“Black History Month is more than recognizing the struggles Blacks/African Americans faced in this country. It is a celebration of many accomplishments and achievements. In the words of the late Maya Angelou: ‘You can’t really know where you are going until you know where you have been.’ The road has not been easy but each day we are making strides and taking our rightful place in this world.

“This year’s Black History Month will look a little different due to Covid-19 restrictions. However, our passion and drive for creating a culturally enriching experience is unwavering. This year’s theme is ‘The Black Family: Representation, Identity, and Diversity.’ The dynamics of the Black family has changed but still proves to be a vision of strength. We will have virtual talks that will educate and inspire, we will dance, and we will have conversations that are good for the soul. I encourage everyone to join the Black History Month virtual experience. You’ll be glad that you did.”

Charah McKinzie
Black Resource Center Coordinator
For the past several years the SIUC Anthropology Department archaeological field school class (Anthropology 496) has been assisting the Shawnee National Forest in investigating the archaeological remains of a freed slave community called Miller Grove that was established in the 1840s on what is now Forest Service land in Pope County, Illinois. Miller Grove is a nationally important site that was established by several groups of newly-freed peoples from Tennessee prior to the Civil War including the Miller family. Rather than a town, Miller Grove consisted of a series of farms linked together by dirt trails with the focus of the community being a church/school and cemetery. Based on information collected from community descendants by the Forest Service over the years, the Miller Grove families were heavily involved in helping fugitives from the South escape to freedom via the Underground Railroad. Two natural landmarks associated with this endeavor – Sand Cave, a large, one-room cave in which runaways were sheltered before they could be moved, and Crow Knob, a bare sandstone promontory used as a lookout station to watch for runaway slaves and slave catchers who might be pursuing them, still form part of the present day-landscape.

The Forest Service has been heavily involved in investigating the remains of the Miller Grove community for over the last 20 years, locating the remains of the individual homesteads and conducting archaeological investigations to recover information regarding the lives of the people who lived at them. Literally thousands of volunteers from across the country, including schoolchildren as well as senior citizens, have participated in these investigations, helping recover hundreds of thousands of items that provide information regarding the lives of the families in this silenced community whose story can now be told only through archaeology.

Starting in 2017 the SIUC Anthropology Department and the SIUC Center for Archaeological Investigations began helping the Forest Service in their investigations of Miller Grove through the six week-long summer archaeological field school class (Anthropology 496). The goal is to help bring this project to a conclusion, which involves analyzing and interpreting all the archaeological and historical data collected to date, nominating Miller Grove to the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), and conducting further landscape and archaeological studies as needed that will aid in its preservation. Because of the coronavirus, a major aspect of the 2021 SIU archaeological field school investigations will include learning how to analyze and curate the Miller Grove artifacts recovered to date at the Center for Archaeological Investigations (CAI) curation facility in Carbondale, at which wearing masks and social distancing will be required. The group also will visit the site of Miller Grove in accompaniment with Forest Service archaeologists if possible.
PROFESSOR NAJJAR
ABDUL-MUSAWWIR SPEAKS
ON AFRICAN ART AND
SIU CARBONDALE

“I have been on several trips to Africa. I have been to Ghana, Senegal and South Africa,” Abdul-Musawwir said. “The trips have been eye opening and have given me the opportunity to see what is true of the things I have heard about Africa. I experienced that for myself. One of the greatest things about it was the great historical connection between some of the things I learned in those African countries and in relation to the African American community here in America.”

Abdul-Musawwir found similarities between African culture and African American culture, including long-standing traditions.

“The similarity between the ideas of family structures and principles with African Americans in early America is striking. There was a deprivation of that amongst African Americans from slavery here in the United States, from having a family structure,” Abdul-Musawwir said. “Looking at how Africa has continued to find ways, and how African Americans have continued to find ways, to build a structure despite the systematic exploitation of our culture. For marriage, we think about ‘jumping the broom,’ for New Year’s, we eat black eyed peas and other certain types of food, we have our own national anthem—the Black national anthem—as well as the American national anthem.”

Abdul-Musawwir said that SIU Carbondale (SIU) has brought international artists to the community, which has helped local places like the Eurma C. Hayes Center by increasing community interaction.

“The School of Art and Design at SIU has been very involved and willing to be involved with the African American/Black community,” Abdul-Musawwir said.

The School of Art and Design at SIU has also brought support in the form of recruitment and retention.

“I have had the opportunity to reach out and encourage, not only in terms of graduate but also undergraduate, enrollment,” Abdul-Musawwir said. “We have been very fortunate over the years to encourage African Americans to be interested in our well-respected art program.”

Professor Najjar Abdul-Musawwir explained that his drive to aid the community comes from his belief that the service is about giving back.

“Sometimes I have to get past me and realize that my service to humanity is my way of paying rent on Earth,” Abdul-Musawwir said.
Diversity is an integral part of SIU Carbondale’s legacy, dating to the inaugural class of 143 that included two Black students. Listed below are many of the Black trailblazers throughout the history of the university.

1876  Alexander Lane became the first Black male student graduate at what was then called Southern Illinois Normal University.

1925  With 43 members, the university’s first Black student organization is chartered. The Dunbar Society sponsors literary, athletic and social events.

1930  The Dunbar Society’s annual Abraham Lincoln Birthday Program is well received by the full student body. Society members form a second organization, a choral group called the Roland Hayes Club.

1932  Sigma Gamma Rho is the first Black sorority on campus.

1934  Alpha Phi Alpha is chartered as a Black fraternity on campus.

1936  Membership in the Dunbar Society reaches 57 students, making it the fourth largest student organization on campus.

1938  Eugene Payton, track star, is the first Black to be elected as captain of a sports team.

1943  University President Roscoe Pulliam insists on combining the Homecoming dances – one white, one black – into an integrated event, overcoming the objections of some city residents. “This first social gathering of both colored and white students at Southern proved to be quite successful,” says the yearbook.

1951  Dowdell Hall opens as integrated men’s housing and is followed in two years by Woody Hall, the first integrated dorm for women.

1953  Harvey Welch is the first Black to be awarded a varsity letter in men’s basketball.

1955  Bill Norwood is the first Black to quarterback the football team.

Dwight Campbell is elected first Black student body president.

Carl Anderson is hired as the first Black resident fellow. SIU recruiters travel across the state offering pre-college advisement at predominantly Black high schools. An agreement is set up with Howard University to recruit its students for SIU’s graduate program in college student administration.

1957  Annette Hoage is the first Black to receive a faculty appointment.

1959  SIU closes the decade with minority enrollment averaging 6 – 9 percent in total enrollment, higher than other non-urban public Illinois universities.

1960  The all Black Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity wins the scholarship trophy for the highest grade-point average among fraternities.

Nebraska Mayes is the first Black to receive a Ph.D. in Higher Education Administration.

1967  Hazel I. Scott is the first Black to be elected Homecoming queen.

Jerry Lacey is the first Black to be appointed Director of University Services.

1968  Paul Henry is the first Black assistant basketball coach.

The Black American Studies Program is founded and is later offered as a minor.

Jim Rosser is the first Black director of the Black American Studies Program.

Jim Rosser is the first Black to be appointed special assistant to President McVicar.

Harold Bardo is the first Black to be appointed as an instructor in educational psychology and as the first academic counselor in intercollegiate athletic department.

1969  Seymour Bryson is the first Black to be appointed to direct the Developmental Skills Program.

1970  Stanley Smith is the first Black dean of the College of Human Resources.

With 3,000 Black students, SIU is among the top five colleges and universities in the nation in the number of minorities enrolled. Three out of five receive some form of financial aid.

1972  Students establish the Black Affairs Council as an undergraduate student organization.
1973  Kappa Alpha Psi’s annual Kappa Karnival attracts 12,000 – 14,000 people from across the country, making it one of the largest social events for Black students in the United States.

1974  Cliff Harper is appointed the first Black dean of the Academic Support Service.
Gayle Sayers is appointed the first Black director of Men’s Intercollegiate Athletics.
Bill Berry is the first Black to be appointed as SIU Board of Trustee member.

1976  Seymour Bryson is the first Black to be appointed associate dean in the College of Human Resources.

1980  Norma Ewing is the first Black to be appointed chair of the Department of Special Education.
Michael Williams is the first Black to be named budget director.
Art Cox is the first Black to be appointed director of the School of Social Work.

1987  Harvey Welch, Jr. is appointed vice president for Student Affairs, becoming the university’s first Black vice president.

1988  Seymour Bryson is the first Black to be appointed executive assistant to the president.
Benjamin Shepherd is the first Black to be named vice president for academic affairs and research.

1989  SIU President John C. Guyon receives the Image Award from the Carbondale Chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

1991  Sonya Locke is the first Black to be appointed varsity head volleyball coach.

1992  Carol Henry is the first Black female to be appointed budget director.

2001  Connie Price is the first Black to be appointed head women’s track coach.

2003  Peter Alexander is the first Black to be appointed dean of the School of Law.

2004  Chris Lowery is the first Black to be appointed head coach of SIU basketball.

ACROSS CULTURES AND TIMES:
HOLIDAYS CELEBRATED DURING FEBRUARY

February 1
Imbolc (Pagan)
World Hijab Day
National Freedom Day

February 2
Candlemas (Christian)
Groundhog Day

February 4
Rosa Parks Day
World Cancer Day

February 12
International Day of Women’s Health
National Freedom to Marry Day

February 14
V-Day
Valentine’s Day

February 15
Parinirvana Day (Mahayana Buddhist)

February 16
Vasant Panchami (Hindu)

February 21
International Mother Language Day

February 25
Meher Baba’s Birthday

February 26
Saviour’s Day (Nation of Islam)
Monday 1
5 p.m.
Black History Month Kickoff
Speakers include
President Dan Mahony
Dr. David Briscoe
Chancellor Austin Lane
YouTube

6 p.m.
Virtual Presentation by ZuZu Acrobat
YouTube Premier
Q/A Zoom Meeting ID: 840 3732 9453 Passcode: Zf0sZQ

Wednesday 3
8 p.m.
60 in 60 Black History Month Trivia
SPC
Participants will have opportunities to win prizes
Find the link at getinvolved.siu.edu
SIU Students Only
Friday Feb. 5 - Sunday Feb. 7
"Just Mercy" Movie
Find the link at getinvolved.siu.edu
SIU Students Only

Monday 8
Noon – 1 p.m.
The Black Family: Facing the Criminal Justice System (Part 1)
Guest Speaker: Cynthia Cornelius, Attorney and Director of Programs
Cabrini Green Legal Aid
Sponsored: Student Multicultural Resource Center/ Black Resource Center and the SIU Black Student Law Association
Zoom Meeting ID: 962 9713 9801 Passcode: 334027

Tuesday 9
5 p.m.
First in the Family: Becoming a Physician Assistant Panel Discussion
Co-sponsored by SIU School of Medicine PA program
Zoom

Wednesday 10
5 p.m.
Family Conversations: Food for the Soul
Food is the thing that brings everyone together. Join us as we laugh, and enjoy each other’s company while discussing our favorite food and life experiences.
Bring your own snack
Zoom Meeting ID: 928 5530 8175 Passcode: 696015

Friday 12
5 p.m.
Virtual Hip-Hop Dance with C.U.M.B.E.
Center for African and Diaspora Dance. Learn some new or enhance your hip-hop dance moves. Session will also provide historical and educational content.
Zoom

Saturday 13
6 – 9 p.m.
Glow Painting
Our Glow Paint Experience is dedicated to honoring black innovators & leaders who have paved the way for where we stand today. This event is open for SIU students to join and will be held at Project Human X Community Art Center.
During this event you can expect relaxing music, packaged snacks & a black light room that allows our special paint to glow in the dark. An experienced local artist will lead the black history themed painting, so anyone can join regardless of skill level! Together we’ll share black history fun facts, stories and poetry throughout the entire experience! Registration is required. To register email brc@siu.edu Space is limited. CDC guidelines apply.
Students Only

Beginning January 19 and through the entire month of February
Finding Your Roots, Season 7
The acclaimed series returns with Professor Gates exploring the mysteries, surprises and revelations hidden in the family trees of popular figures. The program broadcasts on WSIU TV Tuesdays at 7 p.m. and will be available to stream at pbs.org for free.

Tuesday 16
12:15 – 1:15 p.m.
The Black Family: Facing the Criminal Justice System (Part 2)
Guest Speaker: Joshua Jackson is an independent documentary producer and cinematographer. He started his career working at PBS and ABC affiliates.
Screening will feature his short film From Prisoner to Professor
Zoom

8 p.m.
The Black Church: This Is Our Story, This Is Our Song Episode 1
A new documentary recounting the history of the black religious experience in America. The program broadcasts on WSIU TV at the above time and will be available to stream at pbs.org.

Wednesday 17
Noon – 1 p.m.
Enhancing Racial Diversity in U.S. Agriculture and the role of Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources and Related Sciences (MANNRS)
Guest Speaker: Dr. Kofi Akamani
Sponsored by SIU MANNRS program
Zoom

Friday 19
5 p.m.
Spoken Word presentation: What happened to the Black Family Unit?
Keynote Speaker: AlexethaGreat
There is no traditional black family as popular culture often references.
Black love is revolutionary as Angela Davis states, so the black family, (however it is represented—single parent, intergenerational, same sex, etc.) is a revolutionary stance. Co-sponsor: Black Affairs Council
Zoom

Monday 22
6 - 9 p.m.
Virtual Painting: Black History Month Virtual Paint Experience
An experienced local artist will lead the black history themed painting, so anyone can join regardless of skill level! Together we’ll share black history fun facts, stories, and poetry throughout the entire virtual experience! Each student will be provided with a paint kit that they can pick up prior to the event.
Registration is required. To register email brc@siu.edu. SIU Students Only
Zoom

Tuesday 23
5 p.m.
Virtual Talk: Building Legacy
Keynote Speaker: Dr. Margena Christian. Christian is a Senior Lecturer in the English department at the University of Illinois in Chicago (UIC).
Christian is a former Senior Editor and Senior Writer with the pioneering African-American monthly Ebony magazine.
Zoom Meeting ID: 961 2815 9649 Passcode: 522908

8 p.m.
The Black Church: This Is Our Story, This Is Our Song Episode 2
A new documentary recounting the history of the black religious experience in America.
Broadcast at the above time on WSIU TV; Available to stream on pbs.org.

Wednesday 24
6 – 7:30 p.m.
Black History Scholar Bowl
Sponsored by NAACP
Zoom Meeting ID: 954 4072 3706 Passcode: 062590

Thursday 25
5 – 6:30 p.m.
TRIO presents Cultivating Self-Advocacy: How to Effectively Communicate your needs as a Black College Student
Students will learn and enhance their ability to use advocacy tools to their advantage. Self-advocacy is one of the most powerful tools for student success. Learn how to advocate for yourself, why it is important, and where to find help. Join us for a panel discussion.
Zoom Meeting ID: 974 1136 3426 Passcode: 375785

Friday 26
5 p.m.
Virtual West African Dance with C.U.M.B.E.
Show your moves with soulful West African dances. Session will also provide historical and educational content.
SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY CARBONDALE

REDUCING BIAS AND INCREASING DIVERSITY

FOR ADMINISTRATORS
Tailored for those overseeing the hiring process. Topics will include: information and best practices for advertising language, charge meetings, legal requirements, advertising vs. recruiting, and implicit and explicit bias in the hiring process. Sessions offered as remote meetings through Teams.

Administrator sessions (90 minutes)
Wed., January 13, 10 am
Tue., February 16, 1:30 pm
Wed., March 17, 9:30 am

FOR SEARCH COMMITTEES
Designed for anyone who is or may in the future serve on a search committee. Topics include: information on reviewing applications, writing interview questions, choosing disposition codes, selection procedures, confidentiality, researching applicants, checking references, interacting with applicants and overall best practices. Sessions offered as remote meetings through Teams.

Search Committee sessions (90 minutes)
Tue., January 12, 1:30 pm
Thu., January 21, 9 am
Tue., January 26, 1:30 pm
Thu., February 4, 9:30 am
Tue., February 9, 10 am
Wed., February 17, 2 pm
Thu., February 25, 10 am
Wed., March 3, 9 am
Tue., March 9, 2 pm
Thu., March 18, 1:30 pm
Tue., March 23, 10 am

FOR SUPPORT STAFF
Created for personnel who assist in the hiring process. Topics include: cultivating SIU Carbondale’s image and reputation with applicants and ways to assist search committees and administrators with their roles in the hiring process. Sessions offered as remote meetings through Teams.

Support Staff sessions (60 minutes)
Wed., February 10, 10 am
Thu., March 4, 1:30 pm

All workshops will be via Microsoft Teams

Please register at AFFACT.SIU.EDU
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>TRAINING</th>
<th>LOCATION/NOTES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday, Feb. 1</td>
<td>9 – 11 am</td>
<td>Anti-Racism/Anti-Bias Level 1</td>
<td>Zoom; Staff &amp; Students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, Feb. 2</td>
<td>1 – 3 pm</td>
<td>Allyship for the LGBTQ+ Community: How to Use Pronouns</td>
<td>Zoom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, Feb. 9</td>
<td>10 am – Noon</td>
<td>Anti-Racism/Anti-Bias Level 2</td>
<td>Zoom; Staff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, Feb. 11</td>
<td>Noon – 2 pm</td>
<td>Diversity &amp; Inclusivity Level 1</td>
<td>Zoom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, Feb. 16</td>
<td>10 am – Noon</td>
<td>White Privilege: What is it, what does it mean, and what should we do with it?</td>
<td>Students only SSB 150/160; Max 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, Feb. 18</td>
<td>Noon – 2 pm</td>
<td>Anti-Racism/Anti-Bias Level 2</td>
<td>Zoom; Students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, Feb. 22</td>
<td>10 am – Noon</td>
<td>Diversity &amp; Inclusivity Level 2</td>
<td>Zoom; Staff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, Feb. 22</td>
<td>Noon – 2 pm</td>
<td>Ableism in Higher Education</td>
<td>SSB 150/160; Max 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, Feb. 23</td>
<td>9 – 11 am</td>
<td>Allyship for the LGBTQ+ Community: How to Use Pronouns</td>
<td>Zoom</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TRAINING DESCRIPTIONS**

**Anti-Racism/Anti-Bias Level 1**  
This training will provide a historical journey through systemic and institutionalized racism in our country and will provide a detailed understanding of what racism looks like in the classroom. This training then provides details on how to become a better ally and ways to challenge beliefs, stigmas and bias. This training is 2 hours, offered in-person and online and is open to staff and students.

**Allyship for the LGBTQ+ Community: How to Use Pronouns**  
This training will explore gender in a diverse context, including explaining the importance of proper pronoun usage. This training is meant to teach cisgender, heterosexual folks how to use pronouns in an effective and kind way - in a safe space that allows for messing up, asking questions, and generating a collaborative learning environment. This training is facilitated by LGBTQ+ folks and will be discussion based. You will learn ways to remember pronouns, practice using gender neutral pronouns such as they/them, and learn tips for practicing allyship and inclusivity.

**Anti-Racism/Anti-Bias Level 2 – Staff or Students**  
This training is meant for those that have already taken Anti-Racism/Anti-Bias level 1 and want to learn above and beyond that curriculum. This training will be more discussion based and provide the opportunity to ask in-depth questions in order to facilitate a better understanding of what it means to practice anti-racist allyship. This training will provide specific, practical suggestions via case analysis.

**Diversity & Inclusivity Level 1**  
This is a basic training on concepts of diversity, privilege, power, intersectionality, and allyship. This training will provide information and education as well as opportunities to discuss how diversity and inclusivity apply to your context. This training is for both staff and students.

**Discussing White Privilege: What is it, what does it mean, and what should we do with it?**  
This training is a discussion-based training that is geared towards White students. The purpose of this training is to learn more about what White privilege is, why it’s important, and what to do with it. This training will allow folks the opportunity to ask questions and learn in a safe space. The goal is to grow in our own understanding of our privilege and to learn how to use our privilege in order to practice anti-racist allyship. This training is open only to students; future sessions will be held for staff. This training is in person in SSB room 150/160. The cap is 20 students and students MUST register before attending.

**Diversity & Inclusivity Level 2 - Staff**  
This training is meant for those that have already taken Diversity & Inclusivity Level 1 and want to learn above and beyond that curriculum. This training will focus on practical ways to practice allyship for minority communities, specifically LGBTQ+ folks, people of color, and the disabled community. This discussion-based training will provide the opportunity to ask questions, and learn tangible, specific skills via case analysis. This training is for staff only.

**Ableism in Higher Education**  
This training will provide information about specific ways professors/instructors can practice inclusivity for their students who have disabilities. This training will provide information about practical steps professors can take to make syllabi and classroom content more inclusive, as well as provide information about resources on campus that their students can access. This training is meant to provide skills, and allow instructors the opportunity to ask questions, learn about the disabled community, and acquire skills for practicing allyship. **Instructors will leave with an attachment that can be added to course syllabi that gives information about campus resources for students with disabilities.** This training will be in person in SSB room 150/160 and is limited to 20 people. Registration is required.

For more information, contact us at 453-2126 or diversitysiu@siu.edu.  

For disability accommodations call 618-453-5738.
UPCOMING EVENTS
FEBRUARY DIVERSITY TRAININGS | CAMPUS CLIMATE SURVEY | DAY OF GIVING

Be on the Lookout!
SIU CARBONDALE CAMPUS CLIMATE SURVEY FOR STUDENTS BEGINS IN FEBRUARY

Sponsored by

Diversity & Inclusion MONTHLY

is written by
Student Juniper Oxford

edited by
Office Administrator Jennifer Howell and Administrative Assistant Carol Jackson

overseen by
Interim Associate Chancellor for Diversity Todd Bryson

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Follow us on our social media to keep up on the latest with the Diversity and Inclusion Monthly newsletter.
Facebook: @DI_Monthly
Instagram: @dimonthly
Twitter: @DI_Monthly

CORRECTION FOR THE DECEMBER ISSUE
The Diversity Week 2020 Recap was a collaboration by the Diversity Week Committee: Vivian Hardison, Abdulsamad Humaidan and Lisa Caringer.