Black History Month first began in February 1926, not as a month, but as a week. Dr. Carter G. Woodson started “Negro History Week” to educate people about the Black American population. After graduating with a Ph.D. from Harvard, he was amazed at how history books included little to no information on African Americans. The information on Black Americans reflected the beliefs of that time that African Americans were inferior. Dr. Woodson chose the second week in February because Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln, two influential men in Black History, were born during that week.

February 3rd
Mama’s Kitchen
LBJ Student Center @ 12:00 pm

February 10th
Coffee House on Social Justice/Open Mic Night
George’s (LBJ 1st Floor) @ 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

February 16th
Hip Hop Performance
Centennial Hall @ 6:00 p.m.

February 23rd
For Colored Girls: Movie and Panel Discussion
LBJ Teaching Theater (4th Floor) @ 6:00 p.m.

February 25th - 26th
GEA - Gospel Fest ft. Twinkie Clark
Toni Morrison, a Nobel Prize and Pulitzer Prize winning author, was an avid reader as a child. Two of her favorite authors were Jane Austen and Leo Tolstoy. As a child, she also enjoyed listening to her father tell folktales of the black community which inspired her method of storytelling. Morrison’s novels are known for their epic themes, vivid dialogue and richly detailed characters.

Center for Multicultural and Gender Studies Scholarships

Center for Multicultural and Gender Studies Scholarship for Women  
Deadline: March 15th

Cecil Mayo Scholarship for African American Males  
Deadline: February 15th
$500 scholarship offered to men, with an emphasis on minority male students, exhibiting leadership, commitment to public service and making a difference in the community.

Nina Vaca-Humrichouse Scholarship  
Deadline: February 15th
$500 annual scholarship available to minority students minoring in multicultural studies.

Center for Multicultural and Gender Studies Diversity and Women’s Studies Minor Scholarship  
Deadline: February 15th
$500 scholarships to undergraduate students who are minoring in Diversity Studies or Women’s Studies at Texas State University-San Marcos.

For more information go to: http://www.txstate.edu/mcgs/scholarships/MCGS-scholarships.html

Upcoming Events  
Brown Bag Research Seminar

“Promoting social awareness through dance”

Presenter: Ana Baer Carrillo  
Date: February 28, 2012  
Time: 12:30pm-1:30 p.m.  
Place: Jowers A 203

Screening: Mujeres de Juarez: A dance of despair and My Name is Not Maria: Zapateando stereotypes
The great abolitionist and orator Frederick Douglass once told us, “If there is no struggle, there is no progress.” Progress in America has not come easily, but has resulted from the collective efforts of generations. For centuries, African American men and women have persevered to enrich our national life and bend the arc of history toward justice. From resolute Revolutionary War soldiers fighting for liberty to the hardworking students of today reaching for horizons their ancestors could only have imagined, African Americans have strengthened our Nation by leading reforms, overcoming obstacles, and breaking down barriers. During National African American History Month, we celebrate the vast contributions of African Americans to our Nation’s history and identity...

During National African American History Month, we recognize the extraordinary achievements of African Americans and their essential role in shaping the story of America. In honor of their courage and contributions, let us resolve to carry forward together the promise of America for our children.

BARACK OBAMA

This is an excerpt from the Proclamation, if you would like to read it in its entirety, you can go to http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2011/02/01/presidential-proclamation-national-african-american-history-month

Student Spotlight!

Nay Aikawa is a graduate student majoring in Sociology with a minor in Women and Gender Studies. When asked what she likes best about the Women and Gender Studies minor, she replied, “A Women Studies minor is important and should be recognized. I became a Women Studies minor during undergrad and continued through graduate school. I believe women face inequality based on race, class and sex, categories that intertwine with each other. With my women studies minor, I would like to work for a non-profit women organization that fights against inequality for women. My minor and major has helped me develop ongoing knowledge when it comes to women in society, I will use this knowledge in the future to become a stronger activist for women rights.”

Eddie Durham Jazz Celebration

Born in San Marcos, Texas, this unsung hero had a huge and lasting influence not only on Texas music, but on swing, jazz, blues, and American popular music in general. Durham was a musician, arranger and innovator. Visit the website to hear top jazz scholars discuss Durham’s importance, and to listen to music he wrote, played, and arranged. http://www.txstate.edu/ctmh/tmho/classroom/eddie-durham.html

Texas State Jazz Studies celebrates his contribution each year as part of the Hill Country Jazz Festival. The Eddie Durham Jazz Celebration combines important guest artists and Texas State student musicians, and features a program by NEA Jazz Master Dan Morgenstern who will speak on Durham’s achievements and influence.