UNP Community Affairs Committee Brief
January 20th, 2010

cac@unpmn.org - www.unpmn.org

Companion to the agenda for the UNP Community Affairs Committee meetings.
UNP Co-chairs: Raymond Dehn & Makeda Zulu-Gillespie

Karina Carlson, guest editor

UPDATES

UNP Community Affairs Committee Update
A small committee continues to meet to make recommendations about the future direction of the UNP. A brief summary of their efforts can be found in the December 2009 Brief archived on the UNP website (www.unpmn.org). The committee is to be applauded for their hard work. Members include: Dorothy Robinson, Joel Helter, Kathy Doty, Erik Hansen and the CAC co-chairs. If you have ideas to share, please feel free to submit them to the co-chairs: Makeda Zulu-Gillespie and Raymond Dehn; please use the following e-mail address: cac@unpmn.org

Community Affairs List-serv
Did you know that the CAC has an email list-serv? Sign up and you will receive special notices of activities taking place in the Northside Community including notices of our monthly meetings. To join email: unp@umn.edu.

UROC Updates
UROC Facilities
Since opening its doors on September 23, 2009, over 1,000 people have entered the UROC doors either to visit the various Resident programs, to attend meetings such as the Principals' Academy, City Council debates, a discussion of the Light Rail project, and to visit the University of Minnesota Libraries’ display on the Givens Collection. The building is open from 8:30-5:00pm every day, except for official University holidays.

Black History Month Celebration
UROC, in collaboration with the University of Minnesota Libraries and Special Collections, and the Givens Foundation, will host a public reception to showcase the ongoing exhibit on the Givens Foundation, and additional displays from the collection related to Black History. The reception will be held February 8, 2010 from 3-6:30. A schedule of events, which include a showing of the TPT documentary on the Givens Collection, will be posted on the UROC website: www.uroc.umn.edu.
Collaborations

On December 17, 2009, the University of Minnesota received notification that it was the recipient of stimulus funds under the Recovery Act to support a digital divide project. The grant is for $2.9M with a $740,000 cost share by the University of Minnesota’s and its partners for a total project cost of $3.6M. The project is a collaboration between the Multicultural Media Consortium (comprised of Insight News, Asian Pages, and other ethnic news/media organizations) and the Office of Business and Community Economic Development and UROC. Eleven public community computer centers located in North Minneapolis, South Minneapolis and St. Paul, will benefit from this grant over a three year period. As the grant is implemented, additional information will be posted on the UROC website.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

Announcements

CitySongs
CitySongs, a program of UROC, is an exciting, award-winning community youth choir that works in partnership with PCYC to develop positive out-of-school activities that involve music and youth development. The choir performs inspirational messages of peace, respect, achievement, hope, overcoming, justice, community and celebrating diversity. They are available to perform for your event.
To arrange performances, please contact:
Cheryl Reeves, Music/Program Coordinator: creeves@umn.edu, 612-624-4556

Events

GRAD Test Intervention Classes
Beginning January 11

The Minneapolis Public Schools will offer GRAD Test Intervention classes at each Minneapolis high school beginning January 11 and continuing through March 4 in preparation for the next state testing period in March. The classes meet after school twice a week, 3 - 5 p.m.

GRAD (Graduation-Required Assessment for Diploma) Test Intervention classes are offered free to students in 11th and 12th grades who have not yet met Minnesota graduation requirements for reading and math. Under state law, students must earn the correct amount of credits and pass the state GRAD reading test in order to graduate. In addition, students are required to enroll in a math intervention class if they have failed the state GRAD math test.

Parents or students interested in enrolling in GRAD Test Intervention classes should contact their high school office.

Contact: Emily R. Lowther, 612-668-0237, emily.lowther@mpls.k12.mn.us
University Community Partnerships for Diversity and Social Justice.
When: Jan. 22, 2010, 1–4 p.m.
Where: St. Paul Student Center Theatre
University of Minnesota, Saint Paul Campus
2017 Buford Ave

Free Event featuring University Partnerships with the Latino Community:
This forum, led by two accomplished Latino scholars working at the University of Miami and Georgia State University, will focus on their efforts to use the talents and resources of their institutions to promote the human rights and well being of underserved ethnic minorities in their communities. They will discuss the social justice foundations of their work and present examples of partnerships with immigrant Latino communities affected by issues of domestic violence, structural poverty, and immigration.
Registration: http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/T9PNK8B

What’s New at Kwanzaa?
When: Jan. 28, 2010, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.
Where: Kwanzaa Community Church
2100 Emerson Ave. N
Minneapolis 55411

Join us to hear about an exciting new initiative between Kwanzaa Community Church and Lauren Martin, prostitution researcher at the University of Minnesota. Together, we plan to open a drop-in space for women and teens that trade sex – a safe and supportive place for women to heal.

Bishop Vashti Murphy McKenzie is coming to Town…
When: Jan. 30, 2010, 11:30 a.m.
Where: Radisson University Hotel

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. will be kicking off its Founders Day Celebration this year with words of wisdom from the renowned Bishop Vashti Murphy McKenzie.

Cost per person is $50. Contact: 651-336-5617

Black AIDS Day
When: Friday, Feb. 5, 8:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Where: UROC Rooms 125 & 107

Turning Point will offer break-out sessions in groups of no more than 30 people each. Contact: Joyce Hayden, 612-520-4004