

The GRIOT

DANIELLE MCCONNELL, EDITOR
KAYLA TOLBERT, REPORTER

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Colorado State University

Welcome Back from the Director

Bridgette Johnson

Welcome to the Spring Semester of 2012! We are excited to see many returning faces as well as several new faces.

The Black/African American Cultural Center is a place where you can not only call “home away from home,” but “opportunity and resources at your fingertips!” If you do not frequent the office, we invite and welcome you to be part of the family!

The semester began with a fabulous Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. celebration and we are embarking upon a month full of educational, inspiring and exciting events during Black History Month and we hope you will mark your calendar to attend many.

If you do not know, we offer

mentoring, leadership, professional and cultural programs that are specifically designed with YOU in mind!

Our staff, professionals and students alike, are here to be of service to you! We have an exciting semester ahead of us and we can only accomplish our mission with your involvement and dedication to the office.

Looking forward to seeing you in the office and around campus!!! Make this semester count!!

-*Bridgette Johnson*
Director of the Black/
African American
Cultural Center

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Reflection on Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Garrett Hayes

On January 16, 2012, a multitude of men, women, and children gathered in Old Town Square in Fort Collins to commemorate one of the most influential individuals of the 20th century and what he stood for. January 15th of this year, would have marked the 83rd birthday of Martin Luther King Jr., a man who devoted his life to evoking the “dream” of equality and justice into the minds of the men and women all over the world.

The “dream” that King envisioned is now closer to reality than ever before. Men, women, and children from all different backgrounds, races, and ethnicities marched side by side to paint a picture of how the world should be. Songs filled the air and for the few hours that the celebration took place, everyone’s mind was cleansed of any hate or anger they may have harbored towards a fellow neighbor.

The march went from Old Town Square to the Lory Student Center Ballroom where the celebration continued with dancers and drummers that paid tribute to the traditional African movements and music. Students from the Poudre School District were honored for their artwork, poetry, and essays that illustrated their interpretation of the dream. Concluding the event, the crowd was

rhythmically uplifted through the elegant lyrics of Kim “Invinity” Ford’s poetry as she provided everyone with her interpretation of freedom.

From the young children who marched vehemently, to the elderly whose heads were held high with pride. This event

encompassed every shade of person who, for a few hours, embraced their similarities rather than highlight their differences. Everyone got a chance to witness how, though we may not be completely where we want to be, we as a people have come closer to making the dream a reality.



Courtesy of:

www.coloradoan.com



Black History Month Breakdown

February 1st - Black History Month Kick Off, 12pm, Lory Student Center Commons. This ceremony is a way to formally introduce and kick off the month. Enjoy song and dance as we kickoff the month in style and have a piece of cake as you learn about the many events planned.

Later that evening, 5pm, “Urban Soul: The Making of Modern R&B” will be showing in room 228 located in the Lory Student Center. Urban Soul documents the groundbreaking journey of the Contemporary American Music culture; being the first documentary to tell the story of the most popular and classic pop music.

February 2nd - Determined Nation: Open Mic Night, 6pm, Ramskeller,

February 6th - “*American History X*”, 9am, 12pm, & 3pm, Lory Student Center Rm 204. This 1998 American drama film was directed by Tony Kaye and stars Edward Norton and Edward Furlong. The story is based on a former Neo-Nazi skinhead perception change and his strides to prevent his younger brother from going down the same wrong path.

DST: Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. Jeopardy- 7:30pm Lory Student Center 203. Come to this event and share good quality time with the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. in a game of jeopardy!

February 7th - 4pm Lory Student Center 204. Real Talk will be having a discussion about the movie “*American History X*”. Following the discussion about the movie will be the Real Talk topic of “Getting Caught Up.”

February 8th - Black faculty/staff Luncheon, 12pm, Lory Student Center Room 203. The luncheon is a wonderful opportunity for the African American student body to connect or in some cases reconnect with the African American faculty/staff here at Colorado State.

February 9th - Daryl Davis “His extraordinary journey into the heart of the institutions of the Klu Klux Klan”, 7pm, Cherokee Park Ballroom. Join us for this insightful and entertaining journey as Daryl Davis shares his story and findings after infiltrating a Klu Klux Klan society. He captivated the audience with his sincere and open approach on the concerning topic, and empowers people to confront their prejudices and overcome their fears. His Lecture on his endeavors is not one to be missed because the insight gained from his lecture could potentially be life changing.

February 10th - Social Issues Comedian Tracey Ashley – Lory Student Center 5pm Ramskeller. From her southern upbringing, to her life abroad, to now living in the Midwest, Tracey has a lot to cover. Sprinkle in her opinion on society and her take on politics and you have one female comic with a lot to make you think about all while laughing!

February 13th - Movie: Prom Night in Mississippi- 9am, 12pm, and 3pm Lory Student Center 204. This movie captures a big moment in a small town, where hope finally blossoms as actor Morgan Freeman changed a high school prom from once a traditional segregated prom to now one that all ethnicities can enjoy together.

February 14th - Interracial Dating: Does love have anything to do with it? Lory Student Center 4pm. Come to the BAACC office to discuss another segment on the topic of interracial dating and hear different opinions on if couples date outside of their races based on love or social status.

February 15th - “Till death do us Part... If I Don’t Divorce You First” – Lory Student Center 228 6pm. The Dynamics of Male/ Female Relationships, with guest speaker Trina Patterson, 6pm, Lory Student Center room 228. This conversation isn’t one you’re going to want to miss, the in-depth look into the dynamics of male/ female relationships.

February 16th - UMC “Why We Laugh” - Lory Student Center 204 4pm “*Why We Laugh*” is a documentary to explore and reveal the diverse experiences of being black in America through uncensored, humorous, and truthful lenses of today’s comedians and social critics.

February 20th - Movie: “The Great Debaters”: Lory Student Center 204 9am, 12pm, and 3pm- Come enjoy this movie about a drama based on the true story of Melvin B. Tolson, a professor at Wiley College Texas. In 1935, he inspired students to form the school's first debate and ended up making history!

—Continued on page 4

Black History Month Breakdown Continued:

February 23rd - Malcolm X daughter: Ilyasah Shabazz North ballroom 7pm- The daughter of such a strong historical figure- who wouldn't want to come hear the inside story? Come hear Ilyasah's story and that of her father's as being African-American through a racially harsh time in history.

February 27th - Movie: "The Help"- 9am, 12pm, and 3pm Lory Student Center 204- First a book and now a groundbreaking motion picture showcasing the lives through the segregated south, their homes, and "the Help" that made it happen. Come and relax while watching a movie that not only gives a little sneak peek inside the lives of slaves, but also displays how if there's a will, there's a way!

February 28th - Real Talk: "The Help": Exploitive or respectful toward black women? - Lory Student Center 4pm 204- Do you have something to say about the movie "The Help"? Well come down to the BAACC Office and share your opinions with other students as we discuss the movie and whether it was exploitive representation of black women or that is was respectful!

Night in Harlem- Cherokee Park Ballroom 7pm- Games, music, and refreshments? How can we say more! Not to mention with a dash of educational? Put away your heavy load and come down to the ballroom to enjoy and breathe in a night in Harlem by playing games and networking with a diverse group of faculty and students!



Colorado State University
BLACK/AFRICAN AMERICAN
CULTURAL CENTER

204 Lory Student Center

Fort Collins, Colorado 80523-8016

www.baacc.colostate.edu

Office Hours: 8:00 am— 5:00 pm

Phone: 970-491-5781

Fax: 970-491-0492

Email: bss@lamar.colostate.edu

BLACK HISTORY MONTH 2012

FEBRUARY 1ST
BLACK HISTORY MONTH KICK OFF
 12 PM
 LORY STUDENT CENTER COMMONS

DOCUMENTARY:
"URBAN SOUL: THE MAKING OF MODERN R&B"
 5 PM
 LORY STUDENT CENTER 228

FEBRUARY 2ND
DETERMINED NATION OPEN MIC NIGHT
 6 PM
 RAMSKELLER

FEBRUARY 6TH
 MOVIE:
"AMERICAN HISTORY X"
 9 AM, 12 PM, & 3 PM
 LORY STUDENT CENTER 204

DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY INC.
JEOPARDY: THE FIRST TO SET IT OUT
 7:30 PM
 LORY STUDENT CENTER 203

FEBRUARY 7TH
 REAL TALK:
"GETTING CAUGHT UP"
 REFLECTION OF "AMERICAN HISTORY X"
 4 PM
 LORY STUDENT CENTER 204

FEBRUARY 8TH
BLACK FACULTY/STAFF LUNCHEON
 12 PM
 LORY STUDENT CENTER 203

FEBRUARY 9TH
 DARYL DAVIS ON HIS EXTRAORDINARY JOURNEY INTO THE HEART OF THE INSTITUTIONS OF THE KU KLUX KLAN
 7 PM
 CHEROKEE PARK BALLROOM

FEBRUARY 10TH
 SOCIAL ISSUES COMEDIAN TRACEY/ASHLEY
 5 PM
 RAMSKELLER

FEBRUARY 13TH
 MOVIE:
"PROM NIGHT IN MISSISSIPPI"
 9 AM, 12 PM, & 3 PM
 LORY STUDENT CENTER 204

FEBRUARY 14TH
 REAL TALK:
INTERRACIAL DATING: DOES LOVE HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH IT?
 4 PM
 LORY STUDENT CENTER 204

FEBRUARY 15TH
"TILL DEATH DO US PART ... IF I DON'T DIVORCE YOU FIRST"
 DYNAMICS OF MALE/FEMALE RELATIONSHIPS
 SPEAKER:
 TRINA PATTERSON
 6 PM
 LORY STUDENT CENTER 228

FEBRUARY 16TH
UNITED MEN OF COLOR DOCUMENTARY AND DISCUSSION: "WHY WE LAUGH"
 4 PM
 LORY STUDENT CENTER 204

FEBRUARY 20TH
 MOVIE:
"THE GREAT DEBATERS"
 9 AM, 12 PM, & 3 PM
 LORY STUDENT CENTER 204

FEBRUARY 23RD
MALCOLM X'S DAUGHTER: ILYASAH SHABAZZ
 7 PM
 NORTH BALLROOM

PILLOW TALK:
 Book Discussion
Mama Ruby by Mary Monroe
 *book available for \$5 in B/AACC, please have book completed by 2/23
 9 PM
 LORY STUDENT CENTER 204

FEBRUARY 27TH
 MOVIE:
"THE HELP"
 9 AM, 12 PM, & 3 PM
 LORY STUDENT CENTER 204

FEBRUARY 28TH
 REAL TALK:
"THE HELP"
 EXPLOITIVE OR RESPECTFUL TOWARD BLACK WOMEN
 4 PM
 LORY STUDENT CENTER 204

A NIGHT IN HARLEM: GAMES, MAGIC, MUSIC & LIGHT REFRESHMENTS
 7 PM
 CHEROKEE PARK BALLROOM

EVERY FRIDAY: BLACK HISTORY TRIVIA AT 2 PM IN LORY STUDENT CENTER 204

We have a beautiful history, and we shall create another in the future that will astonish the world.
 - Marcus Garvey



A special thanks for making BHM 2012 possible to B/AACC, UMC, Determined Nation, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc., Black Definition, Campus Activities, Africans United, ASCSU, ASCSU Diversity, ASAP, GLBTC, WGAC, BSA & Shades of CSU