THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
REV. DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
2010 SYMPOSIUM

I AM, WAS, AND
ALWAYS WILL BE
A CATALYST FOR CHANGE.

—SHIRLEY CHISHOLM
# TABLE OF CONTENTS

A Letter from President Mary Sue Coleman...................Pg. 2

A Letter from Senior Vice-Provost for Academic Affairs Lester P. Monts....................................Pg. 3

2010 Historical Reflection by George Shirley..................Pg. 4

2010 Theme Statement by the MLK Planning Committee “I am, was and always will be a catalyst for change.”...........................................Pg. 8

Calendar of Events...........................................................Pg. 10

History of the Annual Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. National Holiday..................Pg. 20

Regents of the University of Michigan............................Pg. 22

The Annual Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.........Pg. 23

Symposium Planning Committee

Special Thanks.......................................................................Pg. 23

U-M Nondiscrimination Policy Statement......................Pg. 23

U-M Statement on Freedom of Speech and Artistic Expression........................................Pg. 24

Contact Us........................................................................Pg. 24
Welcome to the University of Michigan’s 24th annual symposium in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Each year, the Symposium provides singular opportunities to discuss the current state of diversity and related social justice issues the history of these issues, and forecasts into the future.

Perhaps as importantly the symposium provides the opportunity to learn more about ourselves, as citizens of a nation now in its third century of seeking equal rights for all.

This year’s theme speaks directly and immediately to the most critical element of this journey to equality—the individual. It reminds us of the power and potential each of us has to effect positive change.

There is no better place to engage in this exploration than in the University community, where students come to learn and be challenged by new concepts, perspectives and knowledge. The spirit of inquiry that is the hallmark of academe offers unlimited opportunity for each of us—students, faculty and staff—to delve deeply into our individual capacity to grow, to know, to act, to collaborate and to lead.

By force of our character and our vision, we will enjoy many successes. But it is important to remember that we also may sometimes fail. The late Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm (D–NY) acknowledged this as she stood for her party’s nomination for the Presidency of the United States in 1972. She persevered even in the face of certain failure, and 35 years later, the benchmarks she set were acknowledged by then-Senator Hillary Clinton, the woman who has come the closest to gaining the White House in our nation’s history.

Congresswoman Chisholm also is honored for taking one of the first steps that led to Barack Obama’s successful journey to the United States Presidency.

There have been many other pioneers in other fields. In the media, U-M Emmy Award-winning alumna Carole Simpson became, in 1974 on NBC News, the first African American woman reporter in Chicago, and then first to anchor a major national televised network newscast. In 1994, Ms. Simpson set another benchmark when she moderated the Clinton-Bush Presidential debate. This year’s Symposium keynote speaker, Gwen Ifill, has carried Ms. Simpson’s achievements forward to set new benchmarks in print and televised journalism.

Shirley Chisholm, Gwen Ifill, Carole Simpson, Hillary Clinton and President Obama have each stepped forward as catalysts of change, frequently in courageous defiance of established norms. We are inspired by their journeys. May we also be moved by their examples to make our own individual contributions to change our country for the better.

Sincerely,

Mary Sue Coleman
President
University of Michigan
Dear Colleagues and Friends:

It gives me great pleasure to welcome your participation at the 2010 the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Symposium. This year marks the 24th anniversary of the University of Michigan's celebration and reflection on the life and work of Dr. King. Once again, we are extremely proud of the extraordinary breadth and depth of programming offered by staff, faculty and students as well as local community organizations. The magnitude of the annual symposium at the University of Michigan continues to reflect the collective efforts and commitment of the campus.

Each year, one of the responsibilities of our MLK Symposium Planning Committee, which represents all segments of the campus, is to select a theme in honor of Dr. King. The theme for this year’s symposium is “I Am, Was and Always Will Be a Catalyst for Change.” It is a quote from the late Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm, who was the first African American woman elected to the U.S. Congress (1968) as well as the first African American to run for president on a major-party ticket (1972). Rep. Chisholm also co-sponsored legislation to establish a national holiday honoring Dr. King. Her lifelong efforts are a reminder of the many links between Dr. King’s contributions and those of others, which include not only the impact that he had on others, but also, and equally important, the influences they had on him.

On behalf of the University of Michigan community, I also want to welcome Gwen Ifill, moderator and managing editor of “Washington Week” and senior correspondent for “The NewsHour with Jim Lehrer,” both of which are on PBS. Ifill will deliver the Annual Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Memorial Lecture on Monday, January 18, 2010, at 10 a.m. in Hill Auditorium. She also served as moderator of last year’s vice presidential candidates’ debate, and is the author of the best-selling book, The Breakthrough: Politics and Race in the Age of Obama. This year’s memorial lecture is a collaboration between the MLK Day Symposium planning committee and the U-M Ross School of Business.

I wish to thank the members of the MLK Symposium Planning Committee, our guest speakers and artists, and the many individuals involved in the program planning within campus units who will present some 70 events throughout January 2010. Their commitment and hard work have made this commemoration possible for the entire University community, an achievement that continues to draw national attention. A complete list of activities can be found on the Symposium website at www.mlksymposium.umich.edu.

Thanks also to all of you who participate in the MLK Symposium programs. You continue to make this a truly special occasion, and I, like you, look forward to another outstanding observance of the life and teachings of the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., at the University of Michigan.

Sincerely,

Lester P. Monts
Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs
Senior Counselor to the President for the Arts, Diversity, and Undergraduate Affairs,

Arthur F. Thurnau Professor of Music (Musicology)
Change is one of the most frightening phenomena in human experience. Frightening because it inevitably leads to a result we can only hope and plan to attain, but cannot guarantee we will achieve. Change rarely comes without some degree of discomfort, or without a price to pay; to contemplate change is to gird one’s loins for disruption of a life flow that, even when painful and over-laden with entanglements, has provided a fairly predictable aura in which oppositions are somewhat familiar and pose no sea change to one’s equilibrium. The past year has witnessed an especially intense focus on the idea of change. The Presidential Election centered on change, and change happened in a way that shook this nation and the world. Shock waves continue to radiate from the epicenter as America strives to deal with the prospect of major change affecting all aspects of life domestically and internationally. Voices of real and legitimate concern tend to be drowned out by the baying and mooing of voices of hysteria, and chaos threatens to overwhelm at almost every turn; but like it or not, change continues its steady advance.

My family church in Detroit is celebrating its 55th Anniversary, and has selected as its theme “Change is not an option; are you ready?” In a recent sermon delivered by guest minister Reverend William G. Ashworth, the point was made that only a transformed mind could deal with a deformed world. One may well term our world a warped abode wherein we mete out good and evil in unequal portions, thus forcing change even when attempting to maintain the status quo. As with death and taxes, change is certain, and there is no averting the inevitable.

Thus, as we deal with the vicissitudes of life, we find it necessary at times to institute or to embrace change, and at other times to fight against it, such decisions requiring of us the courage to be the nail that stands above all others while risking a hammer blow to the head. Possessed of such courage were the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and all who strode with him towards the goal deemed by many to be unattainable and too fraught with danger to pursue. Shirley Chisholm, whose quote provides the theme for today’s celebration. Mrs. Chisholm was an indomitable woman whose courage placed her at the apex of change in her role as the first Black woman to be elected to the United States Congress. The year was 1968, the same year in which Dr. King and Robert F. Kennedy were felled by assassins’ bullets. As madmen waged war on agents of change, this small-boned daughter of immigrant parents stepped fearlessly into the fray unfettered by political cronyism or obligations other than to her own principles. Once in office, she stated, “Women in this country must become revolutionaries. We must refuse to accept the old, the traditional roles and stereotypes.” With this as her dictum, she hired an all-female staff, half of whom were Black; co-founded the National Organization for Women and the Congressional Black Caucus; and proceeded to extend her reach towards the highest office in the land. In 1972, 100 years after Victoria Claffin Woodhull became the first woman to declare for the presidency, Congresswoman Chisholm became the first Black woman from a major party to run for that office, launching her candidacy for the Democratic nomination with the following statement: “... I am not the candidate of Black America, although I am Black and proud. I am not the candidate of the women’s movement of this country, although I am a woman, and I am equally proud of that. I am not the candidate of any political bosses or special interests. I am the candidate of the people.”

Fear held no sway over Shirley Chisholm; if indeed she felt it, she granted it no authority over her life or actions. She was quoted as having said that she had dealt with more discrimination because of her gender than because of her race. From whatever quarter opposition came, it could not shake her determination to serve as “a catalyst for change.” In this wise she picked up the torch blown from the hand of Martin Luther
King, Jr. and in so doing increased its effulgent glow. For this, it is meet that we adopt her calm and forthright avowal of relentless courage to be our theme for this national celebration as we grapple with what appears to be quantum change in the course of our lives and contemplate, as we witness the miraculous elevation of Barack Obama to the Presidency of these United States, the possibility of a society finally realizing its promise for all of its citizens.

Which raises the question, “Are we, the members of the African American community, ready for change?” Our community has long expected and rightfully demanded change from outside its ranks. While the civil rights legislation of 1964 paved the way for the astounding results achieved in the 2008 presidential elections, it would be naïve to believe the playing field was leveled by these momentous phenomena, and our condition as a people is now free of obstructions imposed by society. Of a certainty the field is measurably less rocky and undulate than of yore, and opportunity to now partake of that nectar of change once denied our forebears—education—is available to all, albeit not without flaws in the brew. Yet, too many of our number today eschew this essential element for change so hungrily sought by our ancestors by candlelight in the late hours of night under threat of death or torture. Were we unprepared to reap the blessings of change in 1964? Will we fail to take advantage of whatever opportunities derive from the most recent sea change in which we justifiably revel?

The deformed world in which our forebears were forced to live their lives left its imprint upon our collective psyche. In general, we were dehumanized and continually programmed to see ourselves as no better than beasts, i.e., uncivilized, violent, unkempt, over-sexed, ignorant and foulmouthed. Yet through God’s grace, most of us retained our dignity and sense of self, refusing to embrace the slave master’s skewed and lewd assessment of our state. During the era of segregation, the powers of debasement continued to chip away at the foundations of family, hope and dignity, steadily weakening the sense of community and “village” that even in wretched poverty and degradation had retained a cohesive strength both admirable and astonishing.

Today, though times continue to be harsh for the poor, and slavery and segregation are no longer institutionalized, we find too many of us remain enslaved and segregated, victimized somewhat less by the “other” than by “self.” Imamu Baraka once stated that we operate on the level we understand. When we witness the actions and antics of many of us today, especially but not exclusively in the younger generation, the level of understanding appears to be tragically low. With an incarceration rate of 41 percent for a people who comprise only 13 percent of the population of this nation, it is apparent that a change in how we perceive ourselves is long overdue.

True, these startling percentages do not reflect an accurate picture of this tragedy, for the data are bloated by the presence of some of us who, though imprisoned, are innocent of the crimes of which they have been accused, as witness the case of Dwayne Province, who served eight years in prison for a murder he did not commit, and who was recently released through the efforts of the University of Michigan’s Law School’s new Innocence Clinic. Thus is misfortune compounded by the imperfect administration of justice, when a member of a segment of the population is made vulnerable to such error in part because of race and station. The system must indeed change, but so, too, must the population it serves.

“Turn your wounds into wisdom.”

- Ophra Winfrey
Transforming negative events into positives is the prodigious task confronting African Americans today as we continue our struggle to overcome the debilitating effects of the not-too-distant past and spiritually enervating influences of the present, e.g., poverty, drugs, poor self-esteem, and the ever-present allure of violence that presents as ready response to vicissitudes that constitute daily existence. The change that is imperative today must come in how we view ourselves, whether as positive, intelligent, moral beings determined to fulfill our potential for greatness, or as corrupt constructs of the slave master. Do we occupy the classrooms of schools and universities determined to mine the riches of knowledge that will propel us forward and upward, or do we roam the streets with hair and body unkempt, trousers hanging below the buttocks, skirts splitting at the seams and barely covering what the slave master craved…and covets still, identifying Black bodies with sex and wantonness? Do we honor our ancestors and senior citizens, or do we brutalize their memories, sacrifices and persons?

My parents lived through the worst days of segregation in America and dealt with disrespect and the ever-present threat of violence that was, and to a disturbing extent, continues as a factor to be coped with today. Yet it remained for them to be victimized in their elder years by two young men of their own race who broke into their home, threatened them at gun-point, bound them with rope and robbed them of possessions of value. History repeated itself some 35 years later when, a few weeks ago, my wife was similarly victimized by three young African American males who jumped her as she entered her mother’s home in Detroit and robbed her of cash meant to care for her ailing nonagenarian parent. In both of these lamentable incidents, the only power preventing the victims from being physically harmed was God’s ever-present Grace.

Unfortunately, many older neighborhoods in our cities witness occurrences like these on a daily basis, often with outcomes not as fortunate as those referenced above. This is not what Martin Luther King Jr., Shirley Chisholm, Medgar Evers, Rosa Parks, Fannie Lou Hamer and other worshipful souls envisioned when they put their lives on the line to effect change. It was hoped that removal of the barriers to upward mobility would inspire the community to climb out of the cesspool of second-class citizenship with an unwavering determination to shed at all cost the crippling stereotypes imposed by the past, and move forward with all deliberate speed towards the goal of self-fulfillment. For far too many of our number, that expectation has not blossomed into reality because their eyes, blinded by the superficial bling-bling of the material world, are focused on the wrong prize.

The world is not and never will be perfect, but that is no excuse for identifying with and embracing its deformity. A cultural dystrophy begs transformation that can only come from within. What presents as a steady implosion and erosion of life in too many Black communities today can only be effectively addressed from within. Dignity and moral rectitude cannot remain foreign concepts, as too often they appear to be in representations of Black life in the media and on the streets. We must view ourselves through the prism of perfection, not imperfection. We must see ourselves not as foul-mouthed gangstas and ho’s, but as reflections of God who have emerged from the fetid holds of slave ships that brought our ancestors here centuries ago, and who now live in the light of promise and possibility. We must re-form ourselves, reconstitute ourselves, reinvent ourselves and stop dancing to the tune of those slavemongers who still call the shots today, albeit in ways more subtle and covert than of yore, draping us with chains of fool’s gold as we act out on television, in movies and in the sound media those stereotypes so dear to their amoral hearts. If the media didn’t have power to mold opinion, they wouldn’t exist, and the commercial industry would not be a billion-dollar enterprise. When the media use their mesmeric powers to extol the street life, they play with fire…
The idea of the village raising the child has apparently evanased at a time when parental responsibility has diminished and a guiding hand is critical. Teenaged girls short on positive life experience are risky candidates for motherhood, especially when the father of the child is absent from the equation, leaving the mother to fend for herself and her newborn. Given such conditions, a recipe for disaster looms that tragically obtains in the results we witness with increasing frequency today: children living “rough,” gang violence, boys aggregated into ersatz families living in appropriated houses in once-functional but now semi-destroyed neighborhoods wherein they terrorize senior citizens and wreak havoc on property values that constitute in large part the economic security of their victims. When the body thus cannibalizes itself, internal transformation –removal of the cancer-- is imperative; lacking a reformed assessment of our essence as a people, all our efforts to effect meaningful external change will spiral into nothingness. Only collective action on the part of the village can replace with a sense of dignity and moral rectitude the moral turpitude and disenchantment festering in young men and women at risk. Only those transformed internally can effect external change for the better, and only those transformed internally can be ready to take full advantage of the positive fruits of external change.

Individuals possessed of unswerving faith in God spearheaded the push to free African Americans from slavery and from the fetters of segregation. Success in overcoming the present formidable challenge to the well being of our body politic will only be achieved through like dedication and determination on the part of the village as a whole. We Christians, unlike Objectivists, believe we are indeed our brothers’ and sisters’ keepers; if ever there was a time to live this credo, it is now. We are losing ground at a time when we should be advancing, and relationships must be established between generations that know from experience from whence we have come, and those that are in dire need of a guiding, caring hand in order to complete their leg of the journey in good order.

Change, then, is not an option. It is happening this very moment and will so continue either with or without our influence. Is it the change we as a community desire? Is it producing outcomes consonant with the dream of Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.? If not, are we ready to accept our responsibility as catalysts for change? Can we afford not to do so?

“I am, was, and always will be a catalyst for change.”

- Shirley Chisholm
THEME STATEMENT

The 2010 Martin Luther King, Jr., Planning Committee chose “I was, am and always will be a catalyst for change” as its theme statement for the 24th anniversary of the observance of the birthday and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The source of the quotation was the late U.S. Rep. Shirley Chisholm of Brooklyn, New York, who served in the Congress from 1968 – 1982. The committee was particularly drawn to this quotation from Congressman Chisholm because it not only represents the stages of evolution of her personal involvement for social change and equality, but also embodies the spirit with which men and women have struggled for social progress throughout history.

Shirley Chisholm (1924 – 2005) was the first African-American woman elected to Congress. In 1972, at the Democratic National Convention, she was the first woman and African American considered for the nomination for president of the United States by a major party, receiving 152 of the delegates’ votes.

Her story is only one of the many stories of the famous and not-so-famous individuals who made a difference and left legacies of hope that social change and justice for the underprivileged will be a reality not only in the United States but also in all nations.

Mrs. Chisholm’s accomplishments are especially relevant today in that they connect Dr. King’s pursuit of social change in the 1960s to President Barack Obama’s ascent to the White House in 2008. Shirley Chisholm boldly brought to the political table issues that affected women, children and minority populations. During her tenure in the New York General Assembly from 1964 – 1968, she pushed for state aid for childcare and additional funds for public schools based on enrollment. She was a co-founder of the National Organization for Women (NOW) and one of the most effective supporters of Michigan Congressman John Conyers’s efforts to establish our national holiday commemorating Dr. King.

Congresswoman Chisholm’s career reminds us today that we all can be catalysts for change and that it is imperative that we continue to build on the contributions and legacies of others. While much has been accomplished, there is much more to be done to move humankind forward while protecting the ground won by so many people over the centuries.

Every year at the University of Michigan, we celebrate the life of Dr. King in honor of his uncompromising dedication to social justice and freedom for all people. We commemorate his life with a symposium to acknowledge the importance of all who work toward abolishing man’s inhumanity to mankind.

Dr. King developed his philosophy for advancing social justice through nonviolence on the principles of the political and spiritual leader Mohandas “Mahatma” Gandhi, who led India to independence. Gandhi’s work in the mid 1900’s, the racial and class struggles in the United States from pre-Civil War days to after World War II, and the founding of many progressive American organizations were all catalysts for change before Martin Luther King, Jr. rose to take his place in history.
Change begins before it happens.

With the increase in social connectivity through technology, we all have expanded opportunities today to be catalysts for change. Our links with one another bring with them greater awareness of the need for change and for mutual support to make change happen. Mrs. Chisholm, like Dr. King, understood that, although making progressive changes ultimately involves many people, the process sometimes starts with one person.

If change is constant, so is the catalyst.

An examination of the writing and public statements of Mrs. Chisholm and Dr. King shows that both of them believed that the past and present serve as arenas of a struggle for social justice that will be culminated only in the future. Dr. King stated in his “I Have A Dream” speech that while he, himself, might not reach the “Promised Land” of equal justice for all, he had nevertheless seen it. And in seeking the Democratic nomination for the U.S. presidency in 1972, Shirley Chisholm said:

“I am a candidate for the presidency of the United States. I make that statement proudly, in the full knowledge that, as a Black person and as a female person, I do not have a chance of actually gaining that office in this election year. I make that statement seriously, knowing that my candidacy itself can change the face and future of American politics—that it will be important to the needs and hopes of every one of you—even though, in the conventional sense, I will not win.”

Dr. King and Shirley Chisholm shared the faith that they would be among many who would inspire succeeding generations to be catalysts for change. It is important that we, as parents, educators, students and community organizers, provide avenues and mentoring for young people to be future catalyst for social justice.

The Planning Committee expresses gratitude to the University of Michigan community for supporting the MLK Symposium and making it an occasion when we collectively express our appreciation for those who have served as catalysts for change in the past, combine our resources and creativity to be catalysts for change in the present, and provide avenues and mentoring for young people to become future catalysts for social justice. Many people inspired Dr. King’s involvement in the Civil Rights movement, and his legacy continues to inspire countless more in their struggles for voting rights, educational opportunities and global solidarity.

We hope that as you celebrate the 24th Annual MLK Symposium, each and every one of you will strive to be a catalyst for change – now and always!

- The 2010 MLK Planning Committee
CALENDAR OF MLK EVENTS

TUESDAY JANUARY 12

SYMPOSIUM OPENING LECTURE
Guest Speaker: Carmen Van Kerckhove, Leading Voice on Race and Racism
Time: 5:00pm  Location: U-M League Vandenberg Rm, 911 N. University Ave.

Carmen Van Kerckhove is one of the country’s most important new voices on issues surrounding race and racism today. She is co-founder and president of New Demographic, a consulting firm that helps campuses and organizations overcome diversity fatigue by facilitating relaxed, authentic and productive conversations about race and racism. Carmen goes beyond uncritical celebrations of diversity and multiculturalism and beyond individual acts of prejudice, to explore how racist ideals are disseminated by the very structures and systems upon which this country is built.

She hosts Addicted to Race, a podcast about America’s obsession with race and edits a network of blogs, including Racialicious, a blog about the intersection of race and pop culture: Anti-Racist Parent, a blog for parents committed to raising children with an anti-racist outlook and Race in the Workplace, a blog that explores how race and racism influence our working lives.


Carmen contributes advice columns to the Diversity Q&A portion of the Society of Human Resource Management (SHRM) web site. The Science Museum of Minnesota featured her as part of its exhibit “Race: Are We So Different?” created by the American Anthropological Association. She was the keynote speaker at the 10th Annual National Student Conference on the Mixed Race Experience and the 1st Annual New York City Asian American Student Conference. Carmen graduated from Columbia University with a BA in Political Science. She currently lives in New York City. Sponsored by the MLK Planning Committee

Contact: Office of Academic Multicultural Initiatives, (734) 936-1055

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 13

A PUBLIC READING OF THE NEW BOOK, THE PROTEST PSYCHOSIS: How Schizophrenia Became a Black Disease, by Jonathan Metzl, Associate Professor of Psychiatry and Women’s Studies and Director of the Culture, Health and Medicine Program at the University of Michigan; in conversation with Angela Dillard, Professor of Afroamerican and African Studies and the Residential College
Time: 2-4pm  Location: 2239 Lane Hall, 204 S. State St.

In The Protest Psychosis, psychiatrist and cultural critic Jonathan Metzl tells the shocking story of how schizophrenia became the diagnostic term overwhelmingly applied to African American men at the Ionia State Hospital; and how events at Ionia mirrored national conversations that increasingly linked blackness, madness and civil rights. Sifting through an array of cultural documents—from scientific literature, to music lyrics, to riveting, tragic hospital charts—Metzl shows how associations between schizophrenia and blackness emerged during the 1960s and 1970s in ways that directly reflected national political events. As he demonstrates, far from resulting from the racist intentions of individual doctors or the symptoms of specific patients, racial schizophrenia grew from a much wider set of cultural shifts that defined the thoughts, actions, and even the politics of Black men as being inherently insane.

Jonathan Metzl is a 2008 Guggenheim award recipient. His books include Prozac on the Couch and Difference and Identity in Medicine. The event is cosponsored by the School of Social Work. Books will be available for purchase and signing.
THURSDAY JANUARY 14

MLK VISITING PROFESSOR LECTURE: “New Molecular Insights into Moles and Melanomas” Guest Speaker: Hensin Tsao, M.D., Ph.D.
Time: 8:30am Location: 1910 Taubman - Dermatology Conference room
Contact: Lisa Tidbury, 336-4078, lisclark@umich.edu

FRIDAY JANUARY 15

LINGUISTICS AND AMERICAN CULTURE COLLOQUIUM. Guest Speaker: Dr. Wesley Y. Leonard, San Diego State University, Miami Tribe of Oklahoma Language Committee
Location: 3222 Angell Hall Time: 4:00pm
“iilaatawecyankwi: Miami Language Reclamation as Decolonization”
The early 21st century marks a pivotal point for indigenous languages in the United States and elsewhere. While experts predict that as many as 90% of currently spoken languages will have no speakers by the end of the century, an increasing number of groups are actively resisting and challenging this prediction through efforts to reclaim their languages in the face of globalization. Dr. Leonard will explore these issues through the developing story of Miami language reclamation. Miami, an Algonquian language that was deemed extinct in the 1960’s, when its last speakers passed away, in many ways has defied the expectations of experts and others. It is not “supposed” to be in active use, and yet it has been reclaimed from written documentation and brought back into the lives of Miami people. Most Miami tribal members now have some knowledge of the language, a few with conversational proficiency, and all are in a better position to question both the notion of language extinction and the related idea that outsiders can delegitimize cultural, linguistic and other ways of being by asserting that they don’t exist or claiming that they are inauthentic. Dr. Leonard will argue that the story of Miami language reclamation is not merely about language, but rather part of a larger narrative of decolonization in which the Miami people have not only reclaimed the language itself but also asserted their prerogative to define goals and to determine what constitutes “success” in language reclamation.

SUNDAY JANUARY 17

VOICES OF THE HOLOCAUST
Guest Performers: Caroline Helton & Kathryn Goodson
Location: Kerrytown Concert House Time: 4:00pm
The 65-minute program of solo vocal music with piano accompaniment features the music of Kurt Weill, Robert Kahn, Erich Korngold, Darius Milhaud and Oskar Morawetz, all Jewish composers whose lives were affected by the Holocaust. Sponsored by the Frankel Center for Judaic Studies

MONDAY JANUARY 18

ANNUAL CHILDREN & YOUTH PROGRAM: A Day Filled With Creativity, Dialogue and Entertainment for Students in Grades K-12
Time: 8:30am-3pm Location: Modern Language Building (MLB), 812 E. Washington
Pre-kindergarten, elementary, middle and high schools students throughout Washtenaw County and Southeastern Michigan are invited to participate in a full day of rich educational and engaging experiences to commemorate the dream of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and its significance today. A variety of age-appropriate learning activities, including creative art designs, storytelling, musical performances and group dialogue, will occur throughout the day.
Free lunch is provided for all participants. Pre-registration is strongly encouraged and can be done by visiting the website: www.umich.edu/~tauep/MLKDay.html Sponsored by the School of Education, School of Social Work & Office of Academic Multicultural Initiatives
KEYNOTE MEMORIAL LECTURE
Time: 10:00am Location: Hill Auditorium

Gwen Ifill is moderator and managing editor of “Washington Week” and co-anchor for the “PBS NewsHour”. She is also frequently asked to moderate debates in national elections, most recently the Vice Presidential debate during the 2008 election. Ifill joined both Washington Week and the NewsHour in 1999, interviewing newsmakers and reporting on issues ranging from foreign affairs to politics.

Before coming to PBS, she spent five years at NBC News as chief congressional and political correspondent, and still appears as an occasional roundtable panelist on Meet The Press. Ifill joined NBC News from The New York Times where she covered the White House and politics. She also covered national and local affairs for The Washington Post, Baltimore Evening Sun, and Boston Herald American. She is the author of The Breakthrough: Politics and Race in the Age of Obama.

“I always knew I wanted to be a journalist, and my first love was newspapers,” Ifill said. “But public broadcasting provides the best of both worlds – combining the depth of newspapering with the immediate impact of broadcast television.” She has received more than a dozen honorary doctorates, and is the recipient of several broadcasting excellence awards, including honors from the National Press Foundation, Ebony Magazine, the Radio Television News Directors Association, and American Women in Radio and Television. A native of New York City and a graduate of Simmons College in Boston, Ifill serves on the board of the Harvard University Institute of Politics, the Committee to Protect Journalists, the Newseum and the University of Maryland’s Philip Merrill College of Journalism.

BLACK HISTORY 101: Mobile Museum presented by Khalid el-Hakim
Time: 10:00am-8:00pm Location: Michigan Union Art Lounge

The Black History 101 Mobile Museum is an innovative grassroots project that will showcase a unique collection of African American memorabilia. The Bell Collection comprises more than 1,500 diverse artifacts ranging from slavery to hip hop culture. Khalid el-Hakim is a 36-year old Detroit Public School teacher who started this collection 15 years ago. The mission of the Black History 101 Mobile Museum is to recognize and celebrate the contributions, achievements and struggles of African Americans. This year, the theme of the collection will focus on the 3 M’s: Martin, Michael and Motown. Please visit this exhibit to view rare memorabilia on Martin Luther King, Michael Jackson and the Motown era.

Contact Deise Benitez, 734.763.9044, dbenitez@umich.edu

YOUR ROLE IN SOCIAL CHANGE: An intimate conversation
Time: 11:45 am -1 pm Location: U-M League, Michigan Rm

The insights we gain from learning about others’ experiences in social change are valuable. In addition, it is important for us to reflect on what role we can play in social change. This session will serve as an opportunity for insightful, personal conversations focused on exploring each of our connections to social justice and social change. Join us immediately following the keynote. Refreshments will be provided. Sponsored by LSA Honors Program.

Contact Mitch Crispell, mitche@umich.edu
HEALTH SCIENCES LECTURE: Guest Speaker: Dr. Lisa Newman, Surgical Oncologist and Director of the University of Michigan Breast Care Center
“Breast cancer awareness, treatment and transformative health: a catalyst for change.”
Time: 11:45am   Location: Dow Auditorium, Towsley Center, 1515 E. Medical Drive

Dr. Newman’s presentation addresses current and future research, treatment and prevention of breast cancer. Although breast cancer affects women of all races and ethnicities, Dr. Newman is searching for reasons why certain groups are more at risk for particular cancers and why there are disparities in outcomes for different patient populations. Focusing on a particularly aggressive type of the disease, triple negative breast cancer, which affects African American women twice as often as white women. Dr. Newman regularly travels to Ghana to seek answers and a cure. Her story and her work provide hope and inspiration for the future of breast cancer treatment in America and across the world.

Contact Sha’ Smith, (734) 936-3296, tesdun@umich.edu

BUSINESS & FINANCE MLK CONVOCATION: Exploring Global Connections
Celebrating Differences and Similarities. Guest Speaker: Mark Johnson
Time: 1-3pm. Reception to Follow   Location: Rackham Auditorium

The keynote speaker for the B&F MLK Day Convocation is Mark Johnson, creator of “Playing for Change.” The Playing for Change project recorded and filmed a diverse group of international musicians in several different countries, playing music on street corners, in fields and even in front of their homes. The project resulted in the CD/DVD “Songs around the World.” Inspired by the experience, and by Dr. King’s vision of peaceful collaboration among all peoples, Johnson founded the Playing for Change (PFC) Foundation, an organization dedicated to peacefully connecting the world through music. Come hear how his story can help us better understand not only how to accomplish our work goals, but also how to operate more effectively in our increasingly interconnected world. To learn more about Mark Johnson and the Playing for Change Foundation, visit www.playingforchange.com. Many of the “Playing for Change” music videos can be found on YouTube.

Contact Raquel De Paula, (734) 647-7890, raquelp@umich.edu

DETROIT TO PRISON PIPELINE: A Conversation about Prevention
Time: 1:00pm   Location: Michigan Union Pendleton Room

Detroit, crippled by unemployment, poverty and homelessness, has garnered a reputation as a crime-ridden city, but few care to examine the undeniable link between mass incarceration of Detroit’s residents and the city’s current economic, social and political situation. Join us for a panel discussion led by passionate and powerful Detroit residents. Sponsored by English Language & Literature, Prison Creative Arts Project

Contact nehoward@umich.edu and visit the website http://prisonarts.org

PUSH, LITERACY, WOMEN AND AFRICAN AMERICAN LITERATURE
Guest Speaker: Sapphire, author of the novel Push
Time: 2:00 pm   Location: Michigan Union Ballroom

MLibrary welcomes you to a presentation by the award-winning poet, author and educator, Sapphire. Author of several books of poetry, Sapphire has been published in the Black Scholar, the New York Times Magazine, the New York Times Book Review, the Teacher’s Voice, the New Yorker, Spin, and Bomb. Precious, the film adaptation of Sapphire’s bestselling novel Push, recently won the Grand Jury Prize and the Audience Award for the U.S. dramatic competition at the 2009 Sundance Film Festival. Directed by Lee Daniels and with executive producers including Oprah Winfrey and Tyler Perry, Precious is widely expected to be an Oscar-contender. Push tells the story of Claireece “Precious” Jones, an overweight African-American teenager struggling to find her place in the world despite her history of incest, abuse and illiteracy. Sapphire received numerous awards for Push, including the First Novelist Award from the Black Caucus of the American Library Association and the Stephen Crane Award for First Fiction, Book-of-the-Month Club.
Sapphire’s poetry, fiction and essays have been translated into eleven languages, and her work has been adapted for the stage in several countries. She worked with literacy students in Harlem and the Bronx, and has taught writing and poetry workshops at a number of schools, including SUNY Purchase.

Trinity College, Fairleigh Dickinson University, Brooklyn College, the New School University and the Writer’s Voice in New York City. This event is free and open to the public. Sponsored by the University Library. Cosponsored by the Office of Academic Multicultural Initiatives, University Housing, Bentley Historical Library, Law Library, and School of Information.

Contact Shevon Desai, shevonad@umich.edu

CIRCLE OF UNITY
Time: 3:00-4:00 pm  Location: Michigan Diag

Come fill the Diag for the 4th annual Circle of Unity event to honor and celebrate Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.’s dream through music and song. Free wristbands and performances! All students, staff, faculty and community members are welcome! Sponsored by the Michigan Community Scholars Program

Contact Angela Washington (angelawa@umich.edu) or Jelani Bayi (sdotbayi@umich.edu).

SCHOOL OF MUSIC, THEATRE & DANCE: MLK Day, Engaging in Creative Change
Personal comments and musical performances by U-M School of Music, Theatre & Dance Faculty
Time: 3:00pm  Location: Michigan League Mendelssohn Theater

Contact Evelyn Robinson, lynrobin@umich.edu

RACKHAM’S MLK DAY FILM SERIES
Rackham will present three recently produced documentaries that focus on the Civil Rights Era.
Location: Rackham Graduate School, Amphitheatre, 4th floor

Film: Adam Clayton Powell (1989), produced and directed by Richard Kilberg and Yvonne Smith
Start/Run time: 3:10-4:04 p.m. (54 mins)
The Academy Award-nominated Adam Clayton Powell delves into the gripping life and career of the most influential and flamboyant civil rights leader in America in the 30’s through 50’s. Described as a “flawed, but sublime hero,” Powell brought economic improvement to Harlem by leading and organizing a boycott of local shops until people of color were hired. This economic pressure effectively opened up employment opportunities that had not previously existed.

Film: We Shall Not Be Moved (2006), produced and directed by Bernie Hargis
Start/Run time: 4:10-4:55 p.m. (44 mins)
We Shall Not be Moved examines the influential role of the Dexter Avenue Baptist Church in the civil rights movement. This small but historical church in Montgomery, Alabama, was where Dr. King served as pastor while finishing his Ph.D. dissertation in theology. Just two weeks after he turned in his dissertation, Rosa Parks refused to give up her bus seat to a white passenger. In fighting for her rights, Dr. King emerged as the leader of a nationwide movement. Reassessing MLK’s role through the lens of the church, the movie argues that without the support and organization of the church, the civil rights movement could have never taken place.

Film: King (2008), produced by NBC News executive producer Knute Walker
Start/Run time: 5:10-6:45 p.m. (94 mins)
This film features a contemporary examination of the life of Martin Luther King. Narrator Tom Brokaw interviews figures such as Bill Clinton and Condoleezza Rice to explore Dr. King’s influence on the civil rights movement in the United States. It addresses the issues of multiple factions that developed within the civil rights movement and the stakes of Dr. King’s controversial move to openly oppose the Vietnam War.

Contact Lynne Shivers, (734) 647-2644, lshivers@umich.edu
MARJORIE LEE BROWNE COLLOQUIUM
Guest Speaker: Rodrigo Banuelos, Professor and Head, Department of Mathematics, Purdue University. “The Isoperimetric Problem: Queen Dido’s Gift to Mathematics”
Time: 4pm Location: Room 1360, East Hall
The speaker will first reflect on his path to academia and the lack of access to higher education that certain groups of students in our society are still experiencing today. His talk will include his views on the progress (or lack thereof) made in increasing the participation of women and minorities in mathematics in the sixty years since the University of Michigan awarded Dr. Marjorie Lee Browne a Ph.D. The talk will then turn to a discussion of the historical influence the isoperimetric problem of Queen Dido has had on some areas of modern mathematics. George Pólya’s 1954 statement, “The isoperimetric theorem, deeply rooted in our experience and intuition, so easy to conjecture but not so easy to prove, is an inexhaustible source of inspiration,” will be explored with examples from Brownian motion and Lévy processes. Such examples extend far beyond the classical isoperimetric property of Faber-Krahn for eigenvalues of the Laplacian. Some examples of “easy to conjecture” but yet unsolved isoperimetric problems will be discussed.
Contact Suzanne Rogers, (734) 647-4462, suzannej@umich.edu

REFRAMING THE COLOR LINE: Race and Visual Culture
Guest Speakers: Martha S. Jones, History and Afroamerican & African Studies; Kristin Hass, American Culture
Time: 4pm Location: William L. Clements Library, 909 S. University Avenue
An exploration of racism as portrayed and challenged in American public culture. How do we critically understand contemporary representations of African Americans and “reframe” them with ideas that counter racism and enhance our understandings of identities, difference and power? How do sites of public memory shape our shared understandings? The discussion is held in conjunction with the Clements Library exhibit, “Reframing the Color Line: Race and the Visual Culture of the Atlantic World,” curated by Clayton Lewis, curator of graphics, and Assoc. Prof. Martha S. Jones, History and Afroamerican & African Studies. Free and open to the public. Reception to follow. Sponsored by the William L. Clements Library, Department of History, Center for Afroamerican & African Studies, and the Dean’s Office, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts

NEW CHALLENGES AND THE SAME OLD PITFALLS
Talk and Question and Answer with Saul A. Green, Deputy Mayor, City of Detroit; Former United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Michigan. Sponsored by the U-M Law School.
Time: 4pm Location: Room 250 Hutchins Hall (Law School)

“ANOTHER WORLD IS POSSIBLE. ANOTHER U.S. IS NECESSARY! THE UNITED STATES SOCIAL FORUM 2010: DETROIT”
Time: 4-5:30pm Location: Education Conference Center, School of Social Work
The United States Social Forum (USSF) offers a process for creating movement convergence across our many struggles, sectors, regions and rich diversity. Following the legacy of Dr. King, it lifts up the voices and demands of working people and youth at the grassroots in building for fundamental transformation in the 21st century.

The USSF process is a space to communicate and educate, organize and mobilize. Within the broader society and with our partners in the Global South, we envision another United States and another world. The goals of the USSF are to create an open space and a process for creating movement convergence and coordination, raise awareness of social justice issues, provide opportunities to share experiences and discuss strategies that create social change and solutions to the problems facing people across our many struggles, sectors, regions and diversity.

The 2010 USSF will be held in Detroit from June 22nd through June 26th. This event provides a unique opportunity for the University of Michigan School of Social Work community to get involved. The MLK Day event will include a short film, informal panel discussion and 2010 USSF involvement opportunities.
MONDAY JANUARY 18 - Continued

“ANOTHER WORLD IS POSSIBLE...” - Continued

Potential panelists include: Will Copeland, Diana Seales, Rocio Valerio, Joe Donlin, Rachel Wells, Grace Kotre and Yazir Henry. Involvement opportunities include:

- Assist in organizing a Washtenaw County Social Forum (this will include logistics, recruitment, “agenda” setting, food, budget, etc)
- Assist in organizing other students within Washtenaw County (U-M, EMU, WCC, etc.) – particular efforts to engage people of color, TBLGQA, women, Native Americans/American Indians, members of the (dis)ability community, international students and folks from other areas
- Work with field placement to spread the word to community members about USSF, particularly individuals with Detroit placements
- Training to talk to Detroit organizations on how to mobilize their clients
- Logistical help during USSF (e.g. help with transportation for community members who lack transportation access)

Sponsored by the U-M School of Social Work.

TUESDAY JANUARY 19

SCHOOL OF NATURAL RESOURCES & ENVIRONMENT
DEAN’S SPEAKER SERIES

Guest Speaker: Vernice Miller-Travis
Time: 5pm      Location: U-M League Vandenberg Rm., 911 N. University

Currently, Vernice Miller-Travis is the principal of an environmental consulting group called Miller-Travis & Associates. She has been a key convener of an effort to bring the voices of the environmental justice constituency into dialogue with the Obama/Biden Transition Team and the new administration. She was invited to the White House to witness President Obama’s signing of two Memoranda of Understanding on raising automobile fuel efficiency standards.

She is also co-chair of the Working Group on School Air Monitoring to the National Environmental Justice Advisory Council of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. She also serves as vice-chair of the Maryland State Commission on Environmental Justice and Sustainable Communities, where she leads an effort to encourage state and local governments to consider the environmental and public health dimensions of local land-use and zoning decisions.

Ms. Miller-Travis was appointed by Maryland Governors Ehrlich and O’Malley as a commissioner to the Maryland State Commission on Environmental Justice and Sustainable Communities, where she serves as vice-chair. She also serves on the Board of the Healthy Schools Network and on the Advisory Board of the National Vacant Properties Campaign of Smart Growth America. She is the co-founder of We ACT for Environmental Justice (formerly known as West Harlem Environmental Action), a 20-year-old community-based environmental justice organization in NYC.

Ms. Miller-Travis is an urban planner and a graduate of Columbia University, and published author of numerous articles and chapters on race and land-use, environmental justice, brownfields redevelopment and hazardous waste policy, sustainable community development, historic preservation and neighborhood revitalization. She is also the recipient of a Charles H. Revson graduate fellowship from Columbia University (1992), and a W.K. Kellogg Foundation Kellogg National Leadership Fellowship (1997). Sponsored by the School of Natural Resources & the Environment and the MLK Symposium Planning Committee.

Contact Sarah Jarzembovski, (734) 763-1577 or Theda Gibbs, (734) 936-1055

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 20

HANDLING WITH CARE: The Role of Information Professionals in Preserving Information for Diverse Populations
Time: 12-1:30pm      Location: Ehrlicher Room, Room 411, West Hall
This panel event will explore the agency of information professionals in preserving information for diverse populations. We will have several panelists from Michigan-area libraries and archives who work with members of under-represented populations to preserve their information and, in effect, their cultures. Sponsored by the Multi-Ethnic Information Exchange (MIX), a student group in the School of Information. For more information, please visit http://mix.si.umich.edu. Lunch provided.

Contact Kamaria Campbell, kamariac@umich.edu

STILL BLACK: A Portrait of Black Transmen
Time: 6:00pm  Location: TBD

A Portrait of Black Transmen, directed by Kortney Ryan Ziegler and produced by Awilda Rodriguez, is an alternative feature-length documentary that explores the lives of six Black transgender men living in the United States. Through the intimate stories of their lives as artists, students, husbands, fathers, lawyers and teachers, the film offers viewers a complex and multifaceted image of race, sexuality and trans identity. For more information visit stillbackfilm.org. Sponsored by the Spectrum Center and UMHS Comprehensive Gender Services Program. Contact Loren Sherry, (734) 763-4186

THE CITY AS LABORATORY: Doing Ethnographic Research for Social Change in the Community.
Guest Speaker: Terry Williams, Professor of Sociology, New School for Social Research
Time: 6:00-7:30 pm  Location: Rackham Auditorium

Terry Williams, Ph.D. is a social scientist and researcher specializing in teenage life and culture, drug abuse, crews and gangs, violence and urban social policy. He has lectured in the United States and abroad on the impact of drug misuse among teenagers and adults, on graffiti writers, public housing issues, race relations, homelessness and center city life. He is the founder/director of the Harlem Writers Crew Project, a multimedia approach to urban education for center city and rural youths. Co-sponsored by UROP and the Department of Sociology.

DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHIATRY GRAND ROUNDS
Guest Speaker: Theadia L. Carey, MD and Cynthia Ewelle Foster, Ph.D.
Time: 10:30am-12pm  Location: Rachel Upjohn Building - Garden Level Auditorium, 4250 Plymouth Road, Ann Arbor, MI 48109

This talk will focus on Cultural and Ethnic Considerations in Psychiatric Research and Practice. Psychiatry Grand Rounds lectures throughout the 2009-2010 academic year are supported by the Department of Psychiatry and an educational grant from AstraZeneca. Program objective: Increase knowledge and critical thinking of faculty, fellows, house officers and staff. The U-M Medical School is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) to sponsor continuing education for physicians. The Medical School designates this educational activity for a maximum of 1.5 hours in category 1 toward the AMA physician's recognition award. Each physician should claim only those hours of credit that he/she actually spent in the educational activity.
Check for schedule updates on the web at www.med.umich.edu/psych/GR/

THURSDAY JANUARY 21
MLK SYMPOSIUM FILM SCREENING OF “THE WATER FRONT”:
Featuring a discussion with associate producer Curtis D. Smith
Time: 5:00pm  Location: Museum of Art, Helmut Stern Aud., 525 S. State St.

What if you lived by the largest body of fresh water in the world but could no longer afford to use it? The Water Front is the story of an American city—Highland Park, MI—in crisis, but it is not just about water. The story touches on the very essence of our democratic system and is an unnerving indication of what is in store for residents around the world facing their own water struggles. (53 minutes, 2007). The film raises questions such as: Who determines the future of shared public resources? What are alternatives to water privatization? How will we maintain our public water systems, and whom can we hold accountable? Join us for a discussion of this award-winning film with associate director Curtis D. Smith immediately following the film. Light refreshments will be served. Sponsored by the MLK Planning Committee and the University of Michigan Museum of Art.

Contact the Office of Academic Multicultural Initiatives, (734) 936-1055 or the Museum of Art, (734) 764-0395
FRIDAY JANUARY 22

BILL T. JONES/ARNIE ZANE DANCE COMPANY: Fondly Do We Hope … Fervently Do We Pray
Time: 8pm       Location: Power Center, 121 Fletcher St.

Continuing his tradition of challenging, thought-provoking work, MacArthur “Genius” grant recipient Bill T. Jones has created a new evening-length work about Abraham Lincoln. “I live with the uneasy feeling that society has shaped me as a result of something that was stolen from us when Abraham Lincoln was killed,” Jones says. “The cynicism and alienation that I feel in my head and heart arose because of this strange turn of destiny.” Fondly Do We Hope … Fervently Do We Pray finds Jones seeking a way to articulate, if not reconcile, the view of Lincoln he had as a young boy growing up during the civil rights struggle and as a mid-life liberal artist who “has very few heroes.” The most ambitious project in the company’s 25-year history, Fondly Do We Hope explores the myriad meanings of Lincoln, rejecting accepted truth in favor of challenging (and celebrating) the lasting contributions of this great man. This dance theater work investigates a handful of key moments from Lincoln’s remarkable life, allowing song and memory to transport the audience to an emotional and intellectual space beyond the boundaries of space and time. By envisioning the America that might have been had Lincoln completed the Reconstruction, Jones exposes the great distance between what is and what could have been. (Additional performance: Saturday, January 23, 8:00 PM) For more info visit: www.ums.org

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 27

SHARE THE DREAM AND FIND OUT HOW VISIONARY LEADERS FROM THREE DIFFERENT COMMUNITIES BEGAN AS SPIRITUAL LEADERS AND ARE REMEMBERED AS POLITICAL ICONS.
Guest Speakers: Dr. Charles Taylor, Dr. María Cotera and Lois Beardslee
Time: 5:30-8:30pm     Location: U-M Campus, School of Social Work Educational Conference Center

Come join us for an evening of conversation about the life and works of Martin Luther King, Rigoberta Menchu, and Contemporary Native Women Warriors. Charles Taylor, Instructor in the UG LSA Comprehensive Studies Program, María Cotera, Associate Professor, and Director of Latina/o Studies and affiliate of the Program in American Culture and Department of Women’s Studies, and Lois Beardslee, Adjunct Instructor in Communications at Northwestern Michigan College, will be presenters. Entertainment and refreshments will be provided.
I have a Dream  Tengo un Sueño – I have a Dream in Spanish  Nd’bwaajige – I have a Dream in Ojibwe
Sponsored by the U-M School of Social Work.

THURSDAY JANUARY 28

MIXED IN THE ARTS: “Love, Life & Redemption”
Time: 10:00pm     Location: Michigan Union Ballroom, 530 S. State St.

“Love, Life & Redemption” is a poetic story about Carolyn B. Bowers, a poet, actress and mentor. When Bowers is asked to write an acceptance speech for a Lifetime Achievement Award Ceremony, she finds a volume of poems she had previously written. When she falls asleep, her poems wake up and come alive! Along with the help of a group of artists representing five nations and four ethnic groups. The poems “create an explosive, exciting, performance with emotional depth and visual variety!” (Sphinx Management Group). Refreshments before and during the event will be served as well as a Midnight Buffet afterwards. The event is free and open to the public. Sponsored by University Unions Arts & Programs – Cultural Connections & UMix.

Contact Martika Girard, martika@umich.edu
THE HARMONY OF CONTRASTS
Guest Speaker: Vashtie Kola, Video director and entrepreneur
1st Event 1-2:30pm, UMMA Commons
2nd Event 7-9pm, Rackham Amphitheater
3rd Event 10pm-1am, Sava’s Cafe on State St.

Join us for a day of three events with video director Vashtie Kola who will meet and greet with students, screen some of her works as a film maker and mingle with students in a soiree type venue at the conclusion of the day’s events. Sponsosred by FOKUS.

SUNDAY JANUARY 31
LADYSMITH BLACK MAMBazo
Time: 4:00 pm Location: Hill Auditorium
Since Paul Simon’s Graceland album catapulted Ladysmith Black Mambazo to worldwide fame in 1986, the vocal group has remained true to the idea of opening doors to South African culture through their music, dance and singing. For more than 30 years, the eight-member group has married the intricate rhythms and harmonies of their native South African musical traditions to the sounds and sentiments of Christian gospel music. The result is a musical and spiritual alchemy that has touched a worldwide audience representing every corner of the religious, cultural and ethnic landscape. Assembled in the early 1960s in South Africa by Joseph Shabalala, a young farmboy turned factory worker, the group took the name Ladysmith Black Mambazo — Ladysmith being the name of Shabalala’s hometown, Black a reference to oxen, the strongest of all farm animals, and Mambazo the Zulu word for ax, a symbol of the group’s ability to “chop down” any singing rival who might challenge them. The group bears heavily from a traditional music called isicathamiya (is-cot-a-ME-ya, “tip toe guys” in Zulu), which developed in the mines of South Africa, where Black workers toiled far from their homes and their families. “It isn’t merely the grace and power of their dancing or the beauty of their singing that rivets the attention, but the sheer joy and love that emanates from their being.” (Paul Simon) A UMS debut!

For more information visit the University Musical Society Website www.ums.org

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 5
BLACK HISTORY 101: Mobile Museum presented by Khalid el-Hakim
(Friday, February 5- Saturday, February 6, 2010; 10:00am-8:00pm)
Location: Michigan Union Art Lounge

The Black History 101 Mobile Museum is an innovative grassroots project that will showcase a unique collection of African American memorabilia. The Bell Collection comprises more than 1,500 diverse artifacts ranging from slavery to hip hop culture. Khalid el-Hakim is a 36-year old Detroit Public School teacher who started this collection 15 years ago. The mission of the Black History 101 Mobile Museum is to recognize and celebrate the contributions, achievements and struggles of African Americans. This year, the theme of the collection will focus on the 3 M’s: Martin, Michael and Motown. Please visit this exhibit to view rare memorabilia on Martin Luther King, Michael Jackson and the Motown era.

Contact Deise Benitez, 734.763.9044, dbenitez@umich.edu

Catalyst for Change
CHISHOLM for PRESIDENT
'72

21
**CHRONOLOGY OF THE MLK HOLIDAY**

1968: On April 8, four days after Dr. King is assassinated, U.S. Rep. John Conyers (D-Michigan) introduces first legislation providing for a Martin Luther King Jr. Federal Holiday.

1971: During April, petitions gathered by the Southern Christian Leadership Conference bearing six million signatures in support of a King Holiday are presented to the U.S. Congress. But Congress takes no action to move the holiday legislation forward.

1973: First state King Holiday bill (sponsored by then Assemblyman Harold Washington) signed into law in Illinois.

1974: Massachusetts and Connecticut enact statewide King Holidays.

1975: New Jersey State Supreme Court rules that state must provide a paid holiday in the honor of Dr. King in accordance with the state government’s labor contract with the New Jersey State Employees Association.

1978: On November 4, National Council of Churches calls on Congress to pass King Holiday.

1979: Mrs. Coretta Scott King testifies before the Senate Judiciary Committee and before joint hearings of Congress in behalf of a King Holiday. She directs the King Center staff to begin intensive organizing of a nationwide citizens lobby for a national Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday. The King Center launches a new nationwide King Holiday petition campaign, which is signed by more than 300,000 before year’s end. President Jimmy Carter calls on Congress to pass a national King Holiday. Energized by a grass roots “prairie fire,” the King Holiday bill finally begins to move through Congressional committees. During November, the King Holiday bill is defeated in a floor vote in the U.S. House of Representatives.

1980: Stevie Wonder releases “Happy Birthday,” a song celebrating Dr. King and urging a holiday in his honor. It becomes a hit and a rallying cry for the holiday. During November, the King Holiday bill is defeated again, but by only five votes.

1981: The King Center mobilizes a coalition to lobby for the holiday. The renowned composer, singer and musician Stevie Wonder funds the holiday lobbying office and staff based in Washington, D.C.

1982: On February 23, Mrs. King testifies in support of the Holiday before the Subcommittee on Census and Population of the House Committee on Post Office and Civil Service.

Mrs. King and Stevie Wonder present King Center petitions bearing more than six million signatures in support of a MLK Holiday to Congressman Thomas “Tip” O’Neill, Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives.

1983: During August, the House of Representatives passes the King Holiday Bill sponsored by Reps. Katie Hall (D-Indiana) and Michigan’s John Conyers by a vote of 338 to 90.
On August 27, the King Center convenes the “20th Anniversary March on Washington,” in which more than 750,000 demonstrators at the Lincoln Memorial call on the U.S. Senate and President Ronald Reagan to pass the King Holiday.

On October 19, the King Holiday Bill sponsored by Sen. Ted Kennedy (D-Massachusetts) passes U.S. Senate by a vote of 78-22.

On November 3, President Reagan signs bill establishing the third Monday of every January as the Martin Luther King Jr. National Holiday.

1984: On August 27, President Reagan signs legislation providing for the Martin Luther King Jr. Federal Holiday Commission.

1986: On January 20, the first national King Holiday is observed.

1989: On January 16, the number of states that have legislated a MLK Holiday grows to 44.

1990: The United Auto Workers union negotiates contracts with the Big Three auto companies requiring a paid MLK holiday for all their auto union employees.

On January 15, the Wall St. Journal reports that only 18% of 317 corporate employers surveyed by the Bureau of National Affairs provided a paid King Holiday.

1992: On November 3, after a coalition of citizens for an Arizona King Holiday launches successful protest and boycott campaigns, the citizens of Arizona pass a referendum establishing a Martin Luther King Jr. state holiday.

1993: During January, Arizonans observe their first statewide King Holiday, leaving only New Hampshire without a state holiday in honor of Dr. King.

1994: On August 23, President Bill Clinton signs the Martin Luther King Jr. Federal Holiday and Service Act, expanding the mission of the holiday as a day of community service, multiracial cooperation and youth anti-violence initiatives.

1996: Martin Luther King Jr. Federal Holiday Commission concludes its mission and transfers responsibility for coordinating nationwide holiday activities to the King Center in Atlanta.

1998: A Bureau of National Affairs survey of 458 employers found that 26% provided a paid holiday for their workers on the King Holiday. The survey found that 33% of firms with union contracts provided a paid King Holiday, compared with 22% of nonunion shops.

1999: On June 7, Gov. Jean Shaheen of New Hampshire signs King Holiday legislation into law, completing recognition of the holiday in all states.

On October 29, U.S. Senate unanimously passes legislation establishing a federal holiday requiring national observance.
CHRONOLOGY OF THE ANNUAL REVEREND DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. SYMPOSIUM MEMORIAL LECTURES*

1988 Gov. Douglas Wilder of Virginia
1989 Mayor Willie Brown Jr. of San Francisco
1990 Cesar Chavez, President, United Farm Workers Union
       Kevin Locke, Traditional Native American Dancer and Musician, Lakota Nation
1991 Adelaide Sanford, Regent, State University of New York
1992 Maulana Karenga, Director of Black Studies, California State University, Long Beach
1994 Charles Long, Director for Black Studies, University of California, Santa Barbara
1995 Benjamin Hooks, Executive Director of the NAACP
1997 Mary Frances Berry, Chairperson of the US Commission on Civil Rights
1998 Cornel West, Professor of African American Studies and Religion, Harvard University
1999 Nikki Giovanni, Poet, Author and Essayist
2000 Henry Louis Gates Jr., Director of African American Studies, Harvard University
2001 Edward James Olmos, Actor and Humanitarian
2002 Dr. Benjamin Carson, Neurosurgeon and Medical School Alumnus
2003 Grace Lee Boggs, Detroit Activist and Author
2004 Lani Guinier, Harvard Law Professor and Author
2005 Henry G. Cisneros, Former Secretary – US Dept. of Housing & Urban Development
2006 Anna Deavere Smith, Professor, Playwright, Actress
2007 Kweisi Mfume, Executive Director, NAACP
2008 Louis Gossett Jr., Academy Award-winning Actor, Founder of the Eracism Foundation
2009 Julian Bond, Former Chairman of the NAACP

*Positions and Titles listed reflect status at the time of address.

REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Julia Donovan Darlow, Ann Arbor
Laurence B. Deitch, Bingham Farms
Denise Ilitch, Bingham Farms
Olivia P. Maynard, Goodrich
Andrea Fischer Newman, Ann Arbor

Andrew C. Richner, Grosse Pointe Park
S. Martin Taylor, Grosse Pointe Farms
Katherine E. White, Ann Arbor
Mary Sue Coleman (ex officio)
2009-2010 MLK COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Amer Ahmed, Multi-Ethnic Student Affairs
Daniella Borum, Arts and Programs
Edward Burnett, Trotter Multicultural Center
Patricia Coleman-Burns, School of Nursing
William Collins, Center for Educational Outreach and Academic Success
Cherie Dotson, College of Pharmacy
Larry Gant, School of Social Work
Theda Gibbs, Office of Academic Multicultural Initiatives
Lumas Helaire, Office of Academic Multicultural Initiatives
Kamilah Henderson, Ginsberg Center
Kurt Hill, College of Engineering
Lynnette Iannace, Ross School of Business
Elizabeth James, Center for AfroAmerican and African Studies
Helen Look, University Library
John Matlock, Office of Academic Multicultural Initiatives
Henry Meares, School of Education
Lydia Middleton, Office of New Student Programs
Lester Monts, Office of the Provost
Chinyere Neale, University Health Services
Charles Ransom, University Library
Pamela Reister, University of Michigan Museum of Art
Vanita Sanders-Bateast, Office of Academic Multicultural Initiatives
Lynne Shivers, Rackham Graduate School
Tesenga Smith, School of Public Health
Je’Nai Talley, Office of Academic Multicultural Initiatives
Gwendolyn Tandy, Conference Management Services
Gloria Taylor, Office of Academic Multicultural Initiatives
Phyllis Taylor, Alumni Association
Robbie Townsel-Ransom, University Housing-Residence Education
Anthony Walesby, Office of the Provost
Daniel Washington, School of Music, Theatre and Dance
Carol Williams, Office of Academic Multicultural Initiatives
Rochelle Woods, Office of Academic Multicultural Initiatives
Courtney Vanderbilt, Office of Academic Multicultural Initiatives
Evans Young, College of Literature, Science & the Arts

SPECIAL THANKS

Belltower Hotel
Conference Management Services
Kiya Gibbons, Photographer
Theda Gibbs, MLK Symposium Coordinator
Goetzcraft Printing
Anne-Marie Kim, Graphic & Website Designe
Lilly Marie, Artwork
John Matlock, Director & Associate Vice Provost, Office of Academic Multicultural Initiatives
Keiyanka Smith, MLK Student Assistant
Gloria Taylor, Associate Director, Office of Academic Multicultural Initiatives
MLK Symposium Planning Committee
Michigan Productions
Staff of the Office of Academic Multicultural Initiatives
University Productions
John Woodford, Copywriter

The University of Michigan, as an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer, complies with all applicable federal and state laws regarding nondiscrimination and affirmative action, including Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. The University of Michigan is committed to a policy of nondiscrimination and equal opportunity for all persons regardless of race, sex, color, religion, creed, national origin or ancestry, age, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, disability, or Vietnam-era veteran status in employment, educational programs and activities, and admissions. Inquiries or complaints may be addressed to the Senior Director for Institutional Equity and Title IX/Section 504 Coordinator, Office of Institutional Equity, 2072 Administrative Services Building, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109-1432, 734-763-6250, TTY 734-647-1388. For other University of Michigan information call 734-764-1817.
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
STATEMENT ON FREEDOM OF SPEECH AND ARTISTIC EXPRESSION

Thank you for attending this program. The University of Michigan strives to create a truly open forum, one in which diverse opinions can be expressed and heard.

It is the right of members of the University community, speakers, artists and other invited guests to express their views and opinions at the University. We will protect the right of individuals to speak or perform, and the rights of those members of the University community who wish to hear and communicate with an invited speaker or artist.

Protesters also have a right to express their opposition to a speaker in appropriate ways, both within the confines of this building and outside the facility. However, protesters must not interfere unduly with communication between a speaker or artist and members of the audience.

If the hosts of this event or University representatives believe that protesters are interfering unduly with a speaker or performer’s freedom of expression, those protesters will be warned. If the warnings are not heeded and the interference continues, then the individuals responsible may be removed from the building.

We reaffirm these policies in order to most fully protect the rights of free expression for speakers, performers and protesters alike, as set forth by our Civil Liberties Board in our Student Handbook, and in accordance with the U-M Standard Practice Guide; Regents’ Ordinance Article XII, Section 1; and state statutes.

FOR MORE INFORMATION
Please contact Theda Gibbs, MLK Program Coordinator in
The Office of Academic Multicultural Initiatives (734) 936-1055
or visit: www.mlksymposium.umich.edu