

HCC celebrates Black History Month

Holyoke Community College will celebrate Black History Month in February with events both on and off campus, including a TED Talk broadcast, workshops on 19th century African-American literature, an art exhibit, a food festival and a free screening of a documentary about Shirley Chisholm, the first black woman elected to the U.S. Congress.

All events are free and open to the public, except where otherwise noted.

Tuesday, Feb. 4: "The Untapped Genius That Could Change Science for the Better," a 15-minute TEDTalk by Jedidah Isler, will be shown at 1 p.m. in HCC's Center for Excellence, Room 265 in the Frost Building, followed by a discussion led by Adrienne Smith, HCC interim dean of science, technology, engineering and math, the first African-American woman to earn an engineering degree from Western New England University. Isler was the first black woman to earn a Ph.D. in astrophysics

from Yale University and one of the first black women in the United States to earn a Ph.D. in any physics-related field.

Wednesday, Feb. 5: Marie Troppe, director of HCC's Transition to College & Careers program, will lead a workshop exploring how 19th-century African-American literature, such as "Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl,"

by Harriet Jacobs, illuminate modern views on race, 10-11:30 a.m. in the HCC Center for Excellence at Frost 265. Troppe holds a Ph.D. in English with a focus on 19th century African-American literature from the University of Maryland. This workshop will be repeated 9-10:30 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 12, and 3-4:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 18.

Thursday, Feb. 13: HCC Community Night, 5-8:30 p.m., at the Smith College Museum of Art in Northampton. HCC students, faculty and staff will receive free admission to the museum and its featured exhib-

it, "Black Refractions: Highlights from the Studio Museum in Harlem." Adult guests accompanying members of the HCC community to the museum will be charged a \$5 fee (\$4 for seniors).

Wednesday, Feb. 19: The 2004 documentary "Shirley Chisholm '72: Unbought & Unbossed," will be shown for free at 11 a.m. in the Leslie Phillips Theater on the second floor of HCC's Fine and Performing Arts Building. In addition to being the first black woman elected to Congress in 1968, Chisholm, D-N.Y., was the first black major party candidate to run for president of the United States. She was also HCC's commencement keynote speaker in 1984.

Thursday, Feb. 27: Black History Month events at HCC will conclude with a Black Heritage Food Fest in the lobby outside the Leslie Phillips Theater on the second floor of the Fine and Performing Arts Building, featuring food prepared for the event by local chefs specializing in southern, Creole, Cajun and other ethnic cuisine. While the food is free for HCC students and employees, a suggested donation of \$5 will go toward the creation of a scholarship fund for an active member of the college's Black Student Alliance.

