Proudly Celebrates National Black History Month

February 21-22, 2012
Building 41-A03
8:30 AM - 7:00 PM
ALL ARE WELCOME
The story of African Americans is a story of resilience and perseverance. It traces a people who refused to accept the circumstances under which they arrived on these shores, and it chronicles the generations who fought for an America that truly reflects the ideals enshrined in our founding documents. It is the narrative of slaves who shepherded others along the path to freedom and preachers who organized against the rules of Jim Crow, of young people who sat-in at lunch counters and ordinary men and women who took extraordinary risks to change our Nation for the better. During National African American History Month, we celebrate the rich legacy of African Americans and honor the remarkable contributions they have made to perfecting our Union.

This year’s theme, "Black Women in American Culture and History," invites us to pay special tribute to the role African American women have played in shaping the character of our Nation -- often in the face of both racial and gender discrimination. As courageous visionaries who led the fight to end slavery and tenacious activists who fought to expand basic civil rights to all Americans, African American women have long served as champions of social and political change. And from the literary giants who gave voice to their communities to the artists whose harmonies and brush strokes captured hardships and aspirations, African American women have forever enriched our cultural heritage. Today, we stand on the shoulders of countless African American women who shattered glass ceilings and advanced our common goals. In recognition of their legacy, let us honor their heroic and historic acts for years to come.

The achievements of African American women are not limited to those recorded and retold in our history books. Their impact is felt in communities where they are quiet heroes who care for their families, in boardrooms where they are leaders of industry, in laboratories where they are discovering new technologies, and in classrooms where they are preparing the next generation for the world they will inherit. As we celebrate the successes of African American women, we recall that progress did not come easily, and that our work to widen the circle of opportunity for all Americans is not complete. With eyes cast toward new horizons, we must press on in pursuit of a high-quality education for every child, a job for every American who wants one, and a fair chance at prosperity for every individual and family across our Nation.

During National African American History Month, we pay tribute to the contributions of past generations and reaffirm our commitment to keeping the American dream alive for the next generation. In honor of those women and men who paved the way for us, and with great expectations for those to follow, let us continue the righteous cause of making America what it should be -- a Nation that is more just and more equal for all its people.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BARACK OBAMA, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim February 2012 as National African American History Month. I call upon public officials, educators, librarians, and all the people of the United States to observe this month with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this thirty-first day of January, in the year of our Lord two thousand twelve, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-sixth.

BARACK OBAMA
Tuesday: February 21, 2012

8:30 – 9:20 a.m.   Continental Breakfast (back foyer of auditorium)

9:30:  Opening    Moderator: Dr. Mohamed El-Khawas

Selection:  “Lift Every Voice and Sing”  http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MyS3HPInHtl

Words: James W. Johnson   Music: John R. Johnson

(Audience, please stand.)

Greetings and the Occasion:  Dr. Kenneth Bain, Provost

9:45 – 10:50  Session I    “Digging Up Our Past”    Moderator: Dr. Shirley Jackson

Keynote Speaker: Cultural Historian, Anthony Browder:  ASA PROJECT, Egyptologist

“The Economics of Cultural Memory: Why Black History Matters”

11:00 – 12:20   Session II    “Documenting Our Past, Part I”    Moderator: Dr. Sandra Jowers-Barber

Speakers:  Judge Rohulamin Quander
          Dr. Matthew Petti

12:30-1:50  Session III    “Harlem Renaissance Anthology”    Moderator: Dr. Naseem Sahibzada

Artist/Performer:  Rufus Tiefing Stevenson, Curator

2:00 – 3:20   Session IV    Documenting Our Past, Part II    Moderator: Dr. Sandra Jowers-Barber

Speakers:  Dr. Chester Wright, “African Americans and the Civil War—the 54th Regiment”
          Ms. Carol Ubosi, Civil War Archivist

3:30 – 4:00   Intermission and Exhibits
4:00 – 5:20 Session V Documentary: “Black History—Lost, Stolen, or Strayed” (Narrated by Bill Cosby)

5:30 - 6:50 Session VI PBS Documentary: “Slavery By Another Name,” Moderator: Dr. M. El-Khawas

Discussants: Professor Brenda Brown
              Dr. M. T. Tirmazi
              Dr. Sharon Terrell
              Ms. Delancia Browning
              Dr. Ernesta Pendleton-Williams

Wednesday, February 22, 2012

8:30 – 9:15 Continental Breakfast (back foyer of auditorium)

9:30 “Lift Every Voice and Sing” http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MyS3HPlnHtl

Words: James W. Johnson         Music: John R. Johnson

(Audience, please stand.)

9:35-10:50 Session I “The Black Woman” Moderator: Dr. Valerie Epps

Introduction of Speaker: Dr. Valerie Epps, Vice President for Student Affairs

Speaker/Author: Ms. Donna Britt, former Washington Post journalist and author, Brothers (and Me)

11:00-12:20 Session II: UDC English Professors and Their Research Moderator: Dr. Helene Krathamer

Speakers: Professor Dorothy Phaire
          Dr. Wynn Yarbrough
          Professor Deborah Dessaso
          Dr. Alexander Howe

12:30 - 1:50 Session III “Femmes (Women): The Quest for Freedom, Enlightenment, and Knowledge ”

Moderator: Dr. Marc Christophe

Dr. Marie Racine’s Students: Hattie Allen, Adrian Brown, Maryam Bathersfield, Cheick Diakate, and Eric Claude N’Yam
2:00–3:20 Session IV  “The Global Context of Black History”  Moderator: Prof. Paul Nehru Tennessee

Song:  “Let Freedom Ring” performed by:  Mr. B. Jackson Caesar, Vocalist

Speakers:  Ambassador Denis Antoine

Ambassador Ebrahim Rasool

3:30-4:00  Intermission and Exhibits

4:00-4:20  Session V, Part A.  “African American Heroes in History”  Moderator: Professor Katie Inmon

Speakers:  Dr. Virginia Howard and Her Students

4:20-5:30  Session V, Part B.  “African American Cultural Literacy and the Vernacular Tradition: Lecture/Discussion”

Speaker:  Dr. Elsie A. Williams, Professor of English

5:30 – 6:50 Session VI  “Harlem Renaissance Anthology”  Moderator: Dr. Mohamed El-Khawas

Artist/Performer:  Rufus Tiefing Stevenson, Curator

“Black Love is Black Wealth”

--Nikki Giovanni, Poet
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HOST/HOSTESSES

Nicole Jasper

Andrea White

UDC NATIONAL AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH COMMITTEE (2012)

Christopher Anglim

Denis Antoine

Stephen Brooks, Student Media Specialist

Deborah Dessaso

Mohamed El-Khawas, Chair

Virginia Howard

Katie Inmon, Secretary

Shirley Jackson

Matthew Petti

Marie Racine

Jackie Thompson

Paul Tennessee

Elsie A. Williams, Co-Chair
Lift every voice and sing, till earth and Heaven ring,
Ring with the harmonies of liberty;
Let our rejoicing rise, high as the listening skies,
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.

Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us, Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us; Facing the rising sun of our new day begun, Let us march on till victory is won.

Stony the road we trod, bitter the chastening rod,
Felt in the days when hope unborn had died;
Yet with a steady beat, have not our weary feet,
Come to the place for which our fathers sighed?
We have come over a way that with tears has been watered,
We have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered;
Out from the gloomy past, till now we stand at last
Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,
Thou Who hast brought us thus far on the way;
Thou Who hast by Thy might, led us into the light,
Keep us forever in the path, we pray.
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met Thee.
Lest our hearts, drunk with the wine of the world, we forget Thee.
Shadowed beneath Thy hand, may we forever stand,
True to our God, true to our native land.
NOTES: (This page is for your note-taking.)
1. Carter G. Woodson founded “Negro History Week” in February of 1926.

2. Fifty years later, in 1976—under President Gerald Ford—the week-long celebration became known as “National Black History Month.”

3.
“May the Circle Be Unbroken”

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2011 Deaths of Prominent African Americans
Source: [www.blackamericaweb.com](http://www.blackamericaweb.com)