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Black Art Library Founder Asmaa Walton

*Special Presentation, Readaloud Event at the Ferndale Library*

Thursday, February 22

6:00 pm

222 E. Nine Mile / Ferndale

Info & RSVP online: [www.fadl.org/black-art-library](http://www.fadl.org/black-art-library)

<https://www.instagram.com/blackartlibrary>

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*Ferndale Library Hosts All Ages Event with Asmaa Walton, Founder of Black Art Library, Feb 22  
Selection of Titles Curated by Walton will also be on display throughout February*

**FERNDALE, MI (January 31, 2024—)** Asmaa Walton, the creator of Black Art Library, will be at the Ferndale Area District Library on **Thursday, February 22, at 6:00 pm**, giving a brief presentation about this living archive, and also reading aloud from a selection of books that are by, or about, black artists. Individuals and families with kids of all ages are encouraged to attend this special presentation; there will be some time for Q&A at the end.

Walton's Black Art Library presentation will be hosted in FADL's program room, but there will also be a small exhibition of items from Black Art Library's growing catalog on display near the circulation desk, which patrons can view throughout the month of February.

Black Art LibraryBlack Art Library is a collection of books and other art history ephemera on Black visual art intended to be an educational resource to share within the Black community and beyond. Their mission is to introduce or expand the community's knowledge of Black art from the past and the present through art books. This collection of publications, exhibition catalogs, and theoretical texts about Black art and visual culture was founded by Walton in February of 2020, to become a public archive in a permanent space in Detroit. Walton was inspired to fill a noticeable gap in the mainstream narration of art history, specifically when it comes to telling the full story around Black art and artists—thus she began collecting

Asmaa Walton is a Detroit native, arts educator, and ardent developer of the Black Cultural Archive. Walton completed a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Art Education from Michigan State University in 2017. Upon earning a Master of Arts in Art Politics from New York University Tisch School of the Arts, in 2018, Walton joined Toledo Museum of Art as an Education and Engagement Intern. In the same year she was appointed the Museum's first KeyBank Fellow in Diversity Leadership, a position where she identified opportunities for diversity and equity programming across museums and cultural institutions. In 2019, Walton was appointed Romare Bearden Graduate Museum Fellow at Saint Louis Art Museum. Walton has been developing/overseeing Black Art Library over the last four years.