

**James Farmer Multicultural Center**

**Cultural Programming and Collaborations Report**

Gender and Sexual Minorities and Allies (GSMA) Celebration – October 21 – 25

- This celebration looked to pay tribute to the contributions of LGBTQ+ people in STEM fields. The theme was “Blast Off to a Rainbow Planet!” Programs for this week included a kickoff dinner in front of Ball Circle, a film and discussion, a discussion panel, and a dance. The keynote speaker was Ted Lewis, a former UMW student who works with LGBTQ+ youth in Richmond.

Asian Cultural Celebration – October 27 – November 2

- November commenced with the Asian Cultural Celebration, the theme was “Hidden Gems of the East.” There were many scheduled presentations including a performance by the Asian Cultural Celebration keynote performer, Prem Raja Mahat. There was a lecture, a karaoke night event, as well as a game night. The celebration ended with the popular annual celebration, Taste of Asia, which highlighted different aspects of Asian culture presented through a fashion show, dance performances, and an array of ethnic foods.

Jewish Cultural Celebration – November 4 – 8

- The annual Jewish Cultural Celebration was co-sponsored by the Jewish Student Association and the JFMC. The Jewish Cultural Celebration keynote speaker, Rabbi Michael Knopf, was a success. There were several other programs throughout this celebration including a movie night and a challah making night. The week concluded with a Shabbat Dinner.

Native American Cultural Celebration – November 11– 14

- This celebration strove to address common popular attitudes and misconceptions surrounding Native American culture and traditions as we honored their history and heritage. The theme was “Indigenous People: Still Standing Strong.” Scheduled programs included a Native American dinner in the University Center, 4<sup>th</sup> floor, a film and discussion, a panel program, and outstanding Native American Cultural Celebration keynote speaker and performer, Mark Tayac of the Piscataway Nation.

## Academic Collaborations

- Program support with Dr. Marcelo Fajardo-Cardenas, associate professor in the Modern Languages and Literatures department, for a program entitled, "Creating a New Culture II: Poetry Readings," on Thursday, October 3, 2019 at 5:00 p.m. in Combs Hall, Room 139.
- Program support with Professors Betsy Lewis (chair of the Modern Languages and Literatures department), Ana Chichester (director of the BLS program), Marcelo Fajardo-Cardenas (associate professor in MLL), and Antonio Barrenechea (professor in English, Linguistics, and Communication department) for a program entitled, "Creating a New Culture III: Clash of Two Empires: Montezuma and Cortés, Mexico 1519," on Tuesday, October 8, 2019 at 5:00 p.m. in Combs Hall, Room 139.
- Program support with Dr. Ian Finlayson, associate professor of Computer Science, on a presentation entitled, "You Matter: LGBTQ+ People in STEM," on Thursday, October 24 at 5 pm in the Digital Auditorium, HCC.
- Program support with Dr. Suzie Kim, assistant professor of Art History, on a program entitled, "Visualizing Marginalized Histories of Women in Contemporary Asian Art," on Monday, October 28 at 6 pm in the Digital Auditorium, HCC.
- Program support with Mr. Scott Harris, executive director of the University Museums, on a panel discussion entitled, "Past. Present. Power.," on Wednesday, November 13 at 6 pm in Chandler Ballroom A&B, University Center.