



# ALANA Anthem

A Publication of the office of ALANA Student Services at Loyola College in Maryland

Volume II, Issue III

January/February 2007

## 2007 Black History Month Celebration: B.L.A.C.K.

### Broadening Loyola's Awareness & Cultural Knowledge

Loyola College's 2007 Black History Month Celebration kicks off on February 1, 2007, with guest lecturer, Kweisi Mfume, who will speak about, "Race: Exploring America's Agenda." Kweisi Mfume is a political activist who was born and raised in Baltimore. After a difficult childhood and adolescence filled with despair, gangs, and teenage fatherhood, Kweisi earned his GED and began to study at the Community College of Baltimore where he was the head of the Black Student Union. He went on to attend Morgan State University where he graduated *magna cum laude* in 1976 and earned a Master's degree in Liberal Arts from Johns Hopkins University in 1984.



Kweisi Mfume has been a prominent activist and political figure. He won a seat on the Baltimore City Council in 1979, and in 1986 was elected to the Congressional seat where he would remain for the next decade. While on the Baltimore City Council, Mfume pushed to diversify city government, improve community safety, and divest city funds from the apartheid government of South Africa. He co-authored and successfully amended the Civil Rights Bill of 1991 to U.S. citizens working for American-based companies abroad. Mfume has served as chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus, and was the President and Chief Executive Officer of the NAACP from 1996 to

2005. He currently serves on the Johns Hopkins University Board of Trustees, the Morgan State University Board of Regents, People for the American Way, and the National Advisory Council of Boy Scouts of America. Come hear Kweisi Mfume speak on **Thursday, February 1, 2007 at 7 pm in McGuire Hall.** The event is FREE but tickets are required. To obtain tickets visit the following website: <http://www.loyola.edu/campuslife/alana/mfume.html>. Mfume's lecture is sponsored by ALANA Services, Education for Life, Office of Academic Affairs & Diversity, Black Student Association and Year of the City.

#### Other Black History Month Events Include:

##### Tuesday, February 6th

Bob Marley Birthday Celebration, 7pm, Reading Room  
*Sponsored by Caribbean Students Union*

##### Wednesday, February 21st

BSA Forum, 8pm, Reading Room  
*Sponsored by Black Student Association*

##### Thursday, February 22nd

Harlem Renaissance Coffeehouse, 9pm, Reading Room  
*Sponsored by Black Student Association*

##### Monday, February 26th

Sankofa African Dance Theater, 6pm, McGuire Hall  
*Sponsored by African Students Union*

##### Wednesday, February 28th

Black History Game Show, 5:30pm, 4th Floor Program Room  
*Sponsored by Black Student Association*

#### Inside This Issue:

Hispanic Club Name Change	2
MLK Jr. Convocation	2
2007 MLK Symposium	2
Valentine's Day Around the World	2
ALANA Student Spotlight	2
On Being Black in the United States	3
Diversity Peer Educators Open House	4

#### ALANA STAFF

Rodney Parker
Director
Shavalyea Wyatt
Assistant Director
Janine McCormick
Administrative Assistant
Angela Patino
Graduate Assistant

**Want to join our mailing list?**

**E-mail:**  
[ALANA@loyola.edu](mailto:ALANA@loyola.edu)

### Director's Corner:

Welcome back! I hope that you are all refreshed from the holiday break! In this issue of the ALANA Anthem, we, the ALANA staff, have worked very hard to highlight upcoming programs such as the MLK Symposium, MLK Convocation, and a number of Black History Month (BHM) programming in February.

We are especially proud of the BHM student committee who worked very hard with the ALANA Staff to create the theme B.L.A.C.K., Broadening Loyola's Awareness and Cultural Knowledge. This year's Black History Month programming is largely a collaboration between the Black Student Association, African Students Union, and Caribbean Students Union. Please enjoy the spotlights of their understanding of "On Being Black in the US" and join us for our month of programming.

Grace and Peace,  
Rodney L. Parker

#### ALANA Student Services Mission Statement

**ALANA (African, Latino, Asian and Native American) Student Services is committed to providing support, services and programs that facilitate the success of all ALANA students at Loyola College in Maryland. Through intentional programming and a myriad of services, we foster the academic, cultural, personal, spiritual and leadership development of ALANA students. Furthermore, we seek to create and maintain an environment of respect and awareness, while advocating for ALANA students and responding to their needs.**

## Hispanic Club changes its name to Association of Latin American & Spanish Students (ALAS)

Loyola College's Hispanic Club has renamed the organization the Association of Latin American and Spanish Students (ALAS). The club had been considering changing its name for some time because members felt that the name (Hispanic Club) did not reflect their mission and the meaning of the club. According to previous club President, Holly Fredrickson, the name was not representative of the club. The new name, ALAS, which means "wings" in Spanish, conveys the message that the club is enthusiastic about getting off of the ground and taking flight.

ALAS is open to all Loyola community members, as are all ALANA clubs. Club members hope that the new name will rejuvenate the club, start an initiative to make the club more active in both the Loyola and greater Baltimore communities, and attract new members who share enthusiasm for Latino and Spanish culture.

## 14th Annual Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Convocation

The Office of Academic Affairs and Diversity will sponsor the 14th Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Convocation on Thursday, January 18, 2007. The college is honored to have Dr. Bernice Johnson Reagon, award-winning a capella performer, author and Professor emeritus of History at American University, delivering "We Who Believe in Freedom Cannot Rest....: Bernice Johnson Reagon on Song in African-American Civic and Spiritual Life."

The Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Convocation is a celebration of social justice, diversity, and equality. It will take place on Thursday, January 18th at 7pm in McGuire Hall.



Dr. Johnson Reagon

**ALANA Services wishes you a Happy New Year with thoughtful resolutions!!!**

**Have a Prosperous 2007!**

## 2007 MLK Symposium

Loyola College in Maryland will host "The Beloved Community: Hope for the City," its 2007 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Symposium, on Monday, January 15, 2007. The event is designed to offer participants a day of reflection on Dr. King's legacy and an opportunity to examine education issues relevant to Baltimore. It will take place at St. Frances Academy, an independent, co-educational Catholic high school in Baltimore. The symposium, which begins at 8:30 a.m. coincides with St. Frances' Fifth Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Job Skills Workshop and Fair. There is no cost associated with this symposium, but participants must register. To register, please visit: [www.loyola.edu/mlksymposium](http://www.loyola.edu/mlksymposium) or call 410-617-5353.

## St. Valentine's Day Around the World

- ♥ In Italy, it is a tradition to get engaged on Valentines Day.
- ♥ In Denmark, men send joking letters.
- ♥ In Britain, unmarried women get up before sunrise.
- ♥ In France, people send elegant greeting cards called *cartes d'amities* with tender messages
- ♥ In China, Valentines Day is celebrated on the 7th day of the 7th lunar month in the Chinese calendar
- ♥ In Japan, ladies buy chocolate for men
- ♥ In Germany and Austria, there has long been a tradition for men to present their sweethearts with flowers.

Source: [travel.syl.com](http://travel.syl.com)

## ALANA STUDENTS SPOTLIGHT

The Black Student Association of Loyola College in Maryland strives to promote awareness and celebrate Black culture through service projects, educational programs, social inclusiveness and self exploration while upholding the spirit of the Jesuit ideals. Through meetings, forums, social events, educational experiences and community service, the Black Student Association prides itself on reaching out to Baltimore by spreading awareness and celebrating Black culture. Here are some of the events we will sponsor this semester:

### Black History Month Events:

- BSA Forum, Wednesday, February 21st, 8PM, Reading Room
- Harlem Renaissance Coffeeshouse, Thursday, February 22nd, 9PM, Reading Room
- Black History Game Show, Wednesday, February 28th, 5:30PM, 4th Floor Program Room

### Fashion Show:

- Fashion Show Model Call, Saturday, January 20th, Noon, McGuire Hall
- Fashion Show, Friday, March 16th at 8:00PM, Reitz Arena

~Nicholas Hawkins, President, Black Student Association

## Being BLACK in the United States: Three Perspectives...

### On Being African...

**By: African Students Union**

For Africans who grew up as the majority, it is quite different to suddenly become a minority in the United States and an even bigger shock to experience discrimination since many had not experienced racism in the same way as African-Americans. Still, after living in the US, Africans are quick to recognize that all Blacks share a similar struggle for equality and respect in a country where discrete discrimination makes that difficult.

Africans face an additional form of discrimination, however, in situations like employment due to their accent and lack of familiarity with American culture. Africans also frequently endure ignorant

comments, jokes, and questions about Africa.

However, with a warm disposition common to Africans, many usually appreciate the opportunity to educate people whose image of Africa has been wrongfully tainted by the media.

A growing number of Africans born in the US have been raised by African parents but have little knowledge of African culture. Many of these first-generation African Americans grow up melding African values taught at home with American cultural ideals.

Regardless of their upbringing or nationality, one thing to keep in mind is that Africans come from a variety of different languages, cultures, and ethnicities, and so it is very difficult to generalize the experiences of such a diverse people.

***“With a warm disposition common to Africans, many usually appreciate the opportunity to educate people whose image of Africa has been wrongfully tainted by the media.”***

***“The times have changed but in some instances, the way Blacks are viewed in society has not...”***

### On Being Black...

**By: Black Student Association**

“Let freedom ring!” These strong words from Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. echo in the hearts and minds of Americans. What we face today, though, is a distortion of freedom. Today, society says that we as Blacks living in the United States have been formally granted the same rights, freedoms and privileges as Whites. After all, the Bill of Rights grants freedom to all citizens of the United States. What is ironic, is that those rights which are imparted to every citizen of this great country were actually denied to Blacks. As we progress through the millennium, Blacks, though we are not so much the brunt of outward signs of racism and segregation,

still face prejudice and discrimination every day of our lives.

America has come a long way though. From the right to vote, to desegregation, to the rise of black leaders in positions of power, we as Blacks have proven that America is truly a vast country of diverse populations and rich cultures. The times have changed but in some instances, the way Blacks are viewed in society has not. There is still a need for Blacks and other minorities to be represented in business, media, politics, and medicine just to name a few. It seems as if America is going forward and backward at the same time. Although we have come a long way, we have a longer way to go.

### On Being Caribbean...

**By: Caribbean Students Union**

Being a black West-Indian in America, is pretty much the same as being African-American. As far as treatment is concerned, your skin color plays the same role. The main difference comes with education. West-Indians, if they are of a founding generation, already start off the educational process with a disadvantage. Most are demoted a grade because a British education is deemed inferior. We have a separate identity but we are lumped together with black Americans. There is the subtle deletion of personal identity in the convenient labeling of West-Indians as African American. The fact is, most west-Indians consider

themselves West-Indian American. The title African American denotes a different history, a different culture, a different world. There is not a West-Indian in the United States that does not have some appreciation for the struggles African-Americans have been through. Had it not been for their contributions it would be virtually impossible for any person of color to benefit from any national institution, especially a new immigrant.

The point is that West-Indians would like to be given their own space on the page. We have a common Diaspora story, but it has evolved into its own entity. The point is that no one wants to have their personal story ignored; and being a black West-Indian usually means that it is.

***“There is a subtle deletion of personal identity in the convenient labeling of West-Indians as African American.”***

## ALANA Anthem



ALANA Student Services  
4501 N. Charles Street  
3rd Floor, Student Center  
Baltimore, MD 21210  
Phone: 410-617-2310  
Fax: 410-617-5661  
Email: ALANA@loyola.edu

Visit Us On The Web:

<http://www.loyola.edu/alana>

### ALANA Bids Farewell to Graduate Assistant

Felisa Koldin's last day with ALANA Services was December 20, 2006.

**Best Wishes, Felisa, we will miss you!**

### SAVE THE DATE!!!

**YELLOW RAGE**—Thursday, April 19th, 9PM, Reading Room  
Sponsored by: Asian Students Association & ALANA Services  
<http://www.yellowrage.com>

## CULTURAL CALENDAR

### January 2007

January 1 New Years Day, Mary, Mother of God – (Catholic, Christian), Feast of St Basil – (Orthodox Christian, Christian)

Gantan-sai (New Years) – (Shinto)

January 5 Twelfth Night – (Christian)

January 6 Epiphany- (Christian)

January 7 Orthodox Christmas – (Orthodox Christian)

Baptism of the Lord Jesus – (Christian)

January 14 Makar Sankranti- (Hindu)

Maghi – (Sikh)

January 15 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

January 20 Islamic New Year- (Islam)

January 21 World Religion Day – (Baha'i)

January 23 Vasant Panchami – (Hindu, Sikh)

January 26 Indian Republic Day

January 29 Ashura – (Islam)

### February 2007: Black History Month

February 2 Imbolc- (Pagan/Wicca)

Groundhog Day

February 4 Scout Sunday

February 8 Nirvana Day – (Buddhism)

February 10 Scout Sabbath

February 14 Valentine's Day

February 18 Chinese/Korean/  
Vietnamese New Year

February 19 President's Day

February 20 Mardi Gras

February 21 Ash Wednesday – (Christian)

Source: [http://www.uark.edu/rd\\_vcsa/samc/images/Cultural\\_holiday\\_calendar.pdf](http://www.uark.edu/rd_vcsa/samc/images/Cultural_holiday_calendar.pdf)

## Diversity Peer Educators (DPE) OPEN HOUSE

The Diversity Peer Educators (DPE) is a group with the mission to create awareness and help their fellow students understand diversity. The co-coordinators Jillian Delos Reyes and Autumn Sands-Caldwell have planned three programs that they hope will further promote and explore diversity amongst Loyola students. Autumn and Jillian are looking for new students to give a fresh perspective on the subject of diversity. They are holding an Open House, January 23, 2007 at 6PM in the Claver Multicultural Center to provide information about the organization. All interested in becoming involved on campus and are excited about diversity should attend. For more information e-mail [DPE@loyola.edu](mailto:DPE@loyola.edu).