

James Farmer Multicultural Center

Cultural Programming and Collaborations Report

Islamic Cultural Celebration – March 31 – April 4

- The Islamic Student Association (ISA) took the leadership in planning and coordinating this celebration for the campus community. The kick-off event was held on Ball Circle and included a cultural slideshow, music, Henna designs, and Mediterranean food. Other events for the celebration included hosting an abstract and contemporary artist, a panel discussion, and the Islamic Cultural banquet. The keynote speaker for the banquet was Ms. Salma Abugideiri, co-director of Peaceful Families Project, an organization dedicated to educating Muslim community leaders and members about domestic violence. Her presentation was enlightening and outstanding. She was well-received by the audience.

Passover – April 15

- The Jewish Student Association took the leadership in planning and coordinating this event for the campus community. Passover is the Jewish celebration that honors the emancipation of the Israelites from slavery in ancient Egypt. The eight-day celebration takes place in early spring and has many rituals that involve food and the unification of family. The Jewish Student Association and the JFMC hosted the fifth annual Passover feast in Seacobeck Hall. Over 60 people attended this event. Several community members and faculty/staff members were in attendance. Members of JSA read the history of Passover as well as demonstrated the ancient Hebrew prayers and texts.

Multicultural Fair – April 12

- The 24th Annual Multicultural Fair drew a large crowd of over 5,000 individuals to the campus. With perfect weather conditions for the day, the Fair was very successful. There were an impressive number of vendors and volunteers participating in this event. The Multicultural Fair Committee was very detailed and thorough in the planning and implementing processes. The JFMC gratefully acknowledges the many departments and individuals who contributed their time, efforts, input, etc. to make this event possible and successful.

Academic Collaborations

- Program support with Dr. Nabil Al-Tikriti, associate professor in History and American Studies, on a panel discussion titled, “Cultural Diffusion in Islam” on Wednesday, April 2, 2014 at 7 p.m. in Monroe Hall, Room 346.