

# 2ND ANNUAL Unity in Knowledge LECTURE SERIES

FEBRUARY  
21

## BLACK WOMEN CIVIL RIGHTS WORKERS

DR. OPHERA DAVIS  
12:00PM | Tranquility at the Lakes



In the Africana Studies tradition, this session will examine the distinct leadership of Black females during the Civil Rights movement. The workshop will explore women leaders beyond charismatic leaders to expand attendees' knowledge of the Black Freedom Struggle. Centered through the lens of scholarship on Black women activists, attendees will gain new knowledge about these women's work and new insights into their legacies that foster critical thinking and further enhance analytical skills about society.

FEBRUARY  
28

## COMMUNITY PARTNERS IN CULTURE AND EDUCATION: VWU GLOBAL CAMPUS AND VAACC

DR. DEIRDRE GONSALVES-JACKSON  
5:30PM | Williams Farm Recreation Center



New initiatives underway at VWU Global Campus: Center for Urban Leadership Education and the Virginia Wesleyan Prison Education Initiative.

MARCH  
06

## THE CURIOUS CASE OF RICHARD WRIGHT

DR. REBECCA HOOKER  
6:00PM | Williams Farm Recreation Center



In this workshop, we will consider Richard Wright's, author of Native Son, short unpublished essay "I Choose Exile," written originally for Ebony magazine in 1951, but rejected by them because they felt it would "offend advertisers." Wright says this essay was written to "give a general idea of what [his] life in Paris is like, but only in contrast to what Negro life in America is like." In reality, Wright justifies his move away from America to France at a time when most black Americans were suffering through tremendous hardship and racial oppression. We will discuss this fascinating document, uncovering what we can learn from it about Wright's racial relations in America and France in the 1950s, as well as understanding how Wright's personal history influences his perspective. Why does Ebony really refuse to publish this article?

MARCH  
13

## PROTEST MUSIC: TAKE 2

DR. BRYSON MORTENSEN  
12PM | Tranquility at the Lakes



This workshop will discuss the role of protest music in the Civil Rights Movement throughout history. We will explore a variety of examples of protest music, from the beginning of the civil rights movement through the present day, including songs that were performed in clubs, on the streets, and even in stadiums.

MARCH  
27

## INFLUENCE OF SYSTEMIC RACISM AND PREJUDICE ON PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH

DR. GABI MARTORELL  
6:00PM | Williams Farm Recreation Center



There are well-documented racial and ethnic differences in physical and mental health between white majority and BIPOC children in the United States. Although many of these differences can be attributed to systematic disparities in access to quality health services, even when income and access to services is controlled, differences persist. Many researchers argue such differences stem at least in part from the influence of racism and bias at the individual level and are mediated by the stress response system. This perspective will be presented during this discussion and framed within Garcia-Coll's integrated model of the development of childhood competencies.

MAY  
06

## SEEING BLACK: REPRESENTATION, RESISTANCE, AND RESILIENCE IN ART

DR. CRAIG WANSINK  
12:00PM | Williams Farm Recreation Center



This PowerPoint Presentation, on art from the Chrysler Museum, focuses on how local works of art create a safe, productive, and non-contentious starting place for thoughtful Pietro Calvi's Othello, Whitfield Lovell's public discussions on race and identity. Through such art as Kehinde Wiley's St. Andrew, Freedom, and Bob Thompson's The Hanging-- we consider how art about race can result in our asking increasingly thoughtful questions about our values and identity as Americans.



VIRGINIA  
WESLEYAN  
UNIVERSITY  
GLOBAL CAMPUS



VIRGINIA AFRICAN AMERICAN CULTURAL CENTER, INC.



SCAN THE QR CODE FOR MORE INFORMATION  
ON THE PRESENTERS

[www.vwu.edu/academics/vwu-global/](http://www.vwu.edu/academics/vwu-global/)  
[www.vaaccvb.org/](http://www.vaaccvb.org/)