In Pursuit of Civil Rights:
The Struggle Continues

A Three-Month Celebration Series to Honor

Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday/Black History Month
Women's History Month
Native American Heritage Month
Martin Luther King, Jr.’s Birthday/Black History Month

“Leadership in Science and Education”
Shirley Ann Jackson, Ph.D., President
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Thursday, February 3rd, 12:00 to 1:00 p.m., BTC* Auditorium

On July 1, 1999, Dr. Shirley Ann Jackson became the 18th President of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. Prior to this appointment, she served in government as Chair of the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission; in industry and research, as a theoretical physicist at the former AT&T Bell Laboratories; and in academe, as a professor of theoretical physics at Rutgers University.

“Student Activism 1960-1970: A Legacy of Hope for the 21st Century and Beyond”
Ms. Colia Clark, Chairwoman
Social Justice Center and Campus Action
Tuesday, February 8th, 12:00 to 1:00 p.m., BTC* Auditorium

Colia Clark is a veteran human rights activist and leader. She was present at many of the major battles regarding human rights struggles during the 1960s, working with the martyred Medgar Evers, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee. She teaches courses in Civil Rights, Africana Studies, Women’s Studies and Diversity and is an African folklorist and storyteller.

“Creative Freedom Through Visual Art”
Stephen J. Tyson, Artist and Educator
Monday, February 14th, 12:00 to 1:00 p.m., BTC* Auditorium

Stephen J. Tyson, a professional visual artist, earned his B.F.A. and M.F.A. from City College of New York. He is an adjunct faculty member in the Fine Arts Department at the University at Albany, SUNY. There will be a display of Mr. Tyson’s work in the Marvin Library throughout the month of February. Everyone is invited to attend the opening reception for this exhibit to be held on Friday, February 4th, 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Panel Discussion: “Profiling and Student Rights”
Gloria Arthur, Attorney
Ann Geisendorfer, Attorney, Chairperson of the Criminal Justice Department, Hudson Valley Community College
Tuesday, February 29th, 12:00 to 1:00 p.m., BTC* Auditorium

Is profiling a form of racism or is it a police officer’s tool? Profiling is a practice used by some law enforcement officers whereby individuals are targeted on the basis of their race. The panelists will discuss this controversial practice, explain the legal issues involved, and discuss its impact on the lives of young African American men.
Women’s History Month

“Making a Way Out of No Way: Black Women’s Clubs and Philanthropy, 1900-1940”
Lillian S. Williams, Director, Institute for Research on Women
Tuesday, March 7th, 12:30 to 1:30 p.m., BTC* Auditorium

Lillian S. Williams, historian, is an Associate Professor in the Women’s Studies Department at the University at Albany, SUNY. She is the author of ‘Strangers in the Land of Paradise: The Creation of an African American Community, Buffalo, New York, 1900-1940. Professor Williams is also editor of The Records of the National Association of Colored Women’s Clubs and associate editor of the sixteen volume series Black Women in United States History.

“The Image of Women in Media”
Robert R. Curry, Director of Education and Training
Upper Hudson Planned Parenthood
Wednesday, March 8th, 12:00 to 1:00 p.m., BTC* Auditorium

Rob Curry holds a Master of Science in Educational Leadership from the University of Dayton, where he was also Dean of Students and a member of the faculty. In addition to his work in reproductive rights and sexuality education, Mr. Curry publishes and presents both locally and nationally on many issues, including “Sexuality and the Media.”

“Women and Reproductive Rights”
Patricia A. McGeown, Executive Director
Upper Hudson Planned Parenthood
Thursday, March 9th, 12:00 to 1:00 p.m., BTC* Auditorium

Patricia McGeown is in her fifth year as Executive Director of Upper Hudson Planned Parenthood and is a faculty member at the School of Public Health, the University at Albany, SUNY. She holds a Master’s Degree in Health Services Administration from the University of Michigan School of Public Health and is the former president of the New York State Public Health Association.

“Performing Identity: It’s in Your Blood...Isn’t it?”
Maria Zemantauski, Flamenco-Style Guitarist and Composer
Thursday, March 16th, 12:00 to 1:00 p.m., Maureen Stapleton Theater

Maria Zemantauski has a Master of Arts in Cultural Anthropology from the University at Albany, SUNY, and a Bachelor of Science in Applied Music from the State University of New York at New Paltz. She is one of the few touring female flamenco-style guitarists in the world. Complementing her performing career, Ms. Zemantauski is a frequent guest lecturer at schools, colleges and universities nationwide.

“Gender and Violence”
Vivian Ng, Associate Professor and Chair
Department of Women’s Studies, University at Albany, SUNY
Wednesday, March 29th, 12:00 to 1:00 p.m., BTC* Auditorium

Dr. Vivian Ng earned her Ph.D. in Chinese History at the University of Hawaii. Prior to joining the Women’s Studies Department, she taught Chinese History and Women’s Studies at the University of Oklahoma for thirteen years. Her research interests include lesbian and gay studies, feminist theory, Asian American studies, and modern Chinese social history.
Native American Heritage Month

A Reading of Native American Literature and Musical Performance by Joseph Bruchac
Abenaki Storyteller and Writer
Tuesday, April 4th, 12:00 to 1:00 p.m., BTC* Auditorium

Joseph Bruchac is a master storyteller and writer of Abenaki, English, and Slovak ancestry. He received his Bachelor of Arts from Cornell University, his Master of Arts from Syracuse University, and his Ph.D. from Union College. Mr. Bruchac is the winner of an NEA Creative Writing Fellowship, a Rockefeller Foundation Humanities Fellowship, the American Book Award, and the Cherokee Nation Prose Award.

Francie Gibbs-Trashen
Spokesperson for the Leonard Peltier Solidarity Committee
Wednesday, April 5th, 12:00 to 1:00 p.m., BTC* Auditorium

Francie Gibbs-Trashen is an active member of the Leonard Peltier Solidarity Committee and is involved in the civil rights struggle of indigenous people. She is also active in environmental and animal rights issues. Ms. Gibbs-Trashen is the producer and co-host of the Public Affairs radio show, “Disruptions,” on WRPI. She is a graduate student in the Department of Sociology at the University at Albany, SUNY.

“Mohican Indians: Past, Present, and Future”
Mr. Stephen Comer
Enrolled Tribal Member
Thursday, April 6th, 12:00 to 1:00 p.m., BTC* Auditorium

Stephen Comer is the only Enrolled Tribal Member living within the boundary of the original Mohican territory, (the Upper Hudson Valley, New York, and the Berkshire Mountains, Massachusetts). Mr. Comer is a noted local speaker on Native American history in New York State.

“Smoke Signals”
Monday, April 3rd, and Friday, April 7th, 12:00 to 3:00 p.m.,
Library Multi-Purpose Room

“Smoke Signals,” the first full length movie written, directed, and produced by Native Americans, is based on a book by Sherman Alexie titled, The Lone Ranger and Tonto Fistfight in Heaven. It is a funny and moving story of a young man struggling to come to terms with his relationship with his father and also a realistic depiction of life on an Indian reservation.

*BTC - The Bulmer Telecommunications Center
February

Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday
Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday, celebrated on the third Monday in January, is a powerful tribute to his philosophy and national prominence. The observance of King's birthday as a legal holiday was signed into law by President Ronald Reagan in 1983 and first celebrated on January 20, 1986.

Black History Month
Black History Month began in 1926 as Negro History Week (the second week in February) as a way to increase awareness and interest in Black history. By the early 1970s the Association of Negro Life and History decided to extend the celebration for the entire month of February and to use the term "Black." Currently, emphasis is directed toward greater recognition of the contributions of peoples of African descent.

March

National Women's History Month
National Women's History Month acknowledges the critical economic, cultural, and social role American women have played and continue to play in every sphere of American life. These achievements have often been overlooked and undervalued by American educational institutions. Women's History Month is an opportunity to learn about the important contributions to American history that have been made by women.

April

Native American Heritage Month
The month of April is an opportunity for the campus community to explore the culture of Native Americans. Native Americans were the original inhabitants of this country and have made many contributions to our society. Native American Heritage Month will explore the history, culture, achievements, and struggles of Native Americans in the United States.
Committee Members

Susan Blandy
Carolyn Brook
Tamu Chambers-Hasan
Dorothy Cummings
Larry Ellis
Phil Littlejohn

Robert Matthews
Susan McDermott
Dorothy Reynolds
Bonnie Sessing-Matcha
Brenda Twiggs

In Appreciation

Academic Senate

Black and Latino Student Association

Cultural Affairs Program

Office of Affirmative Action

Office of the President

Student Senate

Cover:
This piece, titled “Vibe” by Stephen J. Tyson, is an acrylic on canvas painting completed in 1995 (18 3/4” x 24 1/2”). It will be on display in the Marvin Library during the February celebration of Black History Month.

This brochure can be found at our web site:
http://www.hvcc.edu/academ/1rc/voices

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