

# Marshall University Parent and Family Newsletter

February, 2018



## In This Issue

- Black History Month
- MLK Day of Service
- Excused Absences Online
- Trio Article
- Countdown to Commencement
- Student Body Elections
- Academic Calendar
- Athletic Schedule



## Black History Month at Marshall University

February is Black History Month and Marshall University, through the Office of Intercultural Affairs, is celebrating the accomplishments and growth of the African American culture in the U.S. Celebrations and events begin Feb. 1st and go through the month, and will include a month-long book display, celebrating Black History Month, as well as a Family Feud-style Black History Quiz Bowl. Other events include a Poverty Simulator, lectures on prominent black figures and histories, and poetry readings. See below for the full month's calendar of events.

## MLK Day of Service January 2018

We at Marshall University were honored with the opportunity to help those in our surrounding Huntington community in several different ways in January. Faculty, staff and students had the opportunity to participate in various service projects aimed at addressing social problems such as poverty, hunger and other injustices, according to Will Holland, director of the university's Office of Community Outreach and Volunteer Services.

"Martin Luther King once said, 'Life's most urgent question is: what are you doing for others?' With this in mind, we wanted to organize community-wide service projects that would allow our campus community to do something meaningful that could impact others in a positive way," Holland said. "This Day of Service celebrates the spirit of giving back and lifting up our most vulnerable populations. We are encouraging everyone to get involved."



## Excused Absences Online

Class attendance is a vital part to success on the college campus but it's not always attainable. We encourage our students to go to class because we know the majority of the learning occurs in the classroom. What do you do when illness rears its ugly head or when the passing of a beloved family member leaves your young adult scrambling to manage emotion and coursework? And then, they have to get to the Office of Student Affairs to file a University Excused Absence form.

We understand these circumstances and more. We want your students to know our University Excused Absence forms are available ONLINE! Students can file their request from the comfort of their homes and residence halls at [www.marshall.edu/student-affairs/excused-absence-form](http://www.marshall.edu/student-affairs/excused-absence-form). They can even upload a copy or cellphone photo of their doctor's note (or other documentation). We will handle the rest.

To ensure your student understands what is an excused (or unexcused) absence, please see our University Excused Absence policy (<http://www.marshall.edu/academic-affairs/policies/#ExcusedAbsences>)

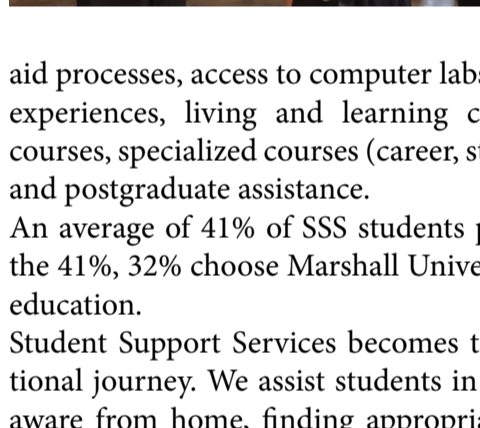
Also, it is important for students to speak with their professors about their absences. In most cases, a professor can excuse a student from his/her class themselves. This will also give your young adult the opportunity to build a relationship with their professors, which can be essential to success. Please do not hesitate to ask if you or your student has any questions about our excused absence policy.

Tell your student: Don't stress about getting your excuses in on-time: do it online!

## TRiO:

### How a Federal Program Gives Life to Local Dreams

*"SSS provides a foundation that supports students through the ups and downs during their college experience."*



The Student Support Services Program provides free services to 200 Marshall University undergraduate students to increase retention and graduation rates of its participants. The program's success is high with an average of 93% of its students in good academic standing and 84% per semester yearly. Students receive individualized academic advising, personal counseling, assistance with financial

aid processes, access to computer labs and free printing, social/cultural experiences, living and learning communities, supplemental instruction courses, specialized courses (career, study skills, graduate school preparation), and postgraduate assistance.

An average of 41% of SSS students pursue a post-secondary degree. Out of the 41%, 32% choose Marshall University Graduate College to continue their education.

Student Support Services becomes the students' family during their educational journey. We assist students in adjusting to new responsibilities, being aware from home, finding appropriate resources, connecting with the MU community, and building a skill set to help them be successful.

"SSS gives students a hub of resources that connects them with campus and opportunities to help them be successful. As a student in the program I felt I had a family that was always available and related with students who had similar struggles and goals." Jacqueline Morgan, MU and SSS Alumna

"SSS provides a foundation that supports students through the ups and downs during their college experience." Cody Stiltner, Junior Nursing Major

The Heart of Appalachia Talent Search (HATS) Program is one such service offered from the Marshall University campus. HATS is a federally funded program that provides academic support to middle and high school students in Mason and Wayne Counties who demonstrate the ability to succeed in college or a vocational/technical school. As part of the Federal TRiO Programs, Talent Search has a well-established record of helping students achieve academic as well as personal success. Working one-on-one with students, the Talent Search staff is committed to helping students reach their fullest potential.

"The greatest benefit is the students are able to build academic and social confidence," said Angela Holley, HATS Director. "They feel they have tools and skills necessary to do well in that environment."

Holley said the benefit of HATS can be seen by the number of HATS alumni looking to donate or work with the service after college graduation. "We have some community members as well as Marshall University Office of Student Financial Aid representatives invested in providing scholarships to us," she said. "I couldn't express my gratitude in words. They're investment in our program helps the many who cannot as easily afford college."

For additional information visit [www.marshall.edu/ssss](http://www.marshall.edu/ssss).

## Countdown To Commencement

Senior year means excitement, celebration and loads of work to do to prepare for the upcoming "most important time of my life" graduation ceremony.

Fortunately, Marshall Students will have access to help getting everything they need finished before that all-important date: Countdown to Commencement!

Taking place in the Don Morris Room of the Memorial Student Center, Countdown to Commencement is a great opportunity for your student to purchase your cap and gown, get a professional photo and learn about the Student Financial Aid exit interview.

Representatives from many campus resources will be on hand to walk students through the final processes before the great day, and ensure that all steps have been taken to confirm graduation. The Office of the Registrar will be there to inform your students of their academic progress towards completion while the alumni center waits excitedly to greet the future graduates and extend the opportunity to join the ever-growing Marshall University Alumni Network.

For more information on Countdown to Commencement, be sure to visit <http://www.marshall.edu/commencement/>.



## Black History Month 2018 Schedule

- 1-28 Book Display Celebrating Black History Month. Display will include select items and topics, (Black Americans in Congress, Public Papers of President Obama, Talk that Music Talk, Family Recipes of Black American Chefs and more.) Sponsored by Gov't Doc. Dept., MU Morrow Library.
- 1 Go Red for Women. Bringing attention to the leading killer of women, heart disease and stroke. A "heart pumping" night of fun, fellowship and exercise. Wear Red. MU Rec Center. 8 p.m.
- 1 UNITY. Students and staff are encouraged to wear African and/or urban inspired clothing or all black to kick-off Black History Month. Memorial Student group photo opps. 6 p.m.
2. Code Black: Lock-In. Students invited to a lock-in to enjoy food, games, movies. Center for African American Students, Memorial Student Center, IW25. 8:30 p.m.-12 a.m.
- 4 Carter G. Woodson Traditional Soul Food Feast. Chitterlings, ribs, collard greens, and many other Traditional African American dishes. \$7 students-\$15 Adults. John Marshall Dining, Memorial Student Center. For advance tickets, call 304-696-4677. 2 p.m.
- 5 Lecture: The Glenwood Project, Charleston WV Slave Histories, by Dr. Luke Eric Lassiter, Director, MU Graduate Humanities Program. 4 p.m. Location TBA.
- 7 Black In America. Student, faculty and community panel discussion on race in America. Memorial Student Center, 2W16. 4-5:30 p.m.
- 7 Black HIV/Aids Awareness Day. "Stay the Course, the Fight is Not Over". African American and LGBTQ+ Office promoting education, testing, and awareness. Memorial Student Center, 1W25 and BW14...All Day
- 8 Black History Month Readings via A.E. Stringer Visiting Writers Series, Birke Symposium, and the Office of Intercultural Affairs. Readings by DaMaris B. Hill, novelist and digital poet and Bernard Grant, fiction writer and essayist. Shawkey Room, Memorial Student Center. 7 p.m.
- 8 Black History and Bible February. A "Big Time Event"...acclaimed rap artist and ordained minister, Zaydok the Godhop of MC (Hogmob Ministries) rapping and speaking on the conditions and role of the church during post slavery, civil rights era, and post periods. Memorial Student Center, Don Morris Room. 6:30 p.m.
- 10 Carter G. Woodson, life and history presentation. Prof. Burnis Morris, MU. Cabel County Public Library. 2 p.m.
- 12 Chicago...The Musical. Six Tony Awards, two Olivier Awards, a Grammy and #1 longest running American Musical in Broadway History. A globally acclaimed tale of fame, fortune and jazz, co-sponsored by the Office of Intercultural Affairs. Keith-Albee Performing Arts Center. 7:30 p.m.
- 13 Poetry Reading by Appalachian Poet, Crystall Good and Film Screenings ("Mabel Parker Hardison Smith," 1985 and "Evelyn Williams", 1995). MU Visual Arts Center, 927 3rd Ave., Huntington, WV. 6-8 p.m.
- 13 Marshall ALL is Open to All, celebratory and informational event. Sponsored by the President's Commission for Diversity, Equality, and Inclusion. MSC Lobby. 12 noon-2 p.m.
- 14 200th Anniversary Celebration of the life and legacy of Frederick Douglas. Presentation and Reenactment of the 1845 Douglas Speech, "What to the Slave is the Fourth of July". Professor Robert Levine, University of Maryland and actor Phil D. Wallace. Don Morris Room. Memorial Student Center. 4 p.m.
- 14 Unwind and Create: Love Jones. Evening of painting and light refreshments with smooth Sounds of R&B and Jazz. Students are encouraged to bring art to display. Memorial Student Center, Shawkey Room. 4-5:30 p.m.
- 15 Reading: MLK, Jr. "Letter from Birmingham Jail", by Maurice Cooley, Assoc. V.P., Office of Intercultural Affairs. U. S. Corps of Engineers (Huntington, WV) Black History Month Program. 11:30 a.m.
- 16 Poverty Simulation. An interactive experience allowing participants to step into real life situations of others via role-plays. Sponsored by MU School of Medicine Diversity Inclusion, Office of Intercultural Affairs, and Dept. of Psychology. Don Morris Room, Memorial Student Center. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. (Visit [jcesom.marshall.edu/diversity](http://jcesom.marshall.edu/diversity) to register).
- 16 PanAfrican Student Organization (PASA) Mixer. A night of cultural music, fashion, and art by this growing organization on campus. Memorial Student Center, BE-5. 7 p.m.
- 17 The Center for African American Students invites you to attend our first Ebony Ball. Dance and mingle the night away, crowning Mr. and Miss/Shoony Ball. Formal Attire. Contact Center for African American Students/Shoony Polk (polk4@marshall.edu or MSC-IW25) for ticket information. Memorial Student Center, BE5. 7:30 p.m.
- 19 "This is What We Heard." A service learning project presentation by the Society of Black Scholars. An exploration and analysis of what people say about other people in our society from "overheard" conversations. Memorial Student Center, Shawkey Rm. 7-8 p.m. (Reception to follow)
- 20 Amazing Grace...The Broadway Musical, giving birth of the slavery abolitionist movement. Capturing the spirit of freedom, featuring the celebrated hymnal of all time, "Amazing Grace". Co-sponsored by the Office of Intercultural Affairs and the Society of Black Scholars. Keith-Albee Performing Arts Center. 7:30 p.m.
- 20 Family Feud Style Black History Quiz Bowl. Topics include activists, music, poetry, performing artist, athletics, political leaders, and more. Team of 6 competitors enters to [polk4@marshall.edu](mailto:polk4@marshall.edu). Prizes and an exhilarating evening will be in the making. Memorial Student Center, BE5. 7 p.m.
- 21 Lecture and presentation by Dr. Carla Hayden, 14 Librarian of Congress and 1st African American and 1st woman appointed to this position. Joan C. Edwards Performing Arts Center. 4 p.m.
- 22 The Mis-Education of the Negro, Revisited (Carter G. Woodson). Roundtable discussion by MU Students. Drinko Library Atrium. 4 p.m.
- 22 DWB (Drug War on Blacks). Students will watch scenes from the documentaries Herion(e) and 13th and discuss how the crack epidemic was handled in comparison to the heroin crisis. Memorial Student Center, Shawkey Room. 5-7 p.m.
- 23 Marshall University Annual Diversity Breakfast. Theme: Diversity of Gifts. Table reservations are required. Don Morris Room, Memorial Student Center. 7:30 a.m.
- 23 Trap Karaoke. Night of karaoke with a mix of AA inspired genres.... Taking Over 99-2000's and "Pretty Girls Love Trap". Memorial Student Center, BE5. 6-8 p.m.
- 26 Society of Black Scholars Service Learning Project Presentations: Part I. Confederate States, Monuments, and Symbols. Identification, history, origin and community opinions. 7 p.m. Part II. Strong Black Women...the Truth or Stereotype. Covering black history of this psychosocial construct and the impact on millennial Black women of today. Memorial Student Center, BE5. 7 p.m. (Reception to follow)
- 28 The BLACK Out. Students and staff encouraged to wear black to end-off Black History Month.
- 28 Lecture: Drumming and Sankofa: Our Story of Black/White Woodson Family Reconciliation with Applied Ethnomusicology, Ghana. Dr. Craig Woodson, Woodson relative and ethnomusicologist. Don Morris Room, MSC. 4 p.m.
- 28 "Black Card Revoked". Game show themed evening similar to the popular card game, "black card revoked". Students encouraged to wear black. Memorial Student Center Shawkey Room. 6-8 p.m.
- 28 African Americans in War Times, keynote address by Maurice Cooley, Assoc. V.P. Office of Intercultural Affairs. Dept. of Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Spring Valley. 2 p.m.

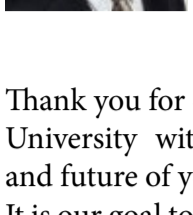
## Marshall University Office of Parent and Family Services



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Thank you for entrusting Marshall University with the safety, education and future of your student. It is our goal to ensure the students (and parents too!) have every opportunity to succeed. Please contact us any time you have a question or concern. We Are...here for you!

## Academic Calendar February-March 2018

• **February 2, Friday** - Applications for May graduation due in dean's office

• **February 9, Friday** - Last day to drop 1st eight weeks courses

• **Monday, February 19** - Final draft of thesis/dissertation delivered to committee chair

• **Monday, February 26, Noon** - Freshmen/Sophomore mid-term grades due

• **Wednesday, February 28** - 1st 8 weeks courses end

• **Thursday, March 1** - 2nd 8 weeks courses begin

• **Monday, March 12** - Students should schedule appointments with advisors to prepare for advance registration for summer and fall. (Required for students with mandatory advising holds.)

• **Friday, March 16** - Last day to drop an individual course

• **Saturday, March 17, Noon** - Residence halls close

• **Monday, March 19 – March 24** - Spring Break - Classes dismissed

• **Monday, March 26** - Classes resume

• **Monday, March 26** - Recommended date to apply for December 2018 graduation

• **Monday, March 26 – March 30** - Advance registration for summer sessions (open only to currently enrolled students)

## Athletic Schedule February-March 2018

**MEN'S BASKETBALL**  
Feb 1: @ UTSA - 8:00 p.m.  
Feb 3: @ UTEP - 9:00 p.m.  
Feb 8: vs FIU - 8:00 p.m.  
Feb 10: vs FAU - 7:00 p.m.  
Feb 15: @ Rice - 8:00 p.m.  
Feb 17: @ North Texas - 6:00 p.m.  
Feb 22: vs ODU - 7:00 p.m.  
Feb 24: vs Charlotte - 7:00 p.m.  
Mar 1: @ UAB - 8:00 p.m.  
Mar 3: @ MTSU - 7:00 p.m.

**WOMEN'S BASKETBALL**  
Feb 2: @ Charlotte - 7:00 p.m.  
Feb 4: @ So. Miss - 3:00 p.m.  
Feb 8: vs UTSA - 5:00 p.m.  
Feb 10: vs UAB - 1:00 p.m.  
Feb 15: vs UTEP - 6:00 p.m.  
Feb 17: @ WKU - 3:00 p.m.  
Feb 22: @ Rice - 8:00 p.m.  
Feb 24: @ North Texas - 8:00 p.m.  
Mar 1: vs FAU - 6:00 p.m.

**SOFTBALL**  
Plainsman Invitational (Auburn)  
Feb. 2 - Feb. 10

Nat. Pediatric Cancer Foundation Invite (Florida) Feb. 16 - Feb. 18

USC Upstate and Furman (So. Carolina) Feb. 23 - Feb. 25

**HOME:** Feb. 28: vs Kent State - 3:00 p.m.

Carolina Classic (So. Carolina) Mar. 2 - Mar. 4

@ UAB (Birmingham) Mar. 10, 11

**HOME:** Mar. 13: vs Morehead St. - 3:00 p.m.  
Mar. 17: vs So. Miss - 1:00 p.m./3:00 p.m.  
Mar. 18: vs So. Miss - 12:00 p.m.

## Student Body Leadership 2018-19 Elections

It won't be long before the 2017-18 school year will be completed and the 18-19 year will begin. For Matt Jarvis, that means the end to more than just the academic school year.

Jarvis is in his second year as student body president and will be graduating in May. He said his experience as president has taught him more than he ever thought possible and given him experience necessary to change the world.

"Student government not only changed my perspective about Marshall University and higher education, but my entire life," he said. "Experiential learning with an amazing service component combined have granted me leadership opportunities that could not have been afforded by any other organization on campus."

Student Government Association elections are set to begin in March, but students who are interested in running for Student Body President or one of the senate seats in their college must apply by February 27th.

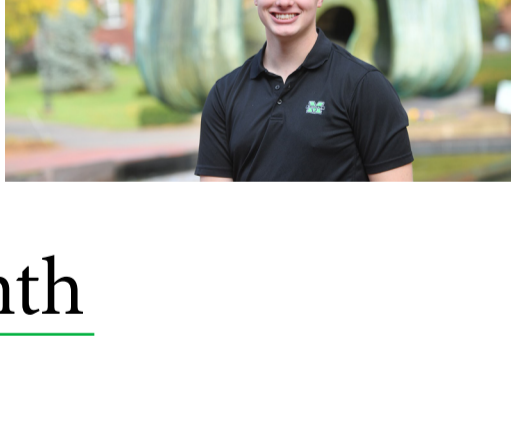
Being in Student Government Association is an opportunity to impact the entire campus. From creating a student-centric bus system to representing the needs of students with a student perspective before the Board of Governors, the SGA offers a leadership opportunity like no other.

"SGA uniquely represents all facets of university life," he said. "Through our organization, we're able to provide funding, programming and additional resources to all sons and daughters of Marshall and the greater Huntington community."

"Being in SGA will push your student farther than they could go on their own while providing them with a network of support that is unlike any other student organization on campus."

SGA will hold an information session Feb. 21 in the SGA Office. Elections take place Mar. 13 and 14.

Encourage your students to run for Student Government office. Visit [www.marshall.edu/sga](http://www.marshall.edu/sga) for more information.



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