

## **Understanding Race and Racism: Black History Month**

February has been designated nationwide as Black History Month. As an added activity to Saint John's ongoing project, "Understanding Race and Racism," Connie DeSimone and Claudette Chmura have identified a series of films that members of our community could watch while at home during these cold days and nights. Most of them are streamed, which means you can watch at your own convenience. The streaming platforms are provided, and reviews/summaries can be found on the website, Rotten Tomatoes. (This is only a partial list. A second list will appear in next week's FYI bulletin.)

### The Underground Railroad (2021) 10 episodes

This series chronicles a black woman who escapes a Georgia plantation seeking freedom. Nominated for an Emmy Award. (Free on Amazon Prime)

### My Name is Pauli Murray Movie/Documentary

Pauli Murray was a legal trailblazer whose ideas influenced Ruth Bader Ginsberg's fight for gender equality. (Amazon Prime)

### African American Lives 4 episodes

Combining genealogical research and genetic analysis, the series presents an exploration of African American history and shares the family trees of prominent black Americans today. (PBS)

### A Most Beautiful Thing Movie/Documentary

Chronicles the first African American high school rowing team in this country. Made up of members from rival gangs in West Side Chicago, all came together to row in the same boat. (Vudu, Peacock, Amazon Prime, Apple TV)

The following are part of the Boston Globe Black History Month Film Festival. After viewing each film, viewers can join in a discussion with professionals in different areas of African American studies. Go to [Globe.com/Events](https://www.boston.com/events) to log onto the films and discussions.

### Love Jones Movie

(Streaming on Apple iTunes, Google Play Movies, Vudu, Amazon Video, Microsoft Store, YouTube, AMC on Demand.) Portrays the relationship between a black poet in Chicago and a talented photographer and what they must overcome in 1990s Chicago. Discussion: Mon., 2/14, 3:00-3:45 pm

### Jubilee, Juneteenth, and the Thirteenth Film/Documentary

Examines the role played by African Americans in events leading to the abolition of slavery in Boston and Massachusetts. It includes Colonial and American Revolutionary periods up to the Civil War and the Emancipation Proclamation. Discussion: Thursday, February 17, 3:00-3:45 pm

### A Beautiful Resistance Short films

Boston Globe columnist, Jenee Osterheldt, profiles Black Bostonians and Massachusetts residents in a series of short films that are a "celebration of joy", reminding us that Black life is "more than suffering, even in the face of injustice." Discussion: Monday, February 28, 3:00-3:45 pm