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Marriage matters in Detroit Featured

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Dismiss all of the negative talk you've heard about relationships and marriage. Marriage is a great thing and Detroit is here to prove it. More than 300 communities, spiritual and business leaders along with civic groups and couples alike will lock hearts and minds to celebrate National Black Marriage Day on Saturday, March 16, 2013 at The Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History.

This celebration marks the 10th anniversary of the day which was first launched in Washington, D.C., by Nisa Muhammad, founder of the Wedded Bliss Foundation. The national initiative encourages African Americans to embrace marriage as an institution that has long been on the decline within this community by highlighting the deep-rooted historical role marriage has played among African Americans, as well as the reality that there are still black men and women who, day in and day out, meet, fall in love, get married, and stay together.

Lamar and Ronnie Tyler are the founders of Black and Married with Kids.com. Black and Married with Kids is a highly interactive website that promotes positive images of marriage and relationships within the African American community. "Ronnie and I sat down in December 2007 to create something that we are passionate about which is relationships. And we found that marriage and more specifically the way marriage was being viewed and portrayed particularly in the black community was very negative. We wanted to change that image, build the community and highlight couples who are doing it successfully and husbands and wives that love each other," says Lamar.

Husband and wives, engaged couples and those in relationships will enjoy a full day of special events surrounding relationships, the art of communication, vow renewal ceremonies and other helpful workshops to strengthen their bond. Festivities begin at 11:00 a.m. and will be concluded with a romantic evening cap of ballroom dancing. This event not only celebrates couples, but family and community as well. Additional information can be obtained by contacting Angela King or Kimberly T. Austin at (313) 278-4400 or via the museum website at www.TheWright.org. Tickets for the event are \$50 per couple in advance and \$55 per couple on event day. Let's come together and celebrate love.