



2013 Black History Month

Historically Black Fraternities and Sororities

Presenter: Donald Mitchell, Jr.

GVSU assistant professor of Higher Education

Tuesday, February 5, noon -1 p.m.

**Russel H. Kirkhof Center, Room 2263, Allendale Campus
Lib 100 & Lib 201**

The purpose of this brown bag lunch is to discuss the impact Black fraternities and sororities have on the Black community and Black college students. This session will include a brief talk by Dr. Donald Mitchell, Jr., Assistant Professor of Higher Education at GVSU, followed by a panel discussion and open Q&A session.

AFRO-FUTURISM: Considering Blacks in Science Fiction through Octavia Butler's *Kindred*

Presenter: Student Panel with Bobby J. Springer

GVSU associate director of Multicultural Affairs

Monday, February 11, noon-1p.m.

**Russel H. Kirkhof Center, Room 2263, Allendale Campus
Lib 100 & Lib 201**

This panel discussion continues the African Diaspora Conversation Series, sponsored by Area Studies, which discusses the common reading, *Kindred*, by Octavia Butler. *Kindred* is a science fiction novel about a modern African American woman who is transported to the antebellum South.

Positive Black Women Annual Comedy/Poetry Jam

Thursday, February 14, noon-1pm

**Russel H. Kirkhof Center, Grand River Room
Allendale Campus
Lib 100 & Lib 201**

The Fourth Annual PBW Comedy/Poetry Jam celebrates Valentine's Day by bringing the campus community together through comedy/poetry. This Jam allows Grand Valley students, faculty and staff comedians/poets to perform in a café-style atmosphere. Interested in showcasing your talents? Contact pbw@gvsu.edu by February 1, 2013.

A Taste of Soul

Friday, February 15, noon-1 p.m.

Russel H. Kirkhof Center Lobby, Allendale Campus

Join us, as we share the deep Southern African-American tradition of soul food. This style of cooking originated when enslaved African Americans were given the leftover scraps to eat. They didn't complain about what they got; they just cooked some of the tastiest food. Traditionally their rations consisted of corn, bacon or salt pork, molasses, flour, seasonal fruits and vegetables. With those few items, a variety of wholesome dishes were created. They learned how to use everything, nothing was wasted.

Sponsors: African/African American Studies, Black Student Union, College of Community and Public Services, College of Education, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Inclusion & Equity, LGBT Resource Center, Office of Multicultural Affairs, Positive Black Women, Seidman College of Business, Women's Center, and WGVU TV & Radio.



Effective Leadership and Service

Presenter: Patrick Miles Jr., U.S. Attorney for the Western District of Michigan

Tuesday, February 19, 4-5:30 p.m.

**Russel H. Kirkhof Center, Pere Marquette Room
Allendale Campus
Lib 100 & Lib 201**

Patrick Miles, Jr. was nominated by President Barack Obama on March 29, 2012 to serve as U.S. Attorney for the Western District of Michigan. He was confirmed by the United States Senate on June 29, 2012 and assumed office on July 9, 2012. Mr. Miles is a frequent author and speaker to professional audiences on legal issues, professionalism, diversity and I conclusion as well as to youth audiences on leadership and service.

Storytelling: The Roots of African American and Folk Traditions

Presenter: Rev. Robert Jones, Sr.

Wednesday, February 20, 2-3 p.m.

**Russel H. Kirkhof Center, Grand River Room
Allendale Campus
Lib 100 & Lib 201**

Reverend Robert Jones, Sr. is a singer, storyteller and self taught multi-instrumentalist. He uses folk, blues, spirituals and other American Roots music to champion the beauty and power of our shared culture. His deep love for traditional African American and American traditional music is shared in live performances that interweave timeless stories with original and traditional songs.

Freedom, Slavery and the Underground Railroad in Michigan

Presenter: Veta Tucker

GVSU associate professor of English

Wednesday, February 27, 4:30-6 p.m.

Richard M. DeVos Center, Charles W. Loosemore Auditorium, Pew Grand Rapids Campus

Thursday, February 28, noon-1:30 p.m.

**Russel H. Kirkhof Center, Pere Marquette Room
Allendale Campus
Lib 100 & Lib 201**

A small but dedicated group of Michigan settlers—both blacks and whites—objected to the US Constitution's endorsement of slavery and to territorial Michigan's blind eye to it. In spite of the Constitution's mandate to enforce slavery, Michigan abolitionists organized a small but powerful army—a secret network to assist people held in slavery in Michigan and those escaping slavery in the South find freedom. Abolitionists' refusal to obey the laws protecting slavery ultimately led the US to Civil War.

Events are free and open to the public. For information on parking or for individuals requiring special accommodations, please contact the Office of Multicultural Affairs at (616)331-2177 or email us at oma@gvsu.edu.