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2016 -17 Citizenship Award for Diversity Leadership recipient, Mariam Khan.



Mariam Khan of Arlington, Va., has been named the 2016-2017 recipient of the University of Mary Washington's Citizenship Award for Diversity Leadership.

The annual award is given to a rising senior enrolled as a full-time student in an undergraduate degree program at UMW. The student must maintain high academic standards, possess characteristics of leadership and make a personal commitment to advocating an appreciation for diversity and inclusion on campus. As the award recipient, Khan will serve as an active spokesperson for diversity and inclusion, a peer mentor to students and a voice for underrepresented populations.

"I hope to continue the work of diversity and inclusion on UMW's campus," said Khan, a double major in sociology and women's and gender studies who was born in Kashmir. "A good leader immerses themselves in their cause while also being a guiding hand, and I think I can do that for UMW."

She has been a leader within the student body since her arrival on campus three years ago. A highly active member and past president of the Islamic Student Association (ISA), Khan has helped to organize campus-wide programs such as Fast-A-Thon and panel discussions that have helped foster a better understanding of Islam and Muslims. She also participates in the UMW chapter of UNICEF; is an executive board member of Women of Color; and has served as an orientation leader to welcome new students to UMW for two summers.

During her senior year, she will continue to be a member of the Student Government Association's Diversity and Unity Coordinating Committee and the student-run Finance Committee. She will continue her role as a RISE (Resources Inspiring Student Excellence) mentor, helping new student adjust to a college setting. In addition, she plans to live in the university's Framar House, an international living community, where she will implement events that promote diversity and inclusion within the UMW community.

After graduation, she plans to pursue graduate work in women and gender studies in preparation for a role that contributes to fighting for the equality of women around the world. (Credit- University Relations)

2016– 2017 Cultural Awareness Series

- **Latino Identities Month** keynote — Antonio Gonzalez
- **Gender and Sexual Minorities Month** keynote— Kavindu Ade
- **Asian Cultural Celebration** keynote— Pilipino American Cultural Arts Society Dancers
- **Taste of Asia** — November 5, 2016
- **Native American Cultural Celebration** keynote — Daniel Tramper, Cherokee Hoop Dancer
- **Kwanza Celebration** — November 30, 2016
- **Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration** keynote — Bakari Sellers
- **Black History Month** keynote — Maggie Anderson
- **Step Show Competition** — February 18, 2017
- **Women's History Month** keynote — Marianne Schnall
- **Islamic Cultural Celebration** keynote — Safiya Samman
- **27th Annual Multicultural Fair**— April 1, 2017
- **Passover**— April 11, 2017

Over the past 23 years, the Cultural Awareness Series has grown more successful and has become highly anticipated thanks to your continued support. The speakers and performances scheduled for this year's Cultural Awareness Series aim to promote a greater understanding and appreciation of diversity in race, gender, nationality, sexual orientation, religion, age, and culture. We hope that our programs will encourage dialogue about these topics. We thank you in advance for considering this invitation to join us in celebrating diversity. For more information, visit our [website!](#)

New James Farmer Post Doctoral Fellow in Civil Rights and Social Justice Joins JFMC Staff



Dr. LaWanda M. Wallace, earned her doctorate from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro (UNCG) in Cultural Studies of Education. She also has a certificate in Women's & Gender Studies from UNCG.

Wallace's research focuses on dominant norms; more specifically, how these norms affect minority populations in the United States. Inspired by Freire, she utilizes a radical facilitation approach to education with the true belief that education can be used as a form of liberation to free people from their internalized oppressions.

She hails from Greensboro, NC where she spent the last three years working as an Adjunct Assistant Professor in the Human Development & Services department at North Carolina A&T State University. She also has experience working in the office of Multicultural Affairs as well as Intercollegiate Athletics. In all her roles, Wallace's top priority has been the successful matriculation of students.

Wallace basic interests include reading, working out (specifically teaching body pump classes) and spending time with family and friends. She is an active member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., which also takes up a great deal of her time.

Being the third recipient of the James Farmer Post Doctoral Fellowship in Civil Rights and Social Justice is an extreme honor to Wallace. She does not take this position and the responsibility to uphold the profound legacy of Dr. Farmer lightly. She is most excited about working with faculty, staff and students to address issues of social justice and the multiplicity of ideas and beliefs that each of us holds which may be inhibiting forward progress in our modern times. Above all immersing herself within the UMW community and leaving a lasting positive impact is most important to her.

Upcoming Summer 2016 Events

- New Student Arrival — August 24, 2016
- Cross-Cultural Barbeque — September 1, 2016 — Ball Circle, 4-6 p.m.
- Latino Identities Month Kickoff — September 15, 2016 — Ball Circle, 4 p.m.
- Latino Identities Month Keynote — September 27, 2016 - Digital Auditorium, 7 p.m.



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