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Shea's Performing Arts Center Announces Next Free Family Film: *Akeelah and the Bee*

**Visit Shea's Buffalo Theatre for Free Movie & Activities on
February 23**

Shea's Performing Arts Center invites the community to Shea's Buffalo Theatre on **Sunday, February 23 at 1:00PM** (doors open at noon) to see ***Akeelah and the Bee***. The movie watching event is one of four events scheduled as part of **Shea's 2025 Free Family Film Series**.

Families are encouraged to come early. In celebration of Black History Month, Shea's is partnering with [Michigan Street African American Heritage Corridor](#) anchor organizations the [Nash House Museum](#) and the [Michigan Street Baptist Church](#) for pre-film activities. Shea's will also be distributing free books collected during ***The Lion King*** Pride Reads book drive and have creative coloring and family photo stations available.

In ***Akeelah and the Bee*** *"responding to a threat by her school principal, Akeelah Anderson participates in a spelling bee to avoid detention for her many absences. Much to her surprise and embarrassment, she wins. As the possibility of making it all the way to the Scripps National Spelling Bee looms, Akeelah could provide her community with someone to rally around and be proud of – but only if she can overcome her insecurities and her distracting home life."*

Akeelah and the Bee is rated PG and has a runtime of 112 minutes. The film, its cast and creative team won several awards including Outstanding Motion Picture from the Black Movie Awards as well as Outstanding Actress (Keke Palmer) in a Motion Picture and Outstanding Writing (Doug Atchison) in a Feature Film from the NAACP Image Awards.

Tickets are free to the public; however, seating is limited. Tickets will be available online approximately three weeks prior to each film. For free tickets to **Akeelah and the Bee** visit:

The other upcoming free family films include:

The Lorax: Sunday, April 27, 2025 at 1:00PM (Doors open at noon)

Up: Sunday, May 18, 2025 at 1:00PM (Doors open at noon)

Shea's Free Family Film Series is made possible, in part, thanks to generous support for community arts engagement and education from Erie County.

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Additional Media Resources:

Official Trailer: [Akeelah and the Bee \(2006\) Official Trailer #1 - Laurence Fishburne Movie HD](#)



Graphics:

[Akeelah Social.png](#)

[Akeelah Horizontal.png](#)