

PRESS RELEASE

College Drive • P.O. Box 2001 • Toms River, NJ 08754-2001
732.255.0400 x.2466 • www.ocean.edu



OCC SPONSORS BLACK HISTORY MONTH EVENTS IN FEBRUARY

TOMS RIVER – February is **Black History Month** and the Ocean County College Office of Multicultural Services is celebrating! The theme for 2012 is “**Black Women In America: History and Culture.**” All events are held on the OCC Main Campus, College Drive, Toms River, NJ. All events are open to the public.

Thursday February 2 at 12:00 noon, the **Opening Ceremony & Raising of the Black Flag** will be held at the Flag Pole, Campus Mall. Welcome to be given by Dr. Jon H. Larson, President of Ocean County College. 12:30 – 4:00 p.m., a **Soul-Food Buffet & Musical Performance** will take place in the Solar Lounge, College Center. Enjoy delicious food, listen to music by OCC alumnus Aaron McDuffy, followed by **Read-In Day** – students, faculty, and staff will read selections from authors such as Zora Neal Hurston, Ntozake Shange, Lorraine Hansberry, Gwendolyn Brooks, Lucille Clifton, Ma Rainey, Yusef Komunaykaa, Amiri Baraka, and Sojourner Truth. Admission: FREE.

Thursday, February 23 at 2:00 p.m., **Sensing African American Spirituals**, Room A117, Arts & Community Center. Carolyn Watts will sing African-American spirituals and Karin Gargone, OCC Instructor of Humanities, will accompany on piano. Admission: FREE.

Tuesday, February 28 at 12:00 noon, **Closing Ceremony and Lowering of the Black Flag** will be held at the Flag Pole, Campus Mall. Music, readings, and light refreshments to follow in the Solar Lounge, College Center. Admission: FREE.

Saturday, March 3 at 7:00 p.m., **12th Annual Gospel Extravaganza**, Arts & Community Center Theatre. Admission: \$10 adults, \$7 students and seniors. Tickets can be purchased at the Student Life Office located in the College Center.

For information, call 732-255-0400, ext. 2465.

OCC's Black History Month events are sponsored by the Organization for Black Unity, the Office of Multicultural Services, the Educational Opportunity Fund, and the Office of Student Life.