



James Farmer Multicultural Center

Alumni Newsletter | November 2016

MLK Day Keynote Speaker: Attorney Bakari Sellers

Sponsored by the Office of the President



MLK Keynote Address

Wednesday, Jan. 25 | 7:00 p.m.

Chandler Ballroom

University Center

Elected in 2006 to the South Carolina House of Representatives at the age of 22, Bakari Sellers is an attorney, one of the youngest State Representatives, and the youngest black elected official in the United States. Viewing himself not as a politician, but a public servant, Sellers is a passionate keynote speaker on civil rights, equality, education, and faith.

Education has always been a top priority for Sellers. He graduated from the South Carolina public school system and then proceeded to Morehouse College, where he earned a Bachelor of Arts degree. While at Morehouse College, Sellers was elected Student Government Association President and, by virtue of his position, served on the College's Board of Trustees. He earned his juris doctorate from the University of South Carolina School of Law and soon entered politics, working for United States Congressman James Clyburn, Atlanta Mayor Shirley Franklin, and the Southeastern Regional Director of the NAACP.



Welcoming the new Associate Director!

In September, the JFMC welcomed the new Associate Director, Ms. JoAnna Raucci! JoAnna comes to us from Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Virginia, where she studied Higher Education Administration with a focus on Student Affairs. She is also a graduate of James Madison University with her Bachelor's Degree in Psychology. JoAnna has been very involved in diversity initiatives as a student affairs professional and has worked in varying capacities in Academic Advising, Housing and Residence Life, Safe Space committees, and Student Activities and Involvement.

As a new member of the JFMC Team, JoAnna hopes to add to the diverse array of educational programs offered by the JFMC, with an emphasis on LGBTQ+ issues, microaggressions, and intersectionality. She is excited to be working with such wonderful students, faculty, and staff!



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James Farmer Multicultural Center visits the **NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY & CULTURE**

UPCOMING EVENTS

Nov. 5 | 6 p.m.

Taste of Asia

Chandler Ballroom, UC

Nov. 7 | 6 p.m.

**Jewish Cultural
Celebration Keynote:
Chef Todd and Ellen
Kassoff Gray**

Chandler Ballroom, UC

Nov. 17 | 7 p.m.

**Native American
Cultural Celebration
Keynote Performance:**

**Daniel Trampler,
Cherokee Hoop Dancer**
Chandler Ballroom, UC

Nov. 30 | 6 p.m.

Kwanzaa Celebration
Chandler Ballroom, UC

Jan. 25 | 7 p.m.

**MLK Keynote Address:
Bakari Sellers**
Chandler Ballroom, UC

James Farmer Multicultural Center
University Center, Room 319
students.umw.edu/multicultural
umwjfmc@gmail.com

Pictured below: The
sign donated by UMW;
Students and Dean
Rucker around the sign
for the NMAAHC



Students gather by the entrance to the museum

“ You felt the pride, the courage,
the sacrifices, and the triumphs
of so many that helped us get
to where we are today. ”

The National Museum of African-American History and Culture (NMAAHC) opened its doors to the public on September 24, 2016. Students and staff gathered around exhibits that featured artifacts from the Civil Rights Movement, examined props and costumes worn by African-American movie stars, and enjoyed delicious cuisine in the museum's restaurant, the Sweet Home Café. After taking the students on this trip, Dr. Marion Sanford remembers, "I was excited and grateful for the opportunity to take a group of students to D.C. to visit the museum." The excitement for this opportunity was echoed by Senior Glenn Taylor, who said, "Visiting the museum will be a day that I will never forget. I really enjoyed being able to learn more about African-American history with my fellow peers."

One item on display carried special significance for our group: a waiting room sign from a bus station in Birmingham, Alabama (pictured above). The sign reads, "Waiting Room (interstate and white intrastate passengers)" – a relic from the days of segregated transportation. Dr. Sanford stated, "Being there, witnessing history with so many people from around the country and world was a powerful experience that I will always remember. You felt the pride, the courage, the sacrifices, and the triumphs of so many that helped us get to where we are today. It was truly amazing and empowering."