

FOR RELEASE:

IMMEDIATE



Mailed: January 26, 1981

Contact: Susan K. Moore

WITH PIX

(ATTENTION: MINORITY AFFAIRS EDITORS)

YOUNGSTOWN, OH. --Each year, in observance of National Black History Month, Youngstown State University's Black Studies Department brings to campus, black spokesmen and women, scholars and artists who stand at the forefront of contemporary black expression.

This year's impressive line-up of programs and guest lecturers has been organized under the theme title, "An Era for Togetherness." Each week day throughout the month of February has been arranged to cover a separate category. The seven categories by days include: Sundays, "Religion and the Black Church;" Mondays, "Student Symposiums;" Tuesdays, "African Heritage;" Wednesdays, "Education;" Thursdays, "Community Workshops;" Firdays, "Race Relations;" and Saturdays, "Entertainment."

Featured guests for the 1981 month-long celebration include: actress Ramona Austin, in a one-woman show, "New Seed" sponsored by the YSU Kilcawley Center Program Board; Gil Scott Heron, singer and poet whose recent record albums include: "Secret Bridges," "From South Africa to South Carolina," and "It's Your World;" Judge Leon Higgenbotham, Jr., former U.S. District Judge, Eastern Pennsylvania and U.S. Circuit Judge, appointed by former President Carter (Nov. 1977); and Cheryl Johnson, Director Program of African Studies, Northwestern University.

Sunday, Feb. 1 offically starts YSU's observance of National Black History Month, beginning with a joint black community church service at the New Bethel Baptist Church, Hillman, 4:00 p.m.

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The group is under the direction of Joseph Dwayne Heard. Regina Jackson is the pianist, Tony Dunn and Charles Robinson, Jr., the percussionists and Arthur Dixie is the bass guitarist.

Wednesday, Feb. 3, Al Bright, Director of the YSU Department of Black Studies and well known local artist, will present a slide lecture entitled, "Our African Traditional Heritage Through the Arts" from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. in Cushwa Hall (room #203).

Thursday, Feb. 4, a symposium for area teachers, counselors, parents and students will be held in the YSU Arts and Sciences Building lecture hall (room #132). The symposium keynote speaker will be Dr. Donald M. Henderson, Vice Provost, University of Pittsburgh. Among his professional experiences Dr. Henderson has served as a consultant for the Afro-American Institute at Kent State University; for the College Entrance Examination Board; for the Organization of Black Catholics, Washington, D.C.; Pennsylvania Program for Women and Girl Offenders, Philadelphia; for the Educational Testing Service Princeton, New Jersey. He has taught courses in sociology at Southern Illinois University, the University of Pittsburgh, the University of Akron, Kent State University and Western Reserve University. His most recent publication was "Toward a New Liberal Education." Other publications include: "Minority Response and the Conflict Model," "A History of Protest in America and American Minorities" and "The Newly Independent African States."

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Saturday, Feb. 7 brings a live painting performance featuring Al Bright and his brother Richard. The painting demonstration will be to the accompaniment of jazz music. The event will be held in the Bliss Hall Experimental Theatre (room #1025) at 8:00 p.m. There is no admission charge.

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Monday, Feb. 9 will be guest lecturer Dr. Cheryl Johnson, at 8:00 p.m. in the Kilcawley Center Chestnut Room speaking on "Maximizing Your Potential Through Higher Education."

Dr. Johnson is presently Assistant Director of the Program of African Studies at Northwestern University. Prior to her position at Northwestern, she served as the Director of Afro-American Studies Program at Loyola University. She also taught a course entitled "Women in West Africa." Dr. Johnson received a Ph.D. in 1978, in African History from Northwestern University.

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Austin received a Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree in directing from the Goodman Memorial Theatre School of Drama, one of the schools at the Art Institute of Chicago. In addition, she holds a bachelor degree in English and has studied television and radio acting at London City College (England). She has been touring "New Seed" since 1979, performing at colleges and in local television shows around the country. There is no charge for the program and the event is sponsored by Kilcawley Center Program Board.

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Also appearing on Feb. 13 at 8:00 p.m. in Stambaugh Auditorium, is entertainer and singer Gil Scott Heron. Admission to the event will be \$3.50 in advance and \$4.00 at the door.

Sunday, Feb. 15 the "Vickie Vaughn Memorial Sports Fund Dinner" will be held at the Mahoning Country Club beginning at 7:30 p.m. The dinner is sponsored by the Vickie Vaughn Memorial Sports Fund Committee. Admission will be charged at the door.

Monday, Feb. 16 at 8:00 p.m. in the Kilcawley Center Ohio Room a lecture by Judge Gerald Jarrett will be presented. Judge Jarrett will speak on "Careers in the Legal Profession." The lecture is free and open to the public.

Tuesday, Feb. 17, Eudert Paul Mashaire, the Deputy Ambassador of Zimbabwe, Washington, D.C., will lecture at 8:00 p.m. in the Kilcawley Center Chestnut room. Mashaire was born in Zimbabwe, received a bachelor degree from the University of Zimbabwe and master degrees from both the University of Munich (Germany) and the University of York (England).

Wednesday, Feb. 18, Dr. Ed Crosby, Director of Black Studies at Kent State University will lecture at 8:00 p.m. in the Ohio Room of Kilcawley Center. Dr. Crosby's lecture, "Higher Education for a Pan African Perspective," is sponsored

by the N.A.A.C.P. and is free and open to the public.

Thursday, Feb. 19 will be the "Sickle Cell Anemia Program" held between the hours of 12:00 - 2:00 p.m. in the Ohio Room of Kilcawley Center. Elizabeth Jenkins, will speak on Cancer and Black America and Carolyn Blackshire on the Sickle Cell Anemia Program. The programs are free and open to the public.

Friday, Feb. 20, the "Awards Dinner Dance," from 6:00 p.m. - 2:00 a.m. will be sponsored by the YSU Black United Students. Guest speaker of that event will be Dr. Ernest Perry. The event is a semi-formal regular featured affair included in every YSU Black History Month celebration.

Saturday, Feb. 21 Chuck Rainey in concert will perform in the Bliss Hall, Choral Recital Hall (room #1026). The program is sponsored by the YSU Black Studies Department.

Sunday, Feb. 22 community church services will be held locally, exact details are to be announced at a later date. Contact Al Bright, at YSU Black Studies Department.

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YSU Black History Month will conclude Saturday, Feb. 28 with the "1st Annual Youngstown Black Community Talent Showcase," held at Stambaugh Auditorium, 8:00 p.m. Tickets for the event are \$3.50 in advance and the event is sponsored by the Youngstown Black Talent Committee.

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8:00 p.m. Kilcawley
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LOCATION: Kilcawley Center Chestnut Room

TIME: 8:00 p.m.

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Contact: Lisa Williams



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The 90-minute one-woman presentation of Afro-American and African literature is free and open to the public.

Besides Ms. Austin herself, other writers featured in the readings include: Nikki Giovanni, Sonia Sanchez, Richard Wright, and 18 others.

Ms. Austin received a B.F.A. in directing from the Goodman Memorial Theatre School of Drama, one of the schools at the Art Institute of Chicago. She also holds a bachelor of fine arts in English and studied radio and television acting at London City College in England.

The actress has been touring "New Seed" since 1979, performing at colleges and on local television programs around the country.

For further information, contact the Kilcawley Center Staff Offices at (216) 742-3575.

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