

VOICES

Diversity Reception Recognizes Community Members



On April 16th, the Office of Diversity and Equal Opportunity recognized 70 community leaders for their leadership and work in the area of diversity. The recipients were nominated by campus peers and named in the January-April VOICES newsletters. The program included opening remarks by Chon Glover, Chief Diversity Officer; Taylor Reveley, President; and Michael Halleran, Provost. Each individual received a certificate from President Reveley. The event ended with food and fellowship. This will be an annual event and recognitions will begin again in the Fall. Thanks to Erin Zagursky for the photo above.

Varun Soni Chosen to Speak for Service of Celebration



Varun Soni, dean of religious life at the University of Southern California, will serve as the speaker for the Service of Celebration on May 12, 2013 at 9:30 am at William and Mary Hall. For more information on Soni and the Service, please go to <http://www.wm.edu/news/stories/2013/varun-soni-to-speak-at-service-of-celebration123.php>.



"William and Mary Theatre presented **SITAYANA: JOURNEY of WOMANHOOD** on

April 18-21 at PBK Theatre. The multicultural show was collaboration between Prof. Francis Tanglao-Aguas, his students in Asian Performance Ensemble, and the faculty and student design teams of the Department of Theatre, Speech, and Dance. Charting the life of Princess Sita, the show was

a dramatization of the ideal qualities of men and women."

"Since 2008, IPAX: International Performance Arts eXchange has been awarding the Lisa Rose Middleton Arts Leadership Award and the Sessue Hayakawa Prize in Asian Arts. For 2013, Jamar Jones and Alex McBath received the Middleton Award named after Lisa Rose Middleton, WM alum who founded Black Theatre Ensemble in Georgetown University and was a renowned director in the Washington DC theatre circuit. Thomas Baker and Elliott Hay received the Hayakawa Prize for their passion, dedication, and advocacy for Asian performers and performance at WM. The Hayakawa Prize is in honor of Sessue Hayakawa, the first Asian actor to ever be nominated for an Academy Award."

From the School of Education
Neurodiversity Professional Development Workshop
By Shannon Trice-Black & Judi Harris

Faculty, staff and students in the School of Education participated in a dynamic workshop on April 16th entitled, "Neurodiversity: Creating an Inclusive College Classroom" that was presented by Josh Burk, Cheryl Dickter, and Janice Zeman (Psychology), and Karin Wulf (History). The research-based session suggested best practices for making the university classroom a more effective and inclusive learning environment for all students, including those with autism, other neurodivergences, social anxiety issues, and/or introverted personalities. The presenters shared results of their W&M-based research on these topics, overviewed their ongoing work with the Neurodiversity Initiative (<http://www.wm.edu/sites/neurodiversity/>), and led a practice-focused discussion with 21 members of the School of Education community.

New Hip-Hop Collection at SWEM

Abridged by Amy Schindler from original article by Graham Bryant, '13

Manuscripts, rare books and memorabilia from William & Mary's storied history are all among the items one would expect to find when searching through Swem Library's **Special Collections**. Among the letters, artifacts and other scholarly records from ages past, researchers are now also able to discover such artifacts as William & Mary bboy dance group SMILES Crew's first boombox or a cassette tape of Richmond's the Mighty MCs.

On April 19, Swem's Special Collections launched the **William & Mary Hip-Hop Collection**, the most comprehensive collection of its kind devoted to chronicling Virginia's hip-hop past and present through oral histories, recordings, publications and other ephemera created by Virginia-based artists, collectives and businesses. Over 140 people from the campus and community, including students from Bayside High School in Virginia Beach, came together for a screening of SoundLOY's documentary "**7 City Legacy**" which highlights the past, present, and future of music in Hampton Roads from Ella Fitzgerald to current local musicians. The film was followed by a panel discussion moderated by Prof. Chinua Thelwell featuring Antoine "HenMusik" Henderson, The Keynote Speaker, and Phatz (Jason Kirkman), of the Virginia Beach chapter of the Zulu Nation. A reception with music from DJ Wyze (Brandon Sutton) gave guests a chance to continue the conversation as well as enjoy a bit of dancing that broke out. The evening ended with a screening of the documentary "Apache Line: From Gangs to Hip Hop" about the roots of hip hop and breakdancing in New York City. The filmmaker Fabel Pabon brought the evening to a close with a question and answer session.



Lemon Project Corner

Prepared by Jody Allen, Managing Director, Lemon Project

The Education of African Americans in Virginia, a Lemon Project Class, has just wrapped up. The course began with the Bray School which was founded in 1760 for the purpose of educating black children, enslaved and free, and ended with the admittance of Oscar Blayton in 1963, the first African American undergraduate at William & Mary. The class was set up to facilitate the exploration of the roughly 200-year span between these two events. The students' learned about the challenges African Americans faced and triumphs they achieved on the path to becoming an educated citizenry.

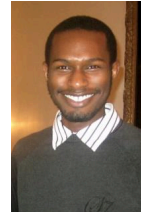
Of particular interest was the value that black men and women placed on education following the U.S. Civil War. As Booker T. Washington wrote, "Few people who were not right in the midst of the scenes can form any exact idea of the intense desire which the people of my race showed for education. It was a whole race trying to go to school. Few were too young, and none too old, to make the attempt to learn."¹ Nowhere was this desire to learn more evident than in James City County. Older blacks wanted to read the Bible for themselves, and they wanted their children and grandchildren to be prepared for life as free men and women. As a result they filled the day schools, night schools, and Sunday schools. By 1872, over half the school age black children residing in Williamsburg and James City County attended one of the community's six schools. This number continued to rise and by 1950 eighty-six percent of the African American children living in the county were enrolled in school and ninety-three percent of the black children in Williamsburg were students. These numbers rose in spite of the obstacles created by Jim Crow.



2013 Donning of the Kente Ceremony to be held on May 10, 2013

The Hulon Willis Alumni Association and the Lemon Project will host the 2nd Annual Donning of the Kente Ceremony on Friday, May 10th. The program will be held in Commonwealth Auditorium at 6:00 pm. Over 100 graduates are scheduled to participate in this year's event.

Spring Diversity Award Recipients Celebrated



Multicultural Leadership Award

Cody Sigmon

Dr. Carroll F.S. Hardy Trailblazer Award

Kameron Adams

Ernestine Jackson Award for Cross-Cultural Understanding

Logan Scott

W&M Chapter of NAACP Annual Image Awards

The W&M Chapter of NAACP celebrated the accomplishments of campus community members at its Annual Image Awards Program held on April 16, 2013. The recipients are pictured below. The 2013-14 Officers are: Co-Presidents- Alexis Canty and Alexis Foxworth; Secretary- Oliver Lawrence; Treasurer- Olivia Armstrong; and Historian-Briana Chaney.



Congratulations to W&M Alumnus, Eric Freeman '98, on the opening of his new practice Old Dominion Pediatrics in Richmond, VA. Eric was a Biology major at W&M and completed his advanced studies at the University of Florida. To the left, Eric is pictured outside of his office.

Campus News



The College welcomes the first Latina Sorority, Sigma Iota Alpha Sorority, Inc. The Chapter President is Almendra Terrones. Congratulations!

The Forum Volunteers for Day of Caring at Grove Christian Outreach



Students Gather for Holocaust Day of Remembrance

