BLACK HISTORY MONTH 2017
Celebrating the African Diaspora: Past, Present and Future

“UP YOU MIGHTY RACE”: THE LEGACY OF MARCUS MOSIAH GARVEY
Tuesday, February 7, 2:00PM-3:30PM, B-501
Raymond Dugué
President of UNIA Division 432 in Queens and Harlem, New York
This presentation will highlight the life and work of Jamaica’s first national hero and a proponent of the Pan-Africanism movement, Marcus Mosiah Garvey. The Universal Negro Improvement Association (UNIA) galvanized millions of blacks with Garvey’s emancipatory framework, which advocated black consciousness, Afrocentricity, and the constitution of social, political, economic freedom for people of the African diaspora.

COSMIC SLOP
Wednesday, February 15, 5:30PM-7:00PM, B-501
Dr. Weldon C. Williams III, Coordinator of Black Studies

IN PURSUIT OF JUSTICE: THE HISTORY OF 19TH CENTURY AFRICAN AMERICANS OF WEEKSVILLE, BROOKLYN
Thursday, February 16, 2017, 11:00AM-12:30PM, B-501
Tia Powell Harris, Executive President of Weeksville Heritage Center
This presentation introduces the self-determined early residents of Weeksville who were committed to building a strong and viable community that included institutions, land investors, entrepreneurs and activists to aid in the empowerment of their people through encouraged civic engagement. Learn more of how these pioneering African Americans and their counterparts in the late 1960’s helped forge a path toward self-determination that they knew to be their right and in doing so, advanced the cause of justice for all Americans.

THE EARLIEST BLACKS OF HISPANIOLA
Tuesday, February 21, 2:00PM-3:30PM, B-501
Professor Anthony Stevens-Acevedo, Assistant Director, CUNY DSI
Professor Sarah Aponte, Chief Librarian, CUNY DSI
This presentation will provide an overview of the First Blacks in the Americas / Los Primeros Negros en las Américas, the new academic and educational digital tool constructed by the CUNY Dominican Studies Institute about the sixteenth century’s black population of La Española. The First Blacks in the Americas platform is an instrumental starting point for anyone interested in understanding Black creole identity in the Americas, the emergence of ‘Dominican blackness’, and Afro-diasporic cultural traits in the Dominican Republic today.

AFROLATINOS: AN UNTAUCHED HISTORY
Wednesday, February 22, 11:00AM-1:00PM, B-501
Iyawó, Alicia Anabel Santos, Film Producer
This film delineates the story of the estimated 150 million afrodescendants throughout Latin America who have been excluded from historical narratives, literature and academia. This film will take you on a journey throughout Spanish and Portuguese speaking nations, and present the history, religions, music, dance and many contributions of afrodescendants. Iyawó, Alicia Anabel Santos, film producer of Afrolatinos, playwright, activist, teaching artist, Afrolatina lesbian storyteller, and priestess will offer a comprehensive Q and A session.

DOMINICAN BACHATA RHYTHMS: BACHATA HIP-HOP WORKSHOP
Thursday, February 23, 3:30PM – 6:45PM, Dance Room, C-152
Niurka Özuna, Instructor
This dance workshop will feature Bachata, a social dance that originated in the Dominican Republic, which has gained worldwide popularity and recognition. The workshop will fuse Hip-Hop, a dance style that originated in the Bronx, with Bachata demonstrating the fluidity between African American and Latin dance styles.

THE HOSTOS COMMUNITY COLLEGE-CUNY AFRICAN AMERICAN READ-IN 2017
Tuesday, February 28, 12:30PM – 1:45PM, B-501
Professor Cynthia Jones, Moderator
In 1990, the Black Caucus of the National Teachers of English (NCTE) instituted the African American Read-In. Hostos Community College will join a nationwide community of readers on Tuesday, February 28, 2017 to celebrate the African American literary tradition.

The Humanities Department, Black Studies Unit, Black Student Union, Caribbean Student Association, Hip-Hop Club, A.I.M.A Club, Office of Student Activities, Office of Academic Affairs, Student Government Association, and Student Leadership Academy sponsored the 2017 Black History Month program. The 2017 Black History Month program was coordinated by Black Studies Unit Faculty: Dr. Weldon Williams, Dr. Anex Casimiro, Prof. Jeannaisio Torres, Prof. Steven Ros, Prof. April Mejía, and Prof. Ayana López. Special thanks to Prof. Cynthia Jones for coordination of the African American Read-In, and Maria Ana García Reyes and Prof. Rene Cordova for coordination of the Earliest Blacks of Hispaniola presentation.

Photo credit: Nivea Castro