Celebrating Black Joy During Black History Month

In an article titled <u>Five Ways to Celebrate Black</u> Joy, Michelle Lawrence reminds us...

"Although there is no way to avoid the hurt and pain we have experienced...we need to uplift Black joy and insist on more moments of trauma-free Blackness to celebrate ourselves and to heal our hearts, bodies, and souls."

How will you honor Black History Month?

The Snowy Day

This book, written and illustrated by Ezra Jack Keats, was the first picture book with an African American protagonist to win a major children's award, the Caldecott Medal, in 1963.



The Black Joy Project

This online movement, created by Kleaver Cruz, asks the public to post #BlackJoy moments on social media as a "source of healing [and] community building."

Hair Love

This 7-minute animated short film created by Matthew Cherry highlights a relationship between a Black father, Steven, and his daughter, Zuri, as he learns to style his daughter's hair. Hair Love won an Academy Award in 2020 for Best Animated Short Film.



Demetrius Maurice Davis Jr.

Demetrius is a young boy
who, along with his
mother, started Our
Brown Boy Joy to make
dolls representing Black
boys. The business
promotes positive body
images of Black boys by
creating toys that look
like its customers.

