courant.com/community/manchester/hcrs-85274-manchester-20140204,0,6107515.story

## Courant.com

## **READER SUBMITTED: MCC Celebrates African American History Month**

Bonnie Willgoos, Manchester Community College

Manchester

7:10 PM EST, February 5, 2014

Manchester Community College will celebrate African American History Month with several events during the month of February. All events are free and open to the public.

The African American History Month Opening Ceremony will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 4, from 12:30 to 2 p.m. in GPA Community Commons. This ceremony will jump-start the African American History Month programs, celebrating 50 years of civil rights. Guest speaker will be Dr. Aaron Lewis, spiritual leader, publisher, ghostwriter and author. The African American History Month Community Service and Leadership Awards will also be presented. Refreshments will be served following the program.

Enjoy an afternoon of entertainment with the Sounds from the Soul featuring Charisa, the ViolinDiva on Thursday, Feb. 13, from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. in GPA Community Commons. The event will bring the sounds of the civil rights movement and music from the soul to MCC. Charisa, musician and teacher, will share a selection of her music and discuss her journey to becoming the ViolinDiva.

Anyone visiting campus is invited to participate in Walk through History during African American History Month, February 1 through 27. Learn about both the past and present figures who have made or are currently making gains in areas such as entertainment, music, science, technology, the military, sports and politics. These figures will be showcased throughout the campus. Learn about the different icons in African American history and join in on a scavenger hunt for a prize. For more information, contact Bryce C. Jones at 860-512-3327.

Students of any age who possess the desire to pursue higher education are welcome at Manchester Community College. MCC is proud of its academic excellence, new facilities, flexible schedules, small classes, low tuition and faculty with both academic and "real world" credentials. The college offers over 60 programs, transfer options, financial aid and scholarships, as well as access to baccalaureate degrees through guaranteed admissions programs with several universities. The main, park-like campus, which is easily accessible from I-84, is also the home of Great Path Academy, a middle college high school, serving grades 9 through 12. The college's second location, the Manchester Community College Arts and Education Center, opened in downtown Manchester in 2012. MCC takes pride in the quality of programs and the many ways we've helped students, families, businesses and community grow over the past five decades. Fifty Years Together. For Learning. For Life.

Copyright © 2014, The Hartford Courant