Kwanzaa 2018 is provided, in part, by the May and Samuel Rudin Family Foundation, Inc. and the family of Frederick H. Leonhardt.

Kwanzaa 2018 is co-presented by Community Works and New Heritage Theatre Group.

The Kwanzaa marketplace is organized by the Harlem Arts Alliance.

IMAGE CREDITS
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Nguzo Saba artwork: Maulana Karenga, Kwanzaa: A Celebration of Family, Community and Culture, Los Angeles: University of Sankore Press
Linda Humes: James Kreigsmann Jr.
Afro-Cuban Kwanzaa: Oyu Oro
Kwanzaa Con: Courtesy of M. Hess/Black Comics Collective
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TAKE THE #KWANZAA CONVERSATION ONLINE:
@AMNH

TICKETS AND INFORMATION:
AMNH.ORG 212-769-5200

MORE UPCOMING PROGRAMS:
AMNH.ORG/CALENDAR
What is Kwanzaa?
Kwanzaa is a seven-day celebration that starts on December 26 and focuses on family, community, creativity, and the cultural traditions found in the African diaspora. Begun during the civil rights era in the United States, Kwanzaa recognizes the strength, beauty, and deep roots of the African-American community. Everyone is invited to learn about the rich cultural legacy and contemporary artistic expressions of the African-American community. We are thrilled to have you join us for our Kwanzaa celebrations!

Why does a museum best known for dinosaurs and a planetarium have a Kwanzaa festival?
The American Museum of Natural History has been hosting one of the country’s largest Kwanzaa celebrations for over 30 years. The Museum is proud to present Kwanzaa as a forum for cultural education. Festivals like Kwanzaa provide us the opportunity to juxtapose the historic artifacts in the cultural halls with the contemporary lived experiences of communities today.

The Seven Principles (Nguzo Saba)
Each day of Kwanzaa highlights one of seven principles that represent the core values of the holiday. The traditional Kwanzaa greeting is “Habari gani?,” which means “What’s the news?” in Swahili. The appropriate response is the name of the principle that corresponds to the current day of Kwanzaa.

1 Umoja (oo-MOH-jah): Unity
2 Kujichagulia (koo-jee-chah-goo-LEE-ah): Self-determination
3 Ujima (oo-JEE-mah): Collective work and responsibility
4 Ujamaa (oo-jah-MAH): Cooperative economics
5 Nia (NEE-ah): Purpose
6 Kuumba (koo-OOM-bah): Creativity
7 Imani (ee-MAH-nee): Faith

Today’s Schedule
Kwanzaa Program
Milstein Hall of Ocean Life | Noon and 3 pm
OPENING
Discover the core values of Kwanzaa with with Dr. Linda H. Humes, founder of Yaffa Cultural Arts, Inc., and master drummers Sanga of the Valley and Andouchie Loubaki.

AFRO-CUBAN KWANZAA
Take in the tradition and spectacle that is the Afro-Cuban experimental dance ensemble Oyu Oro, with over a dozen musicians, singers, and dancers celebrating the rich heritage of the African diaspora in Cuba.

KWANZAA CON
Seven graphic-novel artists from Black Comics Collective live draw illustrations and strips representing the seven principles of Kwanzaa in this lively collaboration.

LOCAL ARTISAN MARKETPLACE
Milstein Hall of Ocean Life | noon–4 pm
Honor the seven principles of Kwanzaa with an local marketplace and fun giveaways throughout the day!