

**James Farmer Multicultural Center**

**Cultural Programming and Collaborations Report**

Black History Month Celebration –February 2014

- The successful implementation of the 2014 Black History Month Celebration involved the collaboration of the Planning Committee, the JFMC, BSA, and several other departments and student organizations on campus. In addition, a few of the programs involved local community organizations and agencies, such as Virginia Organizing and the Fredericksburg Area Museum and Cultural Center.
- The theme for the month was “With Our Minds Set on Freedom: Advancing Justice, Realizing the Dream.” Each program was designed to reflect the theme in one aspect or another. The goal of the Black History Month Celebration was to honor, celebrate, and educate everyone about the contributions of African Americans to American history and culture. The month-long celebration included a social justice panel discussion, lectures, film and discussion programs, cultural and musical events representative of the Black cultures, as well as four meals in Seacobeck Dining Hall highlighting cuisines of various Black cultures. The keynote program featured Ms. Angela Rye, the youngest female executive director and first general counsel to the Congressional Black Caucus. She is the principal at IMPACT Strategies and has been recognized as MSNBC’s “Beltway Power List: 35 Under 35 Who Changed DC,” *The Washington Post’s* “Who Runs Gov.,” and DC’s Most Influential.

Academic Collaborations

- Program support with Mr. Scott Harris, director of the James Monroe Museum and Memorial Library on, “Civil War to Civil Rights: Trail to Freedom,” on Thursday, February 6, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in Lee Hall, Room 411.
- Program support with Dr. Gary Richards, Chair of ELC department and associate professor, on a lecture, “African Sovereignty in the British Atlantic World,” on Monday, February 17, 2014 at 4:00 p.m. in Lee Hall, Room 411.
- Program support with Dr. Allyson Poska, director of Women’s and Gender Studies program and professor in History and American Studies, on a lecture “Let Me Loosen Up My Bra Strap: Black Female Sexual Agency in Contemporary Film and Literature,” on Tuesday, February 18, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in Lee Hall, Room 411.

- Joint venture with Dr. Meghan Conley, James Farmer Postdoctoral Fellow in Civil Rights and Social Justice with the Sociology and Anthropology department and the James Farmer Multicultural Center on a panel discussion, “The Restoration of Voter Rights,” on Thursday, February 20, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. in Lee Hall, Room 411.
- Joint venture with Dr. Doug Gately and the Music Department on “An Evening of Jazz: A Tribute to America’s Great Black Artists,” on Wednesday, February 26, 2014 at 7:30 p.m. in the Underground, Lee Hall.