



James Farmer Multicultural Center

Alumni Newsletter | August 2018

25TH ANNUAL CULTURAL AWARENESS SERIES

2018-2019

Sept. 24 | 5 p.m.

Pollard Hall, Room 304

Latino Identities Month Keynote:
Lorena Guillén Tango Ensemble



Lorena Guillén Tango Ensemble

Oct. 23 | 6:30 p.m.

Digital Auditorium, HCC

Gender & Sexual Minorities and Allies
(GSMA) Keynote: Namoli Brennet



Namoli Brennet

Oct. 28 | 4 p.m.

Digital Auditorium, HCC

Asian Cultural Celebration Keynote:
Prem Raja Mahat

Nov. 3 | 4 p.m.

Chandler Ballroom, UC

Taste of Asia

Nov. 8 | 7 p.m.

Lee Hall, Room 411

Jewish Cultural Celebration
Keynote: Dr. Mark Naison



Uptown Boyz

Nov. 15 | 7 p.m.

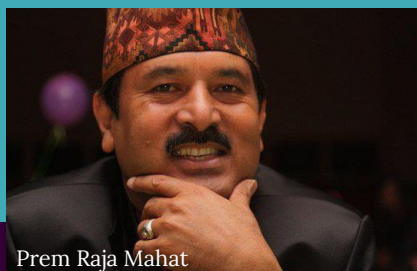
Chandler Ballroom, UC

Native American Cultural Celebration
Keynote: Uptown Boyz

Nov. 29 | 6 p.m.

Chandler Ballroom, UC

Kwanzaa Celebration



Prem Raja Mahat



Dr. Bernard LaFayette Jr.

Jan. 23 | 7 p.m.

Chandler Ballroom, University Center

Martin Luther King, Jr. Keynote Speaker: Dr.
Bernard LaFayette Jr.

Feb. 13 | 7 p.m.

Chandler Ballroom, UC

Black History Month Keynote: Karen Hunter

Feb. 23 | 7 p.m.

Dodd Auditorium, George Washington Hall
Step Show Competition

Mar. 18 | 7 p.m.

Digital Auditorium, HCC

Women's History Month Keynote
Speaker: Major Kimberly Morris

April 4 | 7 p.m.

Chandler Ballroom, UC

Islamic Cultural Celebration Banquet:
Salaam Bhatti

April 13 | 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

UMW Fredericksburg Campus
29th Annual Multicultural Fair

April 23 | 6 p.m.

Chandler Ballroom, UC
Passover Seder



Dr. Mark Naison



Karen Hunter



Salaam Bahatti



UNIVERSITY OF
MARY WASHINGTON

where great minds get to work

JFMC HIGHLIGHTS:

CHARLOTTE CORBETT-PARKER RETIRES AFTER 28+ YEARS



Charlotte Corbett-Parker began her career at UMW in 1989

Charlotte Corbett-Parker arrived at the University of Mary Washington in August 1990 excited to begin her new career in Fredericksburg. She started her journey as a receptionist for the Office of Academic Services, after earning her Associate's degree at Alamance Community College in North Carolina. Reflecting back on those early days, she remembered that everything had to be done by hand – computers were not as prevalent as they are now. The very detailed tasks of registering non-degree seeking students, verifying language requirements, collecting monies to give to the Business Office, etc., took a lot longer to process then compared to the advantages technology has provided today.

However, she worked diligently and enthusiastically to ensure that every student record was accurate and all questions, by students and parents, were answered as fully as possible. Charlotte quickly used her position to learn and expand her duties and responsibilities. She started working with students who declared majors, worked with other colleagues on verifying transfer credits, pulled folders for new students in preparation for Orientation, as well as entering all new students' classes.

Beyond the traditional scope of her role, Charlotte was tireless in her thirst and eagerness to reach out and work with other offices, such as Disability Resources and Study Abroad. She enjoyed helping to coordinate the Study Abroad Fair, as well as communicating with faculty regarding accommodation requests from students. She also worked with the Student Transition Program to help students in that program get registered for classes.

Her hard work and dedication paid off after just a few years on the job. After four or five years, she was promoted to the position of Program Support Technician. Ms. Corbett-Parker would hold this title to her retirement. Her fondest memories include the relationships she established with the students through the years, especially in those one-on-one interactions where she often served as advisor, mentor, and motivator. Charlotte stated that even parents would contact her with questions or just to gain a better understanding of different processes as they helped their student navigate the college environment.

She speaks with pride and passion of those students she knew who encountered problems and challenges during their time at UMW, but persevered to graduation. She was committed to working with students to help them address issues and provide support. One example of this support was when she served as advisor for several years to the Voices of Praise student club. They sponsored numerous programs that hosted musicians and other college groups to campus. In addition to the student group, Charlotte was also active with the Black Faculty/Staff Association and served as president during the early 90s.

Charlotte stated that never did she believe she would have been at UMW for 28 years, but is grateful for the opportunity and has enjoyed the experiences and the journey. She thinks about the generations of students who have seen her as a resource and support, and acknowledges she will miss them a lot. She is thankful for the outstanding support and relationships she has established with colleagues and parents, as well. As Ms. Corbett-Parker embarks upon this new chapter of her life, she looks forward to traveling and spending more time with family in North Carolina. But she states that UMW will always be family to her.

2018-2019 CITIZENSHIP AWARD FOR DIVERSITY LEADERSHIP

ERIN SHAW



Each year the President's Community Advisory Committee on Diversity presents a Mary Washington student with the Citizenship Award for Diversity Leadership. This award is given to a rising senior enrolled in the University, who possesses strong characteristics of leadership and demonstrates a personal commitment – advocating for diversity and inclusion across campus. This year's recipient is **Erin Shaw**.

Erin Shaw is a rising senior majoring in Psychological Science from Ashburn, Virginia, who plans to attend graduate school for social work after concluding her last year of undergraduate studies. Since her freshman year, Erin has been involved on the executive board of People for the Rights of Individuals of Sexual and Gender Minorities (PRISM), and has moved through the ranks to become president. While working with PRISM, she has organized several large-scale events, such as Gender and Sexual Minorities and Allies (GSMA) Celebration week, Drag Show, and Day of Silence. She has also worked to make sure each PRISM meeting is special and offers something to its membership, whether that is an opportunity for education about the LGBT+ community, promoting activist work on campus, or just hanging out and having fun. Since her sophomore year, Erin has served as a student trainer for the University's Safe Zone program, training students on LGBT+ sensitivity, awareness, and being a supportive ally to members of the community.

Outside of PRISM, Erin is an officer in Psi Chi, the honor society for psychology, a member of the Honors Program, and a member of Phi Beta Kappa. She has also interned with the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Virginia branch, and hopes to continue working in the nonprofit sphere to promote equality for mentally ill and people with disabilities. PRISM has also worked alongside several other James Farmer Multicultural Center clubs, such as the Black Student Association (BSA), BOND, Asian Student Association (ASA), and Women of Color (WOC) to promote diversity and acceptance on campus.

During her senior year, Erin will continue to work alongside other campus groups to heighten awareness of diversity and inclusion issues and perspectives at UMW. She hopes to see more of the student body come out and participate in JFMC events. She is humbled to receive this award, knowing the hard work that other campus leaders are doing, and she hopes that the CADL recognition allows her to continue to have an impact on UMW before she graduates. **See more on our website at <http://students.umw.edu/multicultural/citizenship-award-for-diversity/>**