

February 2 BHM Opening Dinner Afrikan Heritage House 5:30pm Join the Afrikan Heritage House for its annual dinner to kick off Oberlin College's celebration of Black History Month, Afrikan Heritage House Dining Hall, 5:30pm-7:00pm

* -February 6, 7, and 8th "Follow Me to Nellie's" Dominique Morriseau, Playwright Justin Emekah, Director. Hall Auditorium, 8pm The dynamic voice of emerging playwright Dominique Morisseau brings the early civil rights movement to vivid life in this tale of Madame Nellie's house in 1955 Natchez. Inspired by a family memoir, Ms. Morisseau recounts a dramatic story "of an aspiring blues singer who is looking for a way out, a voting rights activist looking for shelter, a brothel of wounded women looking for change." Rich in atmosphere and character, Follow Me to Nellie's scintillates with unfulfilled desires illuminated by hope "during the reign of segregation and under the watchful eye of Miss Nellie Jackson."

* -February 13th "The 1964 Civil Rights Acts: Now and Then" A Conversation Between Four Historians on the Anniversary of the 1964 Civil Rights Act Hallock Auditorium 6:30pm-8:00pm In recognition of the 50th Anniversary of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, Dr. Pam Brooks (Oberlin College) will moderate a discussion between historians Dr. Francoise Hamlin (Brown University), Dr. Hasan Jeffries (OSU), Dr. Charles McKinney (Rhodes College) and Dr. Renee Romano (Oberlin College) about the historical importance of the Act and the contemporary implications of the act in an age of changing election and voting expectations. Free and open to the Public. Sponsored by the Afrikan Heritage House, the Department of Africana Studies, the Department of History and ABUSUA

-February 13th Angelique Kidjo perform Finney Chapel, 8pm A performance by the Grammy Award winning Beninoise singer songwriter and activist. Sponsored by the Assemblies Committee \$8 OCID \$20 Public

* -February 15th "An Afternoon with Ryan Coogler" a screening and discussion of the Film "Fruitvale Station" in Celebration of the 100th Anniversary of the Apollo Theater, The Apollo Theater, 12pm-4pm Ryan Coogler the director of the highly acclaimed film "Fruitvale Station" will discuss his work in conjunction with a screening of the film. Free and open to the public. Sponsored by the Office of Community and Government Affairs

-February 18 Film: "Samuel Coleridge-Taylor and His Music in America, 1900-1912" Lord Lounge Afrikan Heritage House, 7:30pm "Samuel Coleridge-Taylor and His Music in America, 1900-1912" tells the story of

this Afro-English composer and his influence on American music and culture during the first decade of the twentieth century. The film features many fine performances of Coleridge-Taylor's compositions -- some never before recorded -- by a number of professional African-American musicians, among them Angela Brown, soprano, Rodrick Dixon, tenor, Robert Honeysucker, baritone, and a chorus comprised of nearly two dozen professional opera singers from Washington, DC. Sponsored by the Oberlin College Black Musician's Guild

-February 20th "Whys Black Magicians": Amiri Baraka in Word and Image, Lord Lounge Afrikan Heritage House, 7:30pm A commemoration of the writings of poet, essayist, novelist, playwright and activist Amiri Baraka. Included is a screening of the 1967 cinema adaptation of Baraka's award winning play "The Dutchman" starring Al Freeman, Jr. and Shirley Knight. Sponsored by the Afrikan Heritage House and the Department of Africana Studies.

-February 22 Convocation: An Evening with Avery Brooks '70 Finney Chapel, 7:30-9:30 Avery Brooks '70 is an accomplished actor, director, musician and teacher. His extensive stage experience includes the title roles in the Shakespeare Theater production of The Oedipus Trilogy, Paul Robeson, and the opera X: The Life and Times of Malcolm X. Television viewers will recognize him as Captain Sisko in Star Trek: Deep Space Nine and as the host of the recent PBS/BBC documentary, Bible Mysteries. A former Artistic Director of the National Black Arts Festival in Atlanta, Georgia, Brooks is currently a tenured professor of theater at the Mason Gross School of the Arts.

-February 26 Lecture by Dr. Earl Lewis, President of Mellon Foundation Dye Lecture Hall, 7:30 p.m. Title: TBD.

* --March 3 Convocation Rev. James Lawson "The Influence of Plantation Capitalism on Today's Human Rights" First Church 7pm

Thank you, Mr. President.

1-30-2014

John Whitman 46802 Rt. 20, West, Oberlin, Ohio

Throughout history, many things have been deemed impossible. With the leadership, and guidance of a few dedicated men, these impossibilities were overcome. Let me state a few examples:

Abraham Lincoln freed the slaves:

John F. Kennedy put a man on the moon:

Martin Luther King Jr. achieved racial equality:

Overcoming these impossibilities took many years of dedication!

For 6 years I have been dedicated to trying to get the city to place a tile at wetland A, where the city has caused a flooding problem!

For 6 years I have been told by the city that this is an impossibility!

I now offer a challenge to the Great City of Oberlin, through this council, to strive to overcome this impossibility!

6 years is long enough to overcome an impossibility that could be achieved in less than a day!

Of course, I offer my support!

Will this council accept this challenge!

Thank you,
John Whitman