

# CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF JAMES BALDWIN

## Walk with Baldwin

*"I went to the 135th Street Library at least 3 or 4 times a week, and I read everything there—I mean every single book in that library . . . I was looking in books for a bigger world than the world in which I lived."*

—James Baldwin

In James Baldwin's first novel, *Go Tell It on the Mountain* (1953), the main character walks from his Harlem home through Central Park into Midtown, where he passes the 42nd Street main building of The New York Public Library. Baldwin often made this journey himself. Today, as part of NYPL's celebration of Baldwin's centennial year, this route connects two momentous exhibitions that examine his extraordinary life, literary career, and activism.



### 1. Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture

515 Malcolm X Blvd

The 135th Street Library, now the Schomburg Center, was a key influence in Baldwin's youth, and today is home to his personal papers. Visit our free exhibition *Jimmy! God's Black Revolutionary Mouth* through February 2025.

### 2. Harlem Hospital

506 Lenox Ave

Baldwin was born here on August 2, 1924.

### 3. Central Park

As a child, Baldwin often enjoyed dreamy solitude and a view of the city skyline from the top of a favorite hill near the middle of Central Park. The main character in *Go Tell It on the Mountain* escapes to a hill just like it. Find your own quiet spot to read some Baldwin.

### 4. James Baldwin Residence

137 W 71st St

Baldwin's New York City pied-à-terre from 1965 to his death was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 2019.

### 5. Stephen A. Schwarzman Building

Fifth Ave & 42nd St

The flagship 42nd Street NYPL location was an important sanctuary for Baldwin in his teenage years. See *James Baldwin: Mountain to Fire*, a special display that highlights his remarkable first decade as a public voice, in the Polonsky Exhibition of The New York Public Library's Treasures through mid-2025.



Schomburg Center  
for Research  
in Black Culture  
The New York Public Library



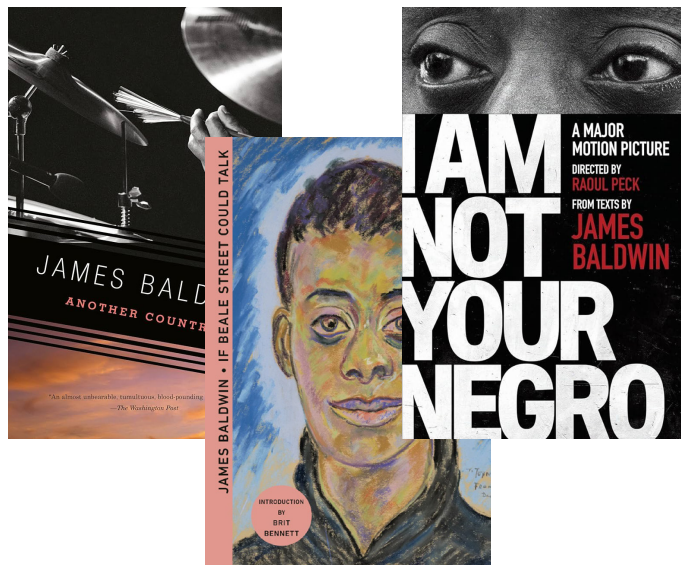
New York  
Public  
Library

[nypl.org/baldwin100](http://nypl.org/baldwin100)

# CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF JAMES BALDWIN

Join The New York Public Library to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the birth of writer and activist James Baldwin with special exhibitions, free programs for all ages, and book giveaways!

From a young age, James Baldwin was a regular user of The New York Public Library, including the 135th Street Library (now known as the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture) and our flagship location at 42nd Street and Fifth Avenue. We are delighted to celebrate his life and work through free exhibitions, art and writing workshops, walking tours, book giveaways, and more at The New York Public Library.



## FREE EXHIBITIONS

**Jimmy! God's Black Revolutionary Mouth**  
*Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture*  
515 Malcolm X Blvd  
On display from August 2, 2024, through February 2025.

**James Baldwin: Mountain to Fire**  
Special display in the Polonsky Exhibition of The New York Public Library's Treasures  
*Stephen A. Schwarzman Building*  
Fifth Avenue & 42nd Street  
On display through summer 2025.

## MORE FROM NYPL

- Pick up one of the 4,000 Baldwin titles we're giving away at select branches this summer.
- Join us for art and writing workshops and more free programs.
- Take a walking tour inspired by *Go Tell It on the Mountain*.
- Find out where to start with Baldwin's work.



Scan the QR code or visit us online to learn more:  
[nypl.org/baldwin100](https://nypl.org/baldwin100)

