-2015

Malorie Blackman OBE became the first Black British writer to hold the position of Children's Laureate.

2014

Steve McQueen, CBE was the first black filmmaker to win an Oscar for 'Best Picture'.

2018

Stormzy's debut album *Gangs Signs & Prayer* becomes the first grime/rap album to win the Brit Award for British Album of the Year. Did you know since then Stormzy has won 30 awards and been nominated for 61!



Did you know?

Claudia Jones organised the very first London indoor Caribbean Carnival in **1959**. This was a celebration of black freedom in the Caribbean and a way to come together following the Notting Hill race riots. This was the seed from which Notting Hill Carnival as we know it now grew. Claudia Jones has gone down in history as the Mother of Caribbean Carnival in Britain. Carnival is a celebration of unity.

We decided to focus on 'firsts' in our timeline. It was a great chance to show how black British talent is gaining the recognition it deserves. However, the work is not done.

So, let's think like Claudia. Imagine, you could create an event or an artwork to celebrate Black Heroes in Wandsworth.

You might want to put up a sculpture where the names and photos of heroes could be changed each month? Would you like to put up photos and stories of local heroes in shop windows or bus stops? Maybe you'd host the Heroes' Olympics and celebrate people from all walks of life in one event?



Describe your idea:

What would you call your event?

Where would your event take place?

Draw a picture of what your event or idea looks like:

During lockdown, **STORY CLUB** ended with a set of themed Creative Challenges for the week. In this issue we are theming them in response to a range of inspirational quotes from black artists, activists sports stars and politicians.

"To bring about change, you must not be afraid to take the first step. We will fail when we fail to try." – Rosa Parks, Civil Rights Activist
Challenge – Try to do one brave thing every day. Remember - in trying you haven't failed.



"Use your voice. No matter how big or small your platform is, you need to use your voice." – Coco Gauff, Tennis Player
Challenge – Think about positive change you would like to make in your community. Research how you could make it – maybe you can volunteer or join a group. Maybe you can turn your window into an art gallery to remind people to be kind.

"It is in your hands to make a better world for all who live in it." – Nelson Mandela
Challenge – Spend one day committed to making things better for the people around you. You might tidy up your bedroom. You might smile at your teacher. You could ensure no one plays alone in the playground.

"Always train hard, work harder, never give up, never give in and believe in you." – Marcus Rashford, Footballer
Challenge – Learn a new skill – maybe it's a musical instrument or a sport. Whatever you want to achieve! Commit to practising a little bit each day. Don't give up. You can do this!

"I want you to know that you matter, I want you to know that your lives matter, that your dreams matter." – Barack Obama, Former US President
Challenge – Start a dream journal. Everyday write or draw your thoughts and your dreams. Keep them safe.

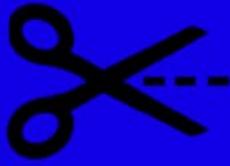
"You are going to lead with love, you are going to lead with compassion, you are going to use your voice." – Meghan Markle, Duchess of Sussex
Challenge – Think about the positive change you want to see in the world. Write a letter to the person who could help make it happen and see if they can help.

"You have to believe in yourself when no one else does." – Serena Williams, Tennis Champion
Challenge- Look in the mirror and tell yourself three brilliant things about you. Do this every single day.



COLLAGISM

CREATIVE CHALLENGE



GREETINGS EVERYONE! THIS MONTH WE ARE CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY MONTH. GET INSPIRED BY LONDON MURAL ARTIST LAKWENA. THINK OF YOUR OWN POSITIVE & HOPEFUL MESSAGES AND CREATE YOUR OWN MURAL ART BELOW. TAKE A BLACK PEN AND WRITE YOUR SLOGANS OVER THE SHAPES. HAVE FUN!

