



# News Release

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## WESTERN PLANS BLACK HISTORY MONTH CELEBRATION

**St. Joseph, Mo.**—Jan. 17, 2003—The Office of Unity Services will host a variety of events in honor of Black History Month, including 10 programs open to the general public.

The purpose of the events is to share the accomplishments of African-Americans with the larger community.

“We are going to hold discussions on racism and desegregation,” said Sandy Rogers, coordinator of Unity Services. “We feel these topics need to be talked about.”

The calendar is as follows:

- Jan. 28 The Society of Success and Leadership Video Conference is co-sponsoring “The Future is Yours to Create: A Look at Life and Leadership,” presented by Nancy Hunter-Denny. The event is at 6 p.m. in the Leah Spratt Multipurpose Classroom Building, room 214-216.
- Feb. 3 A lecture entitled “The Impact of Desegregation on the St. Joseph Community.” The lecture, given by Western’s Dr. Richard Porr, will focus on desegregation in the St. Joseph School District. The event is at 7 p.m. in the Leah Spratt Multipurpose Classroom Building, room 214-216.

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- Feb. 8 Community Service throughout St. Joseph, 9 a.m.- 2 p.m.

- Feb. 11 Brown Bag Lunch Series, a discussion group, 12:30 p.m., in the Nelle Blum Student Union building, room 223.
- Feb. 12 NAACP Birthday Celebration held in the Nelle Blum Student Union building, 7 p.m., rooms 218-219.
- Feb. 19 Students Learning Unity and Responsibility (S.L.U.R) will perform a skit honoring famous African-Americans at halftime of the Western men's basketball game at 8 p.m. Admission is \$6.
- Feb. 24 A presentation called "End of Racism" given by Preacher Moss, a social commentator. The event is in the Leah Spratt Multipurpose Classroom building, 7 p.m., room 101.
- Feb. 25 Society of Success and Leadership Video presents "True Colors" by Joe Martin. The speaker will talk about the five reasons racism exists and how action can be taken against it. The event is located in the Leah Spratt Multipurpose Classroom building, 6 p.m., room 214-216.
- Feb. 26 Students Learning Unity and Responsibility (S.L.U.R) will perform a skit honoring famous African-Americans at halftime of the Western women's basketball game at 8 p.m. Admission is \$6.
- A Read-A-Thon will be ongoing throughout the month of February. Volunteers from the college will travel to schools in the St. Joseph community to read a variety of books about famous African-Americans to elementary students.

All events are sponsored or co-sponsored by the Office of Unity Service and the Black History Month committee and are free of charge unless noted. For more

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information about the events, please Unity Services, at (816) 271-4150.

Missouri Western State College is a four-year public institution providing a blend of traditional liberal arts and professional degree programs. The college offers student centered, high quality instruction that focuses on experience-based learning, community service, and state-of-the-art technology. Western is located in St. Joseph, Mo. and is committed to the educational, economic, cultural and social development of the region it serves.

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