



The James Farmer Multicultural Center presents
The 27th Annual Cultural Awareness Series
2020-2021



UNIVERSITY OF
 MARY WASHINGTON

where great minds get to work

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Latino Identities Month Keynote Performer:
 Quimbao Latin Band**

Tuesday, September 22 | 6 p.m. | [Zoom](#)

The Latin band, Quimbao, was created in 2010. Oscar Perez, pianist and director of the musical group, began his musical career in Peru more than 25 years ago. The members are musicians from different Latin countries and also have a great musical trajectory. Quimbao is one of the best bands in the Washington, DC area (Virginia, Maryland, DC.). Quimbao has performed in different states (universities, festivals and private events) and play almost all Latin rhythms like salsa, merengue, cumbia, bachata, Latin jazz and many more. Please join us for this live musical performance!

**Disability Awareness Month Keynote Speaker:
 Matthew Doyle**

Thursday, Oct. 15 | 5 p.m. | [Zoom](#)

Athlete Matthew Doyle shares the Special Olympics global message of respect, hope, unity, and inclusion. A graduate of Stafford County's Mountain View High School, Doyle is involved in the Best Buddies program at the University of Mary Washington.

**Gender and Sexual Minorities and Allies
 (GSMA) Cultural Celebration Keynote Speaker:
 Rosemary Ketchum**

Wednesday, Oct. 21 | 6 p.m. | [Zoom](#)

A member of the city council of Wheeling, West Virginia, Rosemary Ketchum is associate director of the National Alliance on Mental Illness Greater Wheeling Drop-in Center and on the boards of several organizations.

**Asian Cultural Celebration Keynote Performer:
 Thai Nattasin**

Wednesday, Oct. 28 | 7 p.m. | [Zoom](#)

Thai Nattasin DC performs elegant, graceful, and colorful Thai classical dance. The performance celebrates Thailand's four dynasties, and the dancers' ornate costumes and jewelry represent the greatness and wonders of each reign.

Taste of Asia

Saturday, Oct. 31 | 4 p.m. | [Zoom](#)

For cost, please contact the James Farmer Multicultural Center. Co-sponsored by the Asian Student Association. This year's Taste of Asia is a virtual celebration of Asian culture on Zoom, featuring a fashion show, cooking demonstrations, and live dance performances.

**Jewish Cultural Celebration Keynote Speaker:
 Rabbi Dr. Julia Watts Belser**

Wednesday, Nov. 4 | 5 p.m. | [Zoom](#)

Julia Watts Belser is a scholar, rabbi, activist, and spiritual teacher. As a professor of Jewish studies at Georgetown University and core faculty in Georgetown's Disability Studies program, she brings Jewish texts into conversation with queer, disability, and feminist ethics.

**Native American Cultural Keynote Speaker:
 Sherri Salway Black**

Thursday, Nov. 12 | 6 p.m. | [Zoom](#)

Sherri Salway Black is Oglala Lakota and has worked for more than 40 years in American Indian issues. President Obama appointed her to two advisory commissions, and she is a trustee of boards related to Native American policy research, governance, economic development, and more.

Kwanzaa

Tuesday, Dec. 1 | 6 p.m. | [Register](#) | [Zoom](#)

Co-sponsored by the Black Student Association
 A seven-day nonreligious holiday celebrating African culture and heritage, Kwanzaa features candle lighting, pouring of libations, and a culminating feast and gift giving. Join us for activities and rituals of Kwanzaa and enjoy a feast together.

The University of Mary Washington Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Keynote Speaker:

Reverend Dr. Aaron Dobyne

Wednesday, Jan. 27 | 6 p.m. | [Register](#) | [Zoom](#)

The Rev. Aaron L. Dobyne Sr. is a scholar of Martin Luther King Jr. and a fourth-generation preacher. He is pastor of Shiloh (Old Site) Baptist Church in Fredericksburg, and he is passionate about black history, womanist theology, and the Beloved Community as King envisioned it. He holds doctoral degrees in ministry and in humanities with a concentration in King studies.

**Black History Month Keynote Speaker:
 Judge Kerwin Miller '95**

Wednesday, Feb. 10 | 6 p.m. | [Register](#) | [Zoom](#)

A 1995 graduate of Mary Washington and a lawyer since 2000, Kerwin A. Miller Sr. was appointed by Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan as a county judge. Miller worked his way up through the legal profession in Maryland, serving as a legal aid attorney, a public defender, a deputy state's attorney, and an administrative law judge before being elevated to the bench in Harford County, Maryland.

Step Show Competition

Saturday, Feb. 20 | 7 p.m.

Dodd Auditorium, George Washington Hall

For cost information, contact the James Farmer Multicultural Center.

The dance form of stepping uses the entire body to resonate complex rhythmic beats and sounds.

Join area high school teams for this high-energy, entertaining competition.

**Women's History Month Keynote Speaker:
 Dr. Mecca Jamilah Sullivan**

Monday, March 22 | 6 p.m. | TBD | [Register](#)

Co-sponsored by the College of Arts and Sciences; the Department of American Studies; the Department of Classics, Philosophy, and Religion; the Department of English, Linguistics, and Communications; the Department of Psychological Sciences; the Department of Sociology and Anthropology, the James Farmer Multicultural Center; and the Women's and Gender Studies Program

Dr. Mecca Jamilah Sullivan's fiction explores the intellectual, emotional, and bodily lives of young black women. Sullivan is an assistant professor of women, gender, and sexuality studies at UMass Amherst. Her current manuscript in progress explores the relationships among sexuality, identity, and genre in contemporary women's literature of the African diaspora.

Passover

Tuesday, March 30 | 6 p.m. | [Register](#)

Location TBD

Co-sponsored by the Jewish Student Association
 Passover honors the emancipation of Israelites from slavery in ancient Egypt. Jewish families gather on the first few nights of Passover for dinner and the Seder ritual, in which a family or community retells the story of liberation.

**Islamic Cultural Celebration Banquet Keynote
 Speaker: Ayesha Noor**

Thursday, April 8 | 7 p.m. | TBD | [Register](#)

Co-sponsored by the Muslim Student Association
 Ayesha Noor runs a small business and has worked on interfaith relations and women's leadership in the Fredericksburg area. She has two master's degrees in international economics and is director of interfaith relations at a local mosque.

31st Annual Multicultural Fair

Saturday, April 10 – rain or shine | 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. | UMW Fredericksburg campus

The Multicultural Fair attracts thousands and provides a day of entertainment, children's activities, international and American food, and ethnic arts and crafts.