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UA12/6 Black History Month Calendar of Events

WKU Diversity Programs

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BLACK HISTORY MONTH EVENTS 2006

February 1

Lecture: Clarence Page

7:00 p.m. @ Van Meter Hall

This will serve as the inaugural event for the 50 year celebration. Clarence Page, Pulitzer Prize Winning Columnist and Journalist, is the keynote speaker. Page's column is syndicated nationally by Tribune Media Services. Page is an occasional guest panelist on *The McLaughlin Group*, a monthly contributor of essays to the *NewsHour with Jim Lehrer* and a biweekly commentator on *Sunday Morning Edition* on National Public Radio. He is a frequent guest on national news programs, including ABC's *Nightline*, and *Good Morning America*, NBC's *Today*, and CNN. The focus of the program is to involve WKU students, faculty, staff, and the Bowling Green Community in recognition of a historical event at Western Kentucky University.

*Sponsors: Campus Activities Board
The Centennial Committee
African American Studies
Journalism and Broadcasting
Office of Diversity Programs*

February 2

African American Student Excellence Banquet

6:00 p.m. @ the Cupola Room in the Downing University Center

As a part of the 50 Year celebration, this luncheon will honor current WKU students who are excelling in various student engagement areas; academics, athletics, community service, leadership, and volunteerism. The program will include entertainment, a keynote address, and a presentation of awards.

Sponsors: Office of Diversity Programs, Campus Activities Board, and Aramark

Black History Film Series

Featured Film: Race: The Power of an Illusion

Channel 12 (HRL)

This is an award winning PBS Documentary about race in society, science and history. It has been called "one of the most important, sweeping and groundbreaking documentaries in recent memory." The series addresses the fact that most of our common perceptions of race are in fact wrong, such as the idea that the world's races can be divided among biological lines.

Contact Lynn Holland at 745-2037 for more information.

Sponsored by Housing & Residence Life, Women's Studies, the University Libraries, and the Office of Diversity Programs

February 3

A Celebration of Kentucky African American Writers: Frank X. Walker

10:00 a.m. @ Java City, Western Kentucky University

Western Kentucky University Libraries, Bowling Green Public Library, and Barnes and Noble Booksellers are proud to sponsor this celebration of the written word featuring Frank X Walker.

Frank X Walker is a native of Danville, KY and a graduate of Danville High School and the University of Kentucky and completed an MFA in Writing at Spalding University. A founding member of the Affrilachian Poets, he is the editor of *Eclipsing a Nappy New Millennium* and the author of *Affrilachia*, a collection of poems that has recently been nominated for the Kentucky Public Librarians' Choice Award. A Kentucky Arts Council Al Smith Fellowship recipient, his poetry has been converted into a stage production by the University of Kentucky Theatre department and widely anthologized in numerous collections. His most recent poetry collections are *Black Box* and *Bufflalo Dance, the Journey of York*. Frank X won the 2004 Lillian Smith Book Award and that he is the recipient of a 2005 Lannan Literary Fellowship.

This event is free and open to the public. For more information, call 270-745-5016 or email:

Jayne.Pelaski@wku.edu

Sponsored by the Southern Kentucky Book Fest partners

February 6

Forum: Not Just Peanuts and Dreams

7:00 p.m. in DUC 340

A forum regarding the origin of the Black History movement in America. It will feature several prominent African American figures of the past, as well as those who have made contributions in more recent history. A pictorial collection of prominent African American figures and accomplishments in history will also be featured.

Sponsored by the Men of the Diaspora

February 7

Seminar Series: "Behind the Veil," The Emergence of African-American Leadership

Forum: "There are NO RIGHTS, without CIVIL Rights!" The Civil Rights Era & the Leadership that Made an Impact

7:00 p.m. in DUC 226

The 1960's were a detrimental period for the African-American community. Who knew that the hard work, dedication and leadership of many would cause for an upliftment and advancement of Black America. From education, to social enhancement, the Civil Rights era changed the lives of many. This forum will take an in depth look at the leadership of the Civil Rights era, in addition you will engage in conversation that takes a real look of what took place, and why.

Sponsored by the University Centers and Leadership Programs

The Open Mic

11:30 a.m.- 1:00 p.m. @ Garrett Lobby

An open mic event in celebration of African American Writing. For more information, contact the English Department at 745-3044 or 745-3046.

Sponsored by the English Department

February 8

The Open Mic

11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. @ Garrett Lobby

An open mic event in celebration of African American Writing. For more information, contact the English Department at 745-3044 or 745-3046.

Sponsored by the English Department

February 9

Black History Film Series

Featured Film: Standing on My Sister's Shoulders

Discussion Leader: Dr. Sandra Ardrey, Department of Political Science

3:00 p.m. @ DUC Theater

The award-winning documentary *Standing On My Sisters' Shoulders* takes on the Civil Rights movement in Mississippi in the 1950's and 60's from the point of view of the courageous women who lived it – and emerged as its grassroots leaders. These women stood up and fought for the right to vote and the right to an equal education. They not only brought about change in Mississippi, but they altered the course of American history.

Sponsored by Housing & Residence Life, Women's Studies, the University Libraries, and the Office of Diversity Programs

February 11

The Crimson & Cream Ball

The Knicely Conference Center ~ 2355 Nashville Road

Dress to impress! Tickets are \$12 in advance, \$20 @ the door for Singles/ \$22 in advance, \$30 @ the door for Couples.

Sponsored by Delta Sigma Theta (Eta Zeta chapter) & Kappa Alpha Psi (Epsilon Rho) of WKU

February 13

Seminar Series: "Behind the Vail," The Emergence of African-American Leadership

With the crime rate as high as it is, and the alarming rate of poverty that has stricken the African-American community, why haven't we developed a method of improving our conditions as a people. Many government initiatives have been developed, and community organizations have assisted in changed the state of the African-American community, but what is missing. This forum will take an in depth look at the state of the black community, and the many issues that plague the survival of the community. The question must be asked, "Do we have a purpose," or, "Are we resting on the hard work and dedication of those that came before us?"

Sponsored by University Centers and Leadership Programs

February 14

Seminar Series: "Behind The Vail," The Emergence of African-American Leadership

Forum: "Weed, Guns, Violence OR "Graduation, Success, and Accountability," The State of the African-American Male in today's society.

7:00 pm DUC 226

Turning on the television may be misleading, because you may always witness stories of young black males committing acts of violence, trafficking illegal substances, or participating in a homicide. The fact is in 1970 only thirty percent of prison inmates were African-American males, and almost forty years later, the numbers have more than doubled, making African-American males the number one occupant of state prisons. Something is deathly wrong with those figures. This forum is designed to engage you in a controversial debate and discussion on the state of the black male, and the factors that have caused his slow demise.

Sponsored by University Centers and Leadership Programs

February 16

Black History Film Series

Featured Film: The Intolerable Burden

Discussion Leader: Dr. Alan Anderson, *Department of Philosophy & Religion*

3:00 p.m. @ DUC Theater

This film focuses on sharecroppers Mae Bertha and Matthew Carter, who enrolled the youngest eight of their thirteen children in the public schools of Drew, Mississippi. Their decision to send the children to the formerly all white schools was in response to a "freedom of choice" plan. *The Intolerable Burden* places the Carter's commitment to obtaining a quality education in context, by examining the conditions of segregation prior to 1965, the hardships the family faced during desegregation, and the massive white resistance, which led to resegregation.

Sponsored by Housing & Residence Life, Women's Studies, the University Libraries, and the Office of Diversity Programs

February 21

Soul Food Dinner

5:00 pm-7:00 pm @ the Fresh Food Court

Entertainment provided by The Village

Celebrate and enjoy the delicious taste of soul food which is considered a tradition of the African American family.

Sponsored by Aramark, the Office of Diversity Programs, & University Centers & Leadership Programs

February 22

The History of Gospel Music: The Reason Why We Sing

6:30 pm @ DUC Theatre

Gospel Music is the cornerstone of the African American worship experience the performers will introduce you to the rich history of why we sing. Through an interactive presentation, it presents the anthology of what gospel music is today and what influences have shaped it along the way. It's a foot stomping, hand clapping, spirit-filled experience. This is a must see; an edutainment event that you don't want to miss. The presentation is conducted by the Chosen Gospel Music Ministry from Georgia.

Sponsored by the Office of Diversity Programs

February 23

Black History Film Series

Featured Film: I Shall Not Be Removed: The Life of Marlon Riggs

Discussion Leader: Lynne Holland

3:00 p.m. @ DUC Theater

This loving film biography provides a fitting memorial to Marlon Riggs, the gifted, gay, black filmmaker who died from AIDS in 1994. It traces his development from a precocious childhood in the close-knit African American community of Fort Worth, Texas, through his political awakening at Harvard, to his final years as a courageous advocate for stigmatized people everywhere. Clips from all eight of Marlon's films show how he evolved a unique experimental documentary style, mixing poetry and criticism, the personal and the political.

Sponsored by Housing & Residence Life, Women's Studies, the University Libraries, and the Office of Diversity Programs

Remembering Our History

8:00 p.m. @ DUC Theatre

This program will recognize a variety of areas in the rich history of African Americans from our daily lives in Mother Africa to Slavery in the United States; to the Civil Rights Movement until the present. \$1 Admission fee. All proceeds to benefit the American Sickle Cell Anemia Association.

Sponsored by Gamma Sigma Sigma Sorority

February 25

Black History Month Banquet

7:00 pm-9:00 pm @ the Knicely Conference Center

Dr. Rebera Foston, a renowned poet, will be the guest speaker for the event. Proceeds for this event go to the Sorority's Scholarship Fund that helps WKU's entering college freshmen.

Contact Maxine Hardin at 745-4252 for more information and tickets.

Sponsored by Delta Sigma Theta Sorority (Bowling Green Alumnae chapter)

February 27

Keeping It Real About Careers

7:00 pm in DUC

A discussion about the realities of the post college career search that students must plan for to be successful. Topics will include: Relocation, Start-Up Capital, Appropriate Dress, Language, Vocational Awareness, Office Place Diversity, and Networking Opportunities.

Sponsored by the Men of the Diaspora

February 28

Seminar Series: "Behind the Veil," The Emergence of African-American Leadership

7:00 pm DUC 226

Since the early 1900's African-American fraternities and sororities have been at the forefront of African-American issue, debates, and advancements. These organizations provided a voice for the African-American community, and served as a beacon of light for the many issues facing the Black community. Now, 100 years after the first organization was established our organizations have fallen and been distracted by financial gain and political advancement. On our college campuses, individuals are no longer required to be pillars of the communities, or campus leaders to gain membership. What is the state of the Greek life in the African-American community, and are these individuals following the purpose, goals and missions of their founders?

Sponsored by University Centers and Leadership Programs

Exhibit:

I Have A Dream: A Salute To The Life Of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

A collaborative mural painted by Glen Bolling, Alice Gatewood-Waddell, Thelma Green, Granville Mitchell, Vonda Victor and Thomas Withrow will be on exhibit at the Kentucky Museum until Feb. 26, 2006.