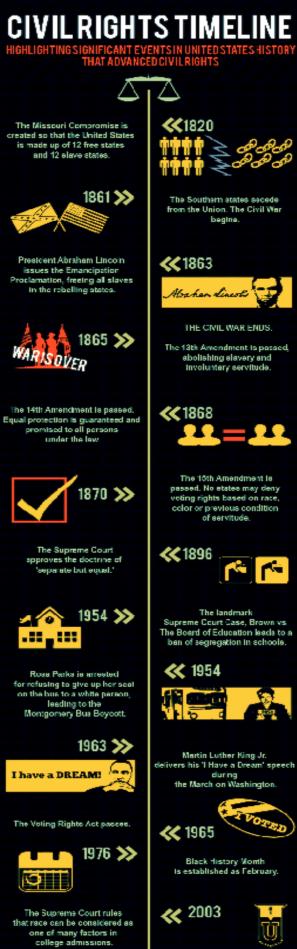
SIUE Celebrates Black Heritage Month

At Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, Black Heritage Month is a time to celebrate the accomplishments and contributions of Black people, and for the University to recommit to challenges ahead, according to SIUE Chancellor Randy Pembrook.



The SIUE Campus Activities Board (CAB) is sponsoring the 18th annual observation, which has theme of "A Different World." We use Black Heritage instead of Black History Month, because when you speak of history, you are talking about things in the past," said Marissa Williams, Black Heritage Month chair. "But in addition to history, heritage is something weembrace every day. It is something we can learn from, teach others and pass along to the future."



SAONRAGE



"All people should be celebrated," said Kimberly Pope, graduate assistant for the SIUE Black Heritage Month committee. "However, African Americans are often marginalized and viewed as negative images in the media. All Black people are not illiterate, gang bangers, criminals, lazy or immoral people. We work hard to attain ourgoals and accomplishments, which is why Black Heritage month is so important."

"I love my heritage, too," said Moriliat Ibrahim, a senior majoring in biology. "My father is Nigerian and my mother was born in Ghana, and I was raised in America. "It's good to see African Americans embracing their African culture. I love being black.

"Ilovemyblackheritagebecauseofitsuniqueness, cultureand history," said Kaesha Booth, a junior majoring in sociology.





SIUE Senior Uses Talents Academically and to Engage Campus Community

Southern Illinois University Edwardsville senior mass communications major Marissa Williams has a knack for public speaking. It's a talent she identified in high school, and one that has been fostered through her studies and student involvement activities.

Williams, a Chicago native, is the chair of the SIUE Campus Activities Board's Black Heritage Month tradition, which will kick off Thursday, Feb. 1 in the Morris University Center's Goshen Lounge. This year's theme is "A Different World."

"Black Heritage Month is not only here to give the history of Black heritage, but also to bring together our diverse campus community and make us all one voice," Williams said. "My hope is that people will gain a deeper understanding and embrace this rich heritage that impacts America every day."

The greatest gift of a confident public speaker, according to Williams, is the ability to help others speak through them. After completing her bachelor's in mass communications in May 2018, she plans to stay at SIUE to pursue a master's in college student personnel administration.

"SIUE has nurtured me to the fullest, and I could not picture myself at another University getting the treatment, love and community that I've had here," she said.

"Being a mass communications major has enhanced my life immensely," she continued. "It's helped me see the world in a different way. It's given me a chance to hear and share other people's stories, and has enhanced my perception of everyday life. I've grown into a stronger, more independent person and gained more empathy for everyone around me.

Williams aspires to work in diversity and inclusion within higher education student affairs. Her combined academic and event coordinating experience has inspired her to make change and positively impact wherever she works in the future.

"The college experience is incredibly important for students, and I want to be a part of making that enjoyable by fostering inclusive environments and encouraging people to get involved in campus life," she said. Feb. 1 "The Black Self Image" Pt. I Opening Ceremony IO AM - I2 PM Goshen Lounge

Feb. 19 Dr. Guion "Guy" Bluford, Jr.

"The future of the space program and international space station."

7:30 PM

(Sports and by the SIUE Graduate School and The Dr. William Shaw Lectureship Endowmer

Feb. 1 "The Black Self Image" Pt. 2 Art Showcase 7 PM - II PM Meridian Ballroom Meridian Ballroom Feb. 19 Protective Styles My Curl Friends 6 PM - 9 PM Mississippi/Illinois

Feb. 2 "It Takes a Village" Black Business Expo 6 PM - 9 PM Meridian Ballroom

Feb. 23 BHM Film & Discussion
Omega Psi Phi feat.
Dr. Jessica Harris
7 PM - 10:30 PM
Conference Center

Feb. 13 "It Happened One Night"
Community Health Fair
II AM - 2 PM
Meridian Ballroom

Feb. 24 Black Panther 9:30 PM AMC Showplace Edwardsville 12

Feb. 13 Step Afrika 7 PM Meridian Ballroom Feb. 15 Clarence Lang

Feb. 28 The "E"mmys
7 PM - II:30 PM
Conference Center

4:30 PM Abbott Auditorium, Lovejoy Library

(Sponsored by the Department of Black Studies and the Department of Historical Studies)

Feb. 15 "Black Card Revoked" Black Girls Rock Game Night 7 PM - 9 PM MUC University Restaurant



BLACK HERITAGE MONTH 2018

