

STOCKTON COLLEGE

THE RICHARD STOCKTON COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY



Richard Stockton College Offering Series of Programs Throughout Black History Month

Flag Raising Ceremony, Traveling Museum Exhibit and Guest Panel Discussions Planned

For Immediate Release

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Galloway Township, NJ- The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey will host a number of programs to celebrate the contributions of African Americans to American history and culture throughout the month of February—the 35th anniversary of Black History Month.

Black History Month began as a weeklong celebration in 1926, and 50 years later, in 1976, the celebration was extended to a month. February was chosen as the month of the celebration to honor Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln, both of whom were born in February.

The College will officially open its celebration of Black History Month with a flag raising ceremony, hosted by the Unified Black Students Society (UBSS), on **Tuesday, February 8, 2011**, at 11:00 a.m. Students, faculty and staff will gather outside around the circle in front of the Arts and Sciences Building to watch as the tri-colored Pan-African flag is raised. The flag originated as a symbol of the African people and was created by the Universal Negro Improvement Association and African Communities League (UNIA-ACL).

On **Wednesday, February 2**, the Office of the College Center and Stockton After Hours will host a traveling exhibit from the Reflections in Black Museum, titled “From Race Music to Rock and Roll and Beyond.” The exhibit will be on display in the J-Wing gallery from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

The museum’s founder, Clifton J. Brown, will be present the entire day to answer questions about the exhibit. The museum, based out of Northfield, Ohio, travels with its exhibits to educate, motivate and inspire others by sharing historical information on the accomplishments of African Americans.

Joseph Lizza, assistant director of the campus center for operations and programs, said, “The exhibit will spotlight the many achievements of African American musicians and composers, as well as general music related items such as stage outfits, newspaper articles, photos and posters.”

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To celebrate the history, culture and contributions of African Americans, Stockton's Africana Studies program will host a series of presentations and panel discussions focusing on controversial issues in the black community. Each of the programs will be held in the West Quad Building room 103.

- **Thursday, February 10**

12:30 p.m. "To Be Black and Gay/Lesbian in America"

Dr. Darrell Cleveland, assistant professor of education, Stockton College

Rev. Dr. Frank Portee, III, Church of the Good Shepherd, Willingboro, NJ

Dr. Patricia Reid-Merritt, professor of social work and Africana studies, Stockton College

2:30 p.m. "Good Skin, Good Hair: The Color Controversy in Black America"

Dr. Donnetrice Allison, associate professor of communications, Stockton College

Ms. Destiny Bush, Stockton College

- **Thursday, February 24**

12:30 p.m. "Two Years Later: The Obama Administration and Social Progress in the Black Community: Has His Presidency Made a Difference?"

Mr. Jerome Harris, chairman, New Jersey Black Issues Convention

Dr. Michael Rodriguez, associate professor of political science, Stockton College

2:30 p.m. "Urban (Ghetto) Literature: Portraying the Lives of Black Folks—Is This Stuff Real?"

Dr. Linda Nelson, professor of anthropology and Africana studies, Stockton College

Ms. Daaimah Poole, author of *What's His is Mine, Somebody Else's Man, Yo-Yo Love* and *We Take This Man*.

All of the College's Black History Month events are free and open to the public.

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