



Black History Month 2012: Black Women in American Culture and History

All events are free and open to the public.

Thursday, Feb. 2: REGINALD DWAYNE BETTS 12:00 Noon, Meigs Room, Swope Center, MBL
A Question of Freedom
 "A Question of Freedom" chronicles Reginald Dwayne Betts' years in prison, as he reflects on his crime and makes a decision about how a "moment of insanity" would—or would not—define him. The memoir is about a quest for identity, one that guarantees a young man's survival in a hostile environment and the many ways that books and a passion for writing helped a young man find his way back to the life he'd lost.



Thursday, Feb. 9: REGINE JEAN-CHARLES 12:00 Noon, Meigs Room, Swope Center, MBL
Beyond Resilience: Haitian Women's Post-Earthquake Cultural Production
 Boston College Professor Regine Jean-Charles will outline the history of Haitian women's feminist writing and activism to provide a context for thinking about the role of art and cultural production in post-earthquake Haiti.



Tuesday, Feb. 14: RUSSELL IRVINE 12:00 Noon, Meigs Room, Swope Center, MBL
"The African American Quest for Institutions of Higher Education Before the Civil War"
 Author Russell Irvine studies the important ideological divisions that drove access to higher education for African Americans during the antebellum era: The African Colonization Movement, 1817-1862 and the Abolitionist Movement, 1830-1865, and features actual histories of individuals who succeeded in obtaining an education as well as the histories of the institutions that served them. Copies of Irvine's book will be available.



Thursday, Feb. 16: MARCUS JACKSON 12:00 Noon, Meigs Room, Swope Center, MBL
Neighborhood Register: A Poetic Exploration and Celebration of Everyday People and Places
 From the twilight towns of the Rust Belt to the vivid inlets of New York City, Marcus Jackson's poems feature the people, scenes, and sectors from which hidden music and meaning unearths. The collection evokes the beauties and difficulties within multi-racial families, the value of vernacular, and the unexpected resonances of common objects.



Thursday, Feb. 23: **Exploring African American Women's Roles in and Contributions to the Making of America**
Round Table Discussion 3:00 PM, Meigs Room, Swope Center, MBL
 Moderated by Jacqueline P. Fields, Ph.D., Wellesley College Faculty and Senior Research Scientist Emeritus, member, Barnstable County Human Rights Commission. Resident of Sandwich, Massachusetts. Let your voice be heard! Participate in the discussion or just listen in.



Thursday, Feb. 23: **Harambee** 4:30 to 8:00 PM, Swope Center, MBL
 Join us in our annual ethnic potluck feast celebrating everyone of every race! Enjoy multicultural arts, delicious food, and live music featuring The GROOVALOTTOS.

