FEBRUARY 2014 →

Title: **MSU Student Perspectives on Human Rights and Civil Rights: An MSU Student Anthology**

Date: Now – December 12, 2014

Description: MSU students are invited to submit essays, creative writing, or creative non-fiction on topics related to human rights and civil rights, for an anthology of student writing to be published by the MSU Libraries.

Submission Deadline: June 30, 2014. Suggested length: 500-2000 words—Each piece of writing should use, as an inspiration or starting point for discussion, a document or artifact from the library's exhibit "Bearing Witness: Voices from the Global Conversation on Human Rights and Civil Rights." Full details at: lib.msu.edu/6050anthology/

Collaborator: MSU Libraries

Contact: Ruth-Ann Jones, (517) 884-0910; jonesr@msu.edu

Title: **Bearing Witness: Voices in the Global Conversation on Human Rights and Civil Rights**

Date: Now – June 30, 2014

Location: MSU Main Library (366 West Circle Drive), Special Collections Reading Room (Ground West)

Collaborator: MSU Libraries

Contact: Ruth-Ann Jones, (517) 884-0910, jonesr@msu.edu

Title: **Tomashi Jackson, “Love Economy,” exhibition and visiting artist**

Date: Now – February 14, 2014

Time: Exhibition runs January 20-February 14, M-F noon-3pm; alternate times can be arranged.

Location: Residential College of Arts and Humanities – LookOut! Gallery, C200 Snyder Hall

Description: Multi-media artist Tomashi Jackson highlights the often-unspoken interface between the public and the private that the role of domestic workers embodies. Themes including beauty, value, visibility, environmental infrastructure, consumer behavior,
and labor come together in her probing artwork. She uses drawing, painting, sculpture, sound, video, and performance, often creating interactive and layered works that explore personal and public histories of international Black experiences. Tomashi Jackson received her Masters of Science in Art, Culture, and Technology from MIT and her BFA from The Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art. Meet the artist over cider and cookies: Monday, 1/20, 3:30-4:30pm, RCAH LookOut! Gallery, C200 Snyder—All events are free and all are welcome!

Collaborator: Residential College in the Arts and Humanities
Contact: baibakst@msu.edu to arrange class and other visits

Title: **Ruby Bridges, Brown v. Board of Education and Civil Rights History in Lansing**
Date: January 20, 2014 – July 3, 2014
Time: 4:00 p.m.
Location: MSU Museum and various sites in Greater Lansing Area
Description: This exhibition focuses on Brown v. Board of Education through the lens of the story of Ruby Bridges (http://www.rubybridges.com/), the child who was volunteered in 1960 by her parents to be the first black student to attend an all-white elementary school in New Orleans. Anchoring the exhibition is a quilt owned by the MSU Museum which was made by Marion Coleman, a national award-winning contemporary artist who lives in California and who specializes in pictorial quilts on African American history and culture. One of the key related activities would be a student/community mapping of sites in the Greater Lansing area that mark events or people that were important to advancing local and national Civil Rights.

This exhibition aims to build awareness of an important event in American history and an individual who played a specific role in that event; to increase awareness of the events and locales in local Civil Rights history; and to demonstrate how a signature piece of art can be used to illustrate an important event in American history.

Collaborator: MSU Museum of Science and Culture
Contact: Stephanie Palagyi, (517) 884-6897; palagyis@msu.edu

Title: **Ahmed “Kathy” Kathrada: A South African Activist for Non-Racialism and Democracy Exhibition**
Date: January 20, 2014 – April 13, 2014
Time: 9:00 a.m.
Location: Main Floor Gallery, MSU Museum
Description: This exhibition introduces visitors to South African Ahmed “Kathy” Kathrada, a champion of human rights, democracy, and non-racialism and a renowned figure in the anti-apartheid struggle.

Nelson Mandela's prison mate, confidante, parliamentary counselor and friend, Kathy is a beloved figure in South Africa and his exemplary leadership continues to inspire South Africans and others around the world to work for freedom, non-racialism, and democracy. Through an examination of his life, the exhibition also traces the history of the South African struggle for a democratic government.

This powerful exhibition includes a series of colorful flexible free-standing panels and banners featuring photographs, images of documents, and extended quotes from Kathrada and his liberation colleagues.
One of the more moving and dramatic elements of the exhibit is a replica of Kathy's jail cell, from the notorious Robben Island prison. Visitors are able to experience the tiny cell and see the few personal items Kathy was allowed for more than 20 years of imprisonment. In addition, to these elements, there is a 6 minute video with interviews with Nelson Mandela and other anti-apartheid liberation leaders and world leaders. Related educational materials and a handout customizable for each venue are also available.

Collaborator: MSU Museum of Science and Culture
Contact: Kurt Dewhurst, (517) 390-5190; dewhurs1@msu.edu

Title: Cultural Competence for Personal, Organizational and Community Change
Date: February 4, 2014
Time: 4:45 p.m.
Location: Brody Square
Description: Cultural competency has been described in many different ways. Is it a destination or a journey? This session will provide a framework for understanding cultural competency development as an ongoing process of personal, organizational and community change. It is grounded in the underlying principle that “cultural competency” is not simply a process of learning about “others,” but that it begins with developing an understanding of one’s own cultural background, beliefs, biases, worldviews and attitudes about differences. We will work together to identify and discuss examples along the continuum of cultural competency development and engage in a discussion about how cultural competency applies to our lives as students, professionals and change agents.

This presentation is part of the First Tuesday series and the Project 60/50. Registration will close on January 24th or until room capacity is reached.

Collaborator: Office of Diversity and Pluralism, College of Agriculture and Natural Resources
Contact: Connie Jordan, (517) 884-7317; connie@msu.edu to register.

Title: Lincoln, directed by Steven Spielberg and starring Daniel Day-Lewis
Date: February 5, 2014
Time: 7:30 p.m.
Location: B122 Wells Hall
Description: FREE screening of the film, Lincoln, a 2012 American epic historical drama film. Steven Spielberg directs two-time Academy Award® winner Daniel Day-Lewis in “Lincoln,” a revealing drama that focuses on the 16th President’s tumultuous final months in office. In a nation divided by war and the strong winds of change, Lincoln pursues a course of action designed to end the war, unite the country and abolish slavery. With the moral courage and fierce determination to succeed, his choices during this critical moment changed the fate of generations to come.

Collaborator: College of Arts & Letters
Contact: Tina Newhauser, (517) 432-1561; newhause@msu.edu
Title: Slavery to Freedom: An American Odyssey
Date: February 6, 13, and 27, 2014
Time: 5:00 p.m.
Location: See above link for a list of all locations.
Description: Rochelle Riley, Frederick D. Haynes III and John Seigenthaler, all icons of the U.S. Civil Rights Movement and multicultural scholars from education, business, industry and government, are the 2014 guest speakers.
Collaborator: College of Osteopathic Medicine
Contact: Barbara Breedlove, (517) 432-4979; breedlov@msu.edu

Title: We All Matter Presents: Integrating Inclusion
Date: February 6, 2014
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Location: Wonders Kiva
Description: This event will continue the theme of the MSU CORES and COPS homecoming parade campaign "We All Matter." It will tie a Valentine’s Day theme in with the idea of loving not just your romantic partner or family, but also all those around you, no matter how different they are. The event will include food, music, a panel of speakers to facilitate conversation about the issues of separation, discussion on when separation can be positive, how to bring groups together, the commonalities of oppression and discrimination, and ideas for how to extend cooperation across communities and different backgrounds. The goal of the event is to create a more inclusive and "love-driven" atmosphere on campus that focuses on similarities rather than differences, recognizing common humanity. There will be several activities to facilitate friendship and discussion, including small group discussions led by the panel and leaders, activities to get to know others, and similar interactive and engaging exercises.
Collaborator: MSU Women’s Council
Contact: Tera Warn, (313) 405-6960, warntere@msu.edu

Title: Racial Healing: A Community Conversation
Date: Now - October 31, 2014
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Location: East Lansing Public Library—Meeting Room
Description: A film/documentary series intended to cultivate an inclusive community through conversations that bring about greater awareness, understanding and respect for our differences and our similarities. The programs will be led by Jill Abood, Programs and Outreach Services, East Lansing Public Library.

1. February 10th: "Free Angela and All Political Prisoners" (Film)
2. February 12th: “Black Fathers of Folk Music: Leadbelly and Josh White”

The East Lansing Public Library is open to all, and is a community gathering place with a mission to share a wide array of information with everyone.
Collaborator: East Lansing Public Library
Contact: Jill Abood, (517) 319-6939; jabood@cityofeastlansing.com
**Historical Influences of Education Policy on African American Males**

**Date:** February 12, 2014  
**Time:** 12:00 p.m.  
**Location:** Erickson Hall, 133F  
**Description:** A free and open Brown Bag Lunch. Dr. Ransaw will provide a critical analysis from Frederick Douglass’s response to policy that forbid teaching Blacks literacy to zero tolerance policies that lead to the School to Prison Pipeline and everything in between.  
**Collaborator:** K-12 Outreach, College of Education / AAAS  
**Contact:** Theodore S. Ransaw, (702)-578-6851; ransawth@msu.edu

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**American Promise Screening and Talk-Back**

**Date:** February 18, 2014  
**Time:** 6:00 pm  
**Location:** Kiva, 103 Erickson Hall  
**Description:** American Promise is a documentary film spanning 13 years from directors Joe Brewster and Michèle Stephenson. The film captures the stories of Brewster and Stephenson's 5-year-old son and his best friend and classmate as these families navigate their way through the rigorous prep-school process. The film is set against the backdrop of a persistent educational achievement gap that dramatically affects African-American boys at all socioeconomic levels across the country. Awards: Official selection New York Film Festival (2013), Winner Grand Prize Full Frame Documentary Film Festival (2013) and Winner Jury Award, Sundance Film Festival (2013).

Following the FREE screening, join in the conversation with distinguished panelists:

**Michèle Stephenson** is a Haitian born filmmaker and former human rights attorney. Stephenson is committed to making personal human stories that are too often excluded from mainstream media. In 1999, Stephenson set out to document the experiences of her son and his best friend from the time both boys entered through their high school graduation in 2012 in the documentary film, American Promise.

**Dorinda Carter Andrews** is an associate professor in the Department of Teacher Education. Her research broadly focuses on race and equity in education, with a particular emphasis on black student achievement in urban and suburban schools and urban teacher preparation. She was recently named a 2013-2014 Phi Delta Kappa Emerging Leader and awarded the 2014 Michigan State University Scholarship Community Partnership Award.

**Elie Kirkland** is a senior at East Lansing High School. He is a leader in East Lansing High School's Black Student Union. Elie also is the founder and director of the East Lansing Gospel Choir.

**Collaborator:** Department of Teacher Education, College of Education  
**Contact:** Cassie Brownell, browne84@msu.edu and Terry Flennaugh, Flennaugh@msu.edu
Title: The Black History Month Multicultural Heroes Hall of Fame Case Competition
Date: February 19, 2014
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Location: N 130 Business College Complex
Description: In the Multicultural Heroes Hall of Fame Case Competition each team will have no more than 10 minutes to make their case. A team must have three MSU registered undergraduate students. The winning team will receive a $2,000 total prize. Team applications are due on Wednesday, January 15, 2014, 4 PM. This will give each team one month to prepare for the case competition. Teams must send one representative to an orientation meeting on Friday, January 18, 2014 at 3 PM. All team members are required to attend a dress rehearsal on Sunday, February 16, 2014 in the afternoon. The final round of the Case Competition will be held on Wednesday, February 19, 2014 at 6:00PM in N130 Business College Complex before a panel of judges.

Our goal is to create an educational program that honors heroes from various cultures who epitomize Dr. Martin Luther King’s dream of a nation where “... his children will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character.” We have developed an educational case competition that focuses on improving student knowledge of Black History Month and multicultural leaders who have had a significant impact on the world. This program will also help promote diversity and multiculturalism. It will help develop professional presentation skills, case competition skills for undergraduates, and promote a sense of cultural efficacy for all people.

Collaborator: College of Business, Multicultural Business Programs
Contact: Anne Crain, (517) 353-3524; crainann@msu.edu

Title: Justice for Renisha McBride—Community Action Forum
Date: February 20, 2014
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Location: B117 Wells Hall
Description: This teach-in will provide a historical summary of racism that has existed in the State of Michigan from the sundown towns, to legislation, and other components. Dr. Bland from Detroit will come to talk about the racial implications of Renisha McBride’s death and how the family and supporters are rallying against the racist crime. The program will involve ongoing open dialog concerning the implications of this crime as it relates to race, class, and gender.

Collaborator: Sankofa Graduate Student Union
Contact: Tiffany Caesar, (832) 373-0374; caesart1@msu.edu

Title: Spartans Speak!
Date: February 20, 2014
Time: 12:00 p.m.
Location: Union Main Lounge
Description: Spartans Speak events are dedicated to informing the MSU campus about Project 60/50. Many are well aware of Civil Rights leaders and their impacts, but many forget that it's an ongoing movement. Our lunch time, open event is designed to speak to campus; faculty, staff and students, about what Project 60/50 is and how it involves them without obligating them with an "invite only" or "RSVP needed".
Speakers include Professor John Beck, graduate student K.C. Keyton and Bailey Scholar Directors Jon Rivera and Erica Zazo. All have made major contributions to the movement already and we are hoping that this open event will allow them to reach new students, who would otherwise be uninterested.

*Spartans Speak is a newly created speaking series by the MSU Union Director and Marketing Team dedicated to informing students, faculty and staff on information we have found to be useful and designed to be presented in an open form so as to reach anyone and everyone without the obligation of being an "invite only" or "RSVP needed".

Collaborator: MSU Union
Contact: Rikki Jarvis, jarvisri@msu.edu and Tami Kuhn, tkuhn@msu.edu

**B.E.A.T. (Black Experience of Artistic Talents)**

- **Title:** B.E.A.T. (Black Experience of Artistic Talents)
- **Date:** February 27, 2014
- **Time:** 7:30 a.m.
- **Location:** MSU Union Ballroom
- **Description:** An examination of overlooked African-Americans and their contributions to American history performed live by one man and one woman in a multi-media presentation. Each show is a 65 minute live presentation, re-enacted by two performers and supported by video introductions to each character's piece. The segments highlight the lives of important Americans who have shaped our country and are deserving of recognition for their achievements. A perfect blend of entertainment and education, the audience is empowered with knowledge and a pride of true American history.

Collaborators: Black Student Alliance and University Activities Board
Contact: Tyler Clifford, (248) 910-4182; tcliff9210@gmail.com

**60/50 Next Happening**

- **Title:** 60/50 Next Happening
- **Date:** February 21, 2014
- **Time:** 8:00 p.m.
- **Location:** MICA Gallery, Old Town, Lansing
- **Description:** 60/50 Next Happening...Please join us for an evening of improvisation using civil and human rights as the springboard. All visual, spoken word, musical, dance, photographic artists welcome. Next is a month-long event at MICA bringing new talent to Old Town.

Collaborator: Next
Contact: Therese Brimmer, (517) 775-7111; thereserandall@yahoo.com

**Renegotiating Black Studies Today—Centering Black Women Radicals in Civil Rights & Black Power Politics**

- **Title:** Renegotiating Black Studies Today—Centering Black Women Radicals in Civil Rights & Black Power Politics
- **Date:** February 27, 2014
- **Time:** 6:30 p.m.
- **Location:** International Center, Room 115
- **Description:** With the election of Baraka Obama to the presidency of the United States and the memorialization of Civil Rights activists such as Martin Luther King, Jr. and Rosa Parks, pundits have been quick to proclaim the U.S. a "post-racial" nation. While premature, such proclamation are
not surprising since we live in a society in which our historical narratives and mainstream media regularly present political change as a top-down affair fueled by dramatic moments of upheaval and charismatic leaders speaking from on high. However, such a framework proves limited in truly addressing the deep-seated anti-black racism and structural inequalities that continue to loom large in all facets of American society. In this talk Dr. Gore will bring to the fore the persistent struggle, strategic leadership, and theorizing of a network of black women radicals who were active from the 1950s to the 1970s, to highlight an alternative framework for black activism and sustaining political communities. Centering the activism and political strategies of these women, Dr. Gore seeks to provide a powerful rereading of civil rights and black power movements of the past.

Collaborator: African American and African Studies
Contact: Tiffany Caesar, (517) 432-0869; caesart1@msu.edu

Title: **Mia McKenzie: Black Girl Dangerous**
Date: March 12, 2014
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Location: MSU Union Ballroom
Description: The Women's Resource Center and other collaborating units are proud to welcome Mia McKenzie to campus. McKenzie is the Founding Editor and Editor-in-Chief of the wildly popular blog, Black Girl Dangerous (www.blackgirldangerous.org), which "seeks to, in as many ways possible, amplify the voices, experiences and expressions of queer and trans* people of color.” Black Girl Dangerous provides a virtual space for people of all different backgrounds to share their voices, literary and artistic talents, and create a community and collective activism. As we celebrate Project 60/50, Ms. McKenzie’s visit to Michigan State University will deepen our conversations about the remaining civil rights work to be done in all our communities. Ms. McKenzie is also the winner of the 2013 Lambda Literary Award for her novel “The Summer We Got Free.” This event is FREE and open to all.

Collaborator: The MSU Women’s Resource Center
Contact: Lydia Weiss, (517) 884-7316; weisslyd@msu.edu

Title: **“Turning the Clock Back? What Did the Framers of the Fourteenth Amendment Think About School Segregation?”**
Date: March 13, 2014
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Location: Lincoln Room, Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center
Description: Michael McConnell, Director of the Stanford Constitutional Law Center, Senior Fellow at the Hoover Institution, and alumnus of James Madison College at MSU is the featured speaker. The Supreme Court's statement in Brown v Board of Education that it could not "set the clock back” to 1868, when the Fourteenth Amendment was adopted, creates the impression that the Amendment was not originally understood to outlaw school segregation. But that is far from clear. From 1870 to 1875, both houses of Congress debated enforcement legislation under the new Amendment that would have prohibited racial segregation of public schools. The legislation passed both houses by significant majorities, but never became law because of filibustering and other supermajority requirements. As
an act of constitutional interpretation, these debates show that large majorities of Congress, and overwhelming majorities of supporters of the Fourteenth Amendment, believed it would forbid school segregation. Free and open to the public.

Collaborator: James Madison College Paynter Lecture Series and the LeFrak Forum and Symposium on Science, Reason, & Modern Democracy

Contact: Kim Allan (517) 353-3381; allank@msu.edu

Title: The Gershwins’ Porgy and Bess
Date: March 18, 2014 through March 23, 2014
Time: Contact Wharton Center
Location: Wharton Center for Performing Arts
Description: Winner of the 2012 Tony Award for best revival of a musical, The Gershwins’ Porgy and Bess hits the road in a stunning and stirring new staging, including such immortal songs as “Summertime,” “It Ain’t Necessarily So,” and “I Got Plenty of Nothing.” Praised by The New Yorker as “A great achievement!” and hailed by the Associated Press as a “Gorgeous version of the Gershwin masterpiece,” the classic story is set in fabled Catfish Row, where beautiful Bess struggles to break free from her scandalous life, and her only rescuer is the courageous Porgy. Threatened by her past, Porgy and Bess’ relationship evolves into a deep romance that triumphs as one of theater’s most exhilarating love stories. The musical is sponsored by the Wharton Center for Performing Arts and is a part of Project 60/50.

Collaborator: The Wharton Center of Performing Arts
Contact: Ryonn Clute, (517) 884-3117, cluteryo@msu.edu

Title: “Glenis Redmond”
Date: March 20, 2014
Time: 9:45 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.
Location: Pasant Theatre, Wharton Center of Performing Arts
Description: Glenis Redmond stomps, dances shouts and sings her poetry across the stage. Her inspirational work traces her own story, beginning with the immediate people in her life and then widening to a broad and universal view of relationships. Glenis’ poetry raises issues current to youth and families. A powerful performer, her shows for youth are “poetic dialogues” in which she draws on the African-American musical tradition of call and response. It is a spontaneous conversation, much like life, as she encourages a deep and meaningful poetic dialogue between the artist and the audience.

Collaborator: MSU Federal Credit Union Institute for Arts & Creativity at Wharton Center
Contact: Kris Koop Ouellette, (517) 884-3166; Kris.ouellette@whartoncenter.com

Title: Embracing Our Changes: Promoting Health for Women of Color from Midlife and Beyond
Date: March 21, 2014
Time: 8:30 a.m.
Location: The Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center
Description: This conference will teach healthcare providers and policymakers to empower women of color and immigrant and refugee women who are 40 and older with preventive health skills to age healthfully and gracefully. This will be accomplished with three platforms to impart information: 1) policy; 2) evidence-based information; and 3) voices from the community.
• Keynote speakers will describe the “state of older women of color” in midlife based on disparities they face
• Four break-out sessions will deliver specific evidenced-based information on pertinent topics (e.g., cancer screening/prevention, cardiovascular disease, mental health, etc.)
• Lunch keynote will tie the three platforms (policy, evidence, and community) together
• Followed by a panel of “Community Voices”, Survivors, Immigrants

Objectives:

• Gain knowledge of the state of health of women of color from mid-life to old age.
• Gain knowledge of policies that impact women’s health in Michigan (e.g. Affordable Care Act).
• Gain evidenced-based knowledge about health behaviors and diseases that affect aging, underserved women disproportionately.
• Gain knowledge of strategies to address policy and disease from a community perspective.

Audience: Community Healthcare Providers, Social Workers, Nurses, Paraprofessionals, Community-Based Organizations, Churches, etc.

Collaborator: College of Human Medicine, Obstetrics, Gynecology
Contact: Karen.Williams@ht.msu.edu

Title: **Provocative Parallels: The Liberation Struggle and the U.S. Civil Rights Movement – A Special Project 60/50 Brown Bag Lunch Conversation**

Date: March 31, 2014
Time: 12:15 p.m.
Location: MSU Museum Auditorium
Description: This brown bag session is in conjunction with two new exhibitions at the MSU Museum, Ahmed "Kathy" Kathrada: A South African Activist for Non-Racialism & Democracy and Ruby Bridges, Brown v. Board of Education, and The Greater Lansing Sites of Conscience Project.

The conversation will compare and contrast the Liberation Struggle in South Africa with the U.S. Civil Rights Movement. The invited participants will explore these connections as part of the MSU Project 60/50 thematic year linking exploration and study with public commemoration and remembrance--intertwined with a multitude of cultural expressions focused on civil and human rights.

The participating panelists for this conversation are: Dr. Peter Alegi, Professor, Department of History, MSU; Dr. Joe T. Darden, Professor of Geography and faculty in African and African-American Studies Program, MSU; Paulette Granberry Russell, Senior Advisor to the President for Diversity, and Director, Office for Inclusion and Intercultural Initiatives, MSU; and Dr. Peter Limb, Adjunct Associate Professor, Department of History and Africana Bibliographer, MSU Library.

The session will be held in the MSU Museum Auditorium, and lead by Dr. C. Kurt Dewhurst, Director of Arts and Cultural Initiatives at MSU, and Director Emeritus of the MSU Museum.

Collaborator: MSU Museum
Contact: Stephanie Palagyi, (517) 884-6897; pr@museum.msu.edu
**Sports and Civil Rights**

**Title:** April 4, 2014

**Time:** 6:00 p.m.

**Location:** International Center, Room 115

**Description:** Dr. Ben Carrington, Associate Professor of Sociology, Gender Studies, University of Texas-Austin, will speak on Sports and the Civil Rights Movement as part of the African American and African Studies’ “Marking and Assessing the Long African American Freedom Struggle” Speaker Series. The 1954 Supreme Court decision, known as Brown vs. the Board of Education of Topeka, and the Civil Rights Act of 1964, mark the beginning of the Civil Rights movement. Our spring 2014 speaker series, “Fifty, Sixty, and One Fifty PLUS in 2014: Marking and Assessing the Long African American Freedom Struggle”, will deviate slightly from this standard narrative of civil rights which tends to present a linear view of the movement and using Martin Luther King and other national male leaders as the defining figures of a short fifty to sixty year period. We reconnect the ’50/60′ years to the longer 100 years civil rights struggle by African Americans that predated the 1950s. We integrate the civil rights struggle with the long Black freedom struggle that dates back to the Emancipation Declaration of 1863. For us, 2014 marks the celebrations and the academic reflections of this 150 year plus movement. We are interested in questions that consider how far we have come with civil rights to date, what are alternative and self-defined narratives on civil rights, and what are the range of disciplinary and trans-disciplinary perspectives and issues that inform the civil rights dialogue.

**Collaborator:** African American and African Studies

**Contact:** Tiffany Caesar, (517) 432-0869; caesart1@msu.edu

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**Law Review Symposium**

**Title:** April 10-11, 2014

**Time:** [Schedule of Events](#)

**Location:** (See schedule of events for specific locations)

**Description:** MSU Law Professors Kristi Bowman and Nicholas Mercuro will team up with the Michigan State Law Review, MSU College of Education, and MSU African American and African Studies Program to organize a two-day symposium exploring the history, aspirations, and legacies of Brown v. Board of Education and the Civil Rights Act of 1964. The symposium—one of MSU’s ‘60/50’ anchor events—will be held on April 10 and 11, 2014. Select sessions will be video-conferenced with a similar symposium simultaneously being held at the University of Missouri–Kansas City School of Law.

The symposium will analyze the ways in which school integration and desegregation unfolded in Detroit and Kansas City, and how litigation arising out of those two cities has influenced the pursuit of racial and ethnic equality in education across the country. Finally, it will consider how the problems and potentials identified could continue to unfold in the years to come. Participants will include prominent university faculty from across the country and participants in school desegregation litigation, including names parties, educators, and attorneys.

**Symposium-Related Publications**

**Law Review Symposium Edition:** The Michigan State Law Review will publish a symposium edition of select papers. We hope to have the prologue contributed by a national figure in the field. The issue will
be dedicated in the memory of John A. Hannah, the former president of Michigan State University (1941–1969) and first chairman of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights.

**Book:** Papers from the symposium will be selected and others solicited to be compiled in a book. The contributions will be thematically integrated from sessions conducted at both MSU College of Law and the University of Missouri–Kansas City School of Law.

**Symposium Co-Sponsors**

**MSU College of Education**

MSU Law is in the process of identifying other MSU units that would like to co-sponsor the Project 60/50 symposium. We also are approaching law firms in Michigan, civil rights organizations, and private corporations that would like to become financial sponsors.

Contact: Nicholas Mercuro, (517-432-6978; mercuro@msu.edu

**Women’s Day of Service**

Title: **Women’s Day of Service**

Date: April 12, 2014

Time: 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

Location: McDonel Hall Kiva

Description: Join members of the MSU community as they participate in a Women’s Day of Service! MSU students, faculty, staff and community members will have the opportunity to volunteer at various local agencies around East Lansing and Lansing, including Haven House, City Rescue Mission of Lansing and Greater Lansing Food Bank’s Garden Project. Both women and men are welcome to volunteer! Don’t miss this special day focused on social justice! Registration required. Free to participate. Questions, contact MSU Women’s Resource Center at 517-353-1635.

To register:

1. Sign up for a Give Gab account (www.givegab.com)
2. Join Michigan State University under “Universities” tab @ top of page
3. Click “Groups” tab @ left of page—Women’s Resource Center; join group
4. Click “Volunteer” tab @ left—Women’s Day of Service; select a task
5. Volunteer on Saturday, April 12, 2014!

Collaborator: Women’s Resource Center, Women’s Initiative for Leadership Development (WILD)

Contact: Lydia Weiss, (517) 884-7316; weisslyd@msu.edu

**Spartans Will. Power a Global Day of Service**

Title: **Spartans Will. Power a Global Day of Service**

Date: April 12, 2014

Time: 8:00 a.m.

Location: Kickoff at N-130 College of Business with sites in Lansing, East Lansing, Grand Rapids and Detroit

Description: Spartans Will. Power Global Day of Service will be a community service opportunity for 1000-1500 current MSU students. The community service sites will be in Lansing, East Lansing, Detroit, and Grand Rapids. This service opportunity will allow students to reflect on their biases, cultural, economic and social issues. There will be a reflection and conversation discussion at the end of the day. This is event is free to participants.
Title: **Sixth Muslim Mental Health Conference – “The State of Muslim Mental Health”**

Date: April 24, 2014

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Location: Marriot – Dearborn, MI

Description: This conference is designed to increase one’s cultural competency using a tripartite framework of attitudes, knowledge and skills in treating the Muslim population with mental illnesses. A panel on will discuss the mental health needs of African American Muslims, domestic violence, imprisonment and identity and the role of being an African American male. Information shared will include the latest research, innovative ideas and treatment approaches to provide better and culturally appropriate mental health care to the Muslim patient population. The conference will also address training for Imams/Chaplains and community leaders in mental health first aid.

Collaborator: College of Osteopathic Medicine; Department of Psychiatry; South Asian Studies, Institute of International Health.

Contact: Farha Abbasi, (517) 331-0376; Farha.abbasi@hc.msu.edu

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Title: **MSU College of Law Art Exhibits for Project 60/50**

Date: March 4–April 30, 2014

Location: MSU College of Law, 4th Floor Atrium

Description: *Black in White America, by Leonard Freed (1929-2006)*

This is a powerful and evocative photographic essay on African American life during the Civil Rights movement. Freed’s photographs present a composite of the daily lives of black people in the north and south, on the city streets, in housing projects, and in rural communities, living joyously, peacefully, and defiantly during one of the greatest social struggles of our times.

One of Michigan’s Own — Viola Liuzzo: An Exemplary Woman in Extraordinary Times

MSU Law, 3rd floor gallery area

This exhibition looks back at Viola Liuzzo, a Civil Rights worker from Detroit who was murdered by members of the Ku Klux Klan following the March to Montgomery in 1965.

Collaborator: MSU College of Law

Contact: Nicholas Mercuro, (517- 432-6978; mercuro@msu.edu

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Title: **Home of the Brave (2004)**

Date: April 3, 2014

Time: 6:00 to 7:30 p.m.

Location: MSU Law, Castle Board Room

Description: Documentary on the civil rights activist, Viola Liuzzo, who was murdered in 1965 as she campaigned for black suffrage in Selma, Alabama, and its effect on her family. Commentary and discussion following the film will be led by Professor Shirley Jefferson of Vermont School of Law.

Collaborator: MSU College of Law Diversity Services Office

Contact: Nicholas Mercuro, (517- 432-6978; mercuro@msu.edu
**Sharper Focus / Wider Lens Presents—What Divides Us/What Unites Us**

**Date:** April 8, 2014  
**Time:** 7:00 p.m.  
**Location:** MSU Union, Ballroom (2nd Floor)  
**Description:** This lecture series offers students, faculty, staff and the community the opportunity to grapple with important issues or questions in a trans-disciplinary format. The faculty panel will bring their unique research, teaching and writing experiences from a wide range of disciplines to explore contemporary and historical issues.

"What Divides Us/What Unites Us" features leading MSU faculty: Kayla Hales, Ph.D.; Dan Kramer, Ph.D.; Chuck Ostrom Jr., Ph.D.; Sean Valles, Ph.D.; and Suzanne Evans Wagner, Ph.D. The event is moderated by Cynthia Jackson-Elmoore, Ph.D., Dean of the MSU Honors College.

The event is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be provided.

**Collaborator:** Honors College  
**Contact:** Stephanie Cepak, 517-884-7649; scepak@msu.edu

**Outstanding Student Service Heart & Soul Awards**

**Date:** April 12, 2014  
**Deadline:** Nominations now open and being accepted until January 18, 2014  
**Time:** 5:00 p.m. (deadline time to send nominations)  
**Send to:** Michigan Campus Compact  
**Description:** Consider nominating undergraduate and graduate students for their time, effort and personal commitment to their community through service.

**Collaborator:** Center for Service Learning & Civic Engagement  
**Contact:** Renee Miller Zientek, zientekr@msu.edu

**Black Community Struggles**

**Date:** April 25, 2014  
**Time:** TBA  
**Location:** MSU Detroit Center  
**Description:** Dr. Joyce Baugh, Professor of Political Science, Central Michigan University, will speak on Black Community Struggles and the Civil Rights Movement as part of the African American and African Studies’ “Marking and Assessing the Long African American Freedom Struggle” Speaker Series. The series views civil rights from a range of interdisciplinary and trans-disciplinary perspectives ranging from sports representation, artistic documentation of civil rights, civil rights legacies, and contemporary manifestations in the State of Michigan, especially Detroit. It approaches alternative and self-defined narratives on civil rights in relation to Black Nationalism and integrates the Civil Rights struggle with the long Black freedom struggle. In 2014, narratives will connect the 60th and 50th anniversaries being commemorated as part of Project 60/50 to the longer 100 years of struggle for civil rights by African Americans, dating back to the Emancipation Proclamation of 1863.

**Collaborator:** African American and African Studies  
**Contact:** Tiffany Caesar, (517) 432-0869; caesart1@msu.edu
**Social Identity, Intercultural Dialogue and Social Justice**

**Date:** August 28, 2014  
**Time:** 2:40 p.m.  
**Location:** Snyder Phillips, Room 303  
**Description:** This course examines how various social identity groups in the United States contribute to systems of privilege and oppression. Though the primary emphasis of this course will focus on race and ethnicity, attention will also be given to gender, religion, socioeconomic class, sexual orientation and other social identity markers. Throughout the semester, we will use engaging readings, TED talks, social media, in-class activities, films, campus resources, and guest speakers to foster student exploration of their own social group memberships and multiple identities. Students will also consider how their group membership relates to individual, institutional and cultural forms of oppression and privilege socialization. Students will become familiar with various methodologies for developing understanding across different identity groups. Finally, students will examine their own spheres of influence, and discuss how to be an ally to other social identity groups. Come prepared to challenge previously held assumptions and engage in profound personal and intellectual growth.

**Targeted Audience:** Undergraduate students  
**Collaborator:** Residential College for Arts & Humanities; Freshman Seminar  
**Contact:** Donna Rich Kaplowitz, (517) 582-1917; donnak@msu.edu

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**Kelley Institute Lecture**

**Date:** September 2014  
**Time:** TBA  
**Location:** TBA  
**Description:** Frank J. Kelley Institute of Ethics & the Legal Profession Co-Directors Hannah Brenner and Renee Knake will dedicate the Institute’s September 2014 annual lecture to themes involved in the Project 60/50 initiative.  
**Collaborator:** MSU College of Law  
**Contact:** Nicholas Mercuro, (517) 432-6978; mercuro@msu.edu

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**College of Arts & Letters Signature Lecture Series**

**Featuring:** Soledad O’Brien and Isabel Wilkerson  
**Date:** October 2, 2014  
**Time:** 7:30 p.m.  
**Location:** Wharton Center  
**Description:** Soledad O’Brien is an award winning journalist, documentarian, news anchor and producer. O’Brien was the originator of *Black in America* and *Latino in America*. Pulitzer Prize winner Isabel Wilkerson is author of the *The Warmth of Other Suns*, the *New York Times*’ bestseller that brings to life one of the epic stories of the 20th Century through three unforgettable protagonists who made the decision of their lives during what came to be known as the Great Migration.

**Collaborator:** College of Arts & Letters  
**Contact:** Tina Newhauser, (517) 432-1561; newhause@msu.edu
“Spartans Working for Diversity”

Date: October 24, 2014
Time: 8:30 a.m.
Location: Hannah Center, East Lansing, MI
Description: This day long conference will celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 by focusing on the importance of diversity and inclusion to the field of human resources and labor relations. Alumni and advisory board members will be invited to participate in an afternoon panel discussion on current diversity and inclusion efforts in the workplace. Two plenary sessions with speakers and break-out sessions will focus on current issues such as the rights of the LBGT community, appearance discrimination, affinity groups, subliminal bias and the potential for discrimination through social media.

Collaborator: School of Human Resources & Labor Relations, College of Social Science
Contact: Stacy Hickox, (517) 432-7402; hickoxs@msu.edu

~Please check frequently for Project 60/50 Calendar of Events updates~

If you have questions about how to add your event to the “Project 60/50 Calendar,” contact the Office for Inclusion at (517) 353-3922.