

**James Farmer Multicultural Center**

**Cultural Programming and Collaborations Report**

**Martin Luther King, Jr. Week Celebration – January 20 – 26**

- In collaboration with the Office of the President, Office of the Vice President for Equity and Access, Center for Community Engagement, and the MLK Planning Committee, the JFMC assisted in coordinating a series of programs to celebrate Dr. King's life and legacy. The campus and local community were invited to journey and reflect during this celebration on how Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. has affected your life, your community, and your future. This is the sixth year we implemented the MLK, Jr. Kids' Day activities. It was held off campus at the James Monroe High School in collaboration with the community-based Partnership for Excellence organization and their city-wide MLK program.

The MLK keynote presentation featuring Dr. Bernard LaFayette on Wednesday, January 23<sup>rd</sup> was successful. Dr. LaFayette delivered an inspiring and enlightening speech as he shared his journey and involvement with many civil rights movements and causes, including his relationships with John Lewis, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and others. He recounted the challenges they faced to keep the civil rights movement achieving significant accomplishments along the way. In addition, there was a documentary and discussion program entitled, "*King in the Wilderness*" on Tuesday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>. The Day of Service activities scheduled for Saturday, January 26<sup>th</sup> were successful. Students engaged in community service projects during the morning and participated in an interactive workshop on the importance of service during the early afternoon.

**Black History Month Celebration –February 2019**

- The successful implementation of the 2019 Black History Month Celebration involved the collaboration of the Planning Committee, the JFMC, BSA, Voices of Praise, WOC and several other departments and student organizations on campus.
- The theme for the month was "Black Migrations: From Enslavement to Defining the Movement." 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 discussion, lectures, film and discussion programs, cultural and musical events representative of the Black cultures, as well as four meals in the University Center Dining Hall highlighting cuisines of various Black cultures. The keynote program will feature Ms. Karen Hunter, a Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist who has blazed a trail by bringing more action and less talk to talk radio. A distinguished lecturer at Hunter College, she was presented the Gene Burns Memorial Award for Freedom of Speech – considered the Oscar of radio – by *Talkers Magazine*. As a sports and news reporter with the *New York Daily News* for 16 years, she was the paper's first African-American female news columnist.