



CMGMH CONNECTION

Celebrate Diversity and Promote Mental Health This May

**MAY INTERNATIONAL DAY
17 AGAINST HOMOPHOBIA
& TRANSPHOBIA**



Celebrate
**Haitian
Heritage
Month**



Mental Health
Awareness Month


**JEWISH
AMERICAN
HERITAGE MONTH**



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Events and Resources for Diversity Holidays in May

Haitian Heritage Month in Boston

- May 1 - 2017 **Haitian Heritage Month Kick-off Event**. 6:00 PM Kay Pam, Dorchester
- May 4—**Haitian Heritage Month Event at the Haitian Multi Service Center**. 12PM to 2 PM Haitian Multi Service Center, Columbia Rd., Dorchester
- May 16—**12th Annual Haitian Heritage Month Celebration at Massachusetts State House** (in collaboration with State Senator Linda Darcena Forry). 1:30 PM to 3:00 PM.
- May 19—**13th Annual Haitian Flag Day Breakfast** (in Collaboration with Several Boston City Councilors). 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM. Boston City Hall
- May 19—**22nd Annual Haitian Flag Raising Ceremony**. 12 to 2:00 PM. Boston City Hall Plaza
- May 21 - **17th Annual Haitian-American Unity Parade**. Departure 1 PM. Mattapan Square/ Blue Hill Ave
- May 28—**YOFESTIVAL**. An Annual Talent Contest to Close the Haitian Heritage Month Celebrations. 5:30 PM Strand Theater, Dorchester www.yofes.org/yofestival/

For more information about these events, contact Haitian Americans United, Inc.: (617) 417-8421 or (617) 298-2976; E-mail: unity@hauinc.org

Jewish American Heritage Month

- Jewish American Heritage Month website: <http://www.jewishamericanheritagemonth.us/index.aspx>
- Jewish American Heritage Month. U.S. Gov. <http://www.jewishheritagemonth.gov/>
- Jewish Boston. Events website: <https://www.jewishboston.com/>

World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development- May 21

- United Nations website: <http://www.un.org/en/events/culturaldiversityday/>



World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development - 21 May

Children's Mental Health Awareness Day— May 4

- SAMHSA. "Caring for Every Child's Mental Health". <https://www.samhsa.gov/children>
- NAMI Massachusetts. "Children and Family Resources." <http://namimass.org/resources/children-families>
- Children's Mental Health Campaign website. <https://www.childrensmentalhealthcampaign.org/>



Mental Health Awareness Month

- May 13—NAMI Walks Campaign "Let's Walk for Mental Health." 5K, Artesani Park. 9am. <https://www.namiwalks.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=donorDrive.event&eventID=621>

More Information:

- National Alliance on Mental Illness. "Mental Health Month." <https://www.nami.org/mentalhealthmonth>
- Mental Health America. "Mental Health Month." <http://www.mentalhealthamerica.net/may>

National Prevention Week

- SAMHSA. "National Prevention Week." <https://www.samhsa.gov/prevention-week>



Older Americans Month

- Older Americans Month. U.S. Gov. <https://oam.acl.gov/>
- Executive Office of Elder Affairs, Massachusetts. "Celebrate Older Americans Month in May: Older Americans Are Blazing a Trail." <http://www.mass.gov/elders/celebrate-older-americans-month-in-may.html>

International Day Against Homophobia—May 17th

- International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia, and Biphobia website. <http://dayagainsthomophobia.org/>

Asian Pacific American Heritage Month

- May 18—Asian Pacific American Heritage Month Gala. 6pm. State Street Financial Center. <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/asian-pacific-american-heritage-month-gala-tickets-33648197665>

More Information:

- Asian Pacific Heritage Month. U.S. Gov. <http://asianpacificheritage.gov/>
- PBS. "Asian Pacific Heritage Month." <http://www.pbs.org/specials/asian-pacific-american-heritage-month/>

Celebrating Haitian Heritage Month



Haitian Heritage Month, observed during the month of May, is an opportunity to celebrate the rich heritage and culture of Haiti. Its purpose is to “raise awareness and understanding about Haitian culture and traditions, strengthen the self-esteem and ethnic pride of Haitian and Haitian-American youth, and celebrate Haitian achievements across the globe” (1). Haitian Heritage Month was first celebrated in Boston in 1998 and is celebrated with events such as parades, flag raisings, and exhibits organized by Haitian organizations in the New England area and elsewhere (1).

Though its native history and cultural traditions existed long before its contact with Europe, Haiti’s recorded history began with colonization. An extensive and particularly cruel system of slavery was instituted in Haiti after Christopher Columbus landed on the island in 1492 (2). Indigenous inhabitants, and

later African slaves, were forced to farm the land, making Haiti one of the world’s major producer of sugar and coffee (2). Violent conflicts between the white colonists, the Spanish followed by the French, and the Maroons, bands of runaway slaves, were common, escalating towards the end of the 18th century (2). In 1791, a group of former slaves led by Toussaint Louverture organized an uprising, which was the first successful slave revolt in history, setting the Haitian Revolution in motion. Haiti gained independence from France in 1804, becoming the first post-colonial Black-led nation in the world (3). The United States did not recognize Haiti as an independent nation until almost 60 years later in 1862. Frederick Douglass served as an ambassador to Haiti from 1889-1891 (1). Haiti has had two female leaders, the first elected in 1990 and the second in 1995 (1).

Haiti has a rich culture, highlighted through its vibrant art, delectable Caribbean cuisine, and interesting folklore and literature. Haitian Heritage Month is a time to celebrate Haiti’s accomplishments and contributions as well as the resiliency of the Haitian people.

Key Dates of Celebration

May 1st: ***Labor & Agriculture Day***
May 17th: ***Teachers' Day***
May 18th: ***Haitian Flag Day***
May 20th: ***Toussaint Louverture's Birthday*** (Leader of the Haitian Revolution)
Last Sunday in May: ***Haitian Mothers' Day***

CMGMH's 2017 Haiti Service Learning and Cultural Immersion Program



The 2016 Haiti Service Learning & Cultural Immersion Team.

Each year, William James College (WJC) students and faculty travel to Haiti to participate in the *Haiti Service Learning & Cultural Immersion Program* in order to increase their knowledge, skills, and experience in working with Haitian and Haitian-American individuals and families. While in Haiti, students engage in service learning activities and multidisciplinary collaborations with schools, grassroots organizations, and social services agencies.

This July, a group of WJC students and faculty will take part in a 10-day immersion experience in Haiti. The focus of the 2017

Service Learning Program will be on developing and implementing a Youth Leadership & Community Engagement Initiative that will target adolescents and young adults in the rural town of Vallée, Petit-Goâve. In collaboration with local community leaders, educators, caregivers and youth, the program will provide opportunities for adolescents and young adults to develop the skills necessary to become successful leaders in their communities. Youth will participate in hands-on learning experiences aimed at promoting active community engagement, fostering positive youth development and empowerment, strengthening community-based partnerships, and sustaining positive community development.

To learn more about cultural immersion programs through CMGMH, visit www.williamjames.edu/cmgmh.

References

1. “Celebrating Haitian Heritage Month”. Haitian Mental Health Network. <http://www.hmhnetwork.org/haitian-heritage-month1.html>
2. “Haiti’s History”. Frontline World—PBS. http://www.pbs.org/frontlineworld/rough/2007/12/haiti_belos_sonlinks.html
3. “Haitian Revolution (1791-1804)”. BlackPast.org. <http://www.blackpast.org/gah/haitian-revolution-1791-1804>

Haitian Mental Health Workshop

Understanding the Mental Health Needs of Haitian Immigrants: Culturally-Sensitive Strategies for Health Care Providers

This workshop will focus on the roles of cultural concepts of health and illness, family values, and spiritual beliefs and practices in understanding help-seeking behaviors among Haitian immigrants.



The workshop will offer practical recommendations and culturally-sensitive strategies that health care providers and other professionals can utilize to engage and retain Haitian clients in care.



SAVE THE DATE!

**Tuesday, May 16, 2017
4 p.m. to 7 p.m.**

**William James College
1 Wells Avenue
Newton, MA**

**Cost:
\$65 (3 CEs)**

To register, visit

www.williamjames.edu/ce

**For more information,
please email:
cmgmh@williamjames.edu**



**WILLIAM JAMES
COLLEGE**

**Center for Multicultural &
Global Mental Health**

Presenter: Marie Pierre-Victor, LICSW

Marie Pierre-Victor is a Licensed Independent Clinical Social Worker and the Clinical Director of Behavioral Health at Codman Square Health Center. She holds a Bachelor's degree and an MSW from Boston College. She provides direct care services to individuals who are diagnosed with complex PTSD, anxiety disorders, dissociative disorders, and mood disorders. Ms. Pierre-Victor has a private practice in Canton, MA.



Re-envisioning the Brilliance of Boys of Color

Saturday, May 20, 2017

8:30am-4:30pm, William James College

On May 20th, William James College will host a full-day conference entitled *“Re-Envisioning the Brilliance of Boys of Color: Inspiring Professionals Dedicated to Empowering the Social-Emotional and Academic Development of Our Youth”*.

The conference, hosted by the Concentration on Children and Families of Adversity and Resilience, School Psychology Department, and the Center for Multicultural and Global Mental Health at William James College, builds on extant knowledge of risk factors for boys of color to create a paradigm shift which focuses attention on their frequently underappreciated protective and resiliency factors. The conference will explore the unrecognized strengths and talents inherent in boys of color. In addition, available assets in the families, schools, faith-based institutions, and communities will be identified. Conference sessions will include (a) panel presentations comprised of community members, educators, juvenile justice, and mental health providers; and (b) keynote and invited addresses by academic and mental health professionals on school, faith, and community-based interventions for boys of color.

The conference will consist of three panels:

1. **Liberating the Brilliance of Boys of Color: Deconstructing the Cradle to Prison Pipeline**
2. **Inspiring the Brilliance of Boys of Color: Innovative Mentorship and Advocacy**
3. **Increasing Cultural Responsiveness and Reducing Racial Disparities in Our School Systems**

Keynote Speakers:

Hon. Leslie E. Harris, JD, (Ret.), Former Associate Justice for the Suffolk Juvenile Court, Massachusetts
Ron Walker, Founder and Executive Director, Coalition of Schools Educating Boys of Color (COSEBOC), Waltham, MA

Performances by Hip-Hop Transformation Group, Youth and Family Enrichment Services Spring Quartet, and Pedro Cruz of Inquilinos Boricuas en Acción.

For more information and to register, visit https://netforum.avectra.com/eWeb/DynamicPage.aspx?Site=MSPP&WebCode=EventDetail&evt_key=faa94f7e-4c8b-4d27-90d3-f2bf945ba1bb



Current Events Corner

Mental Health in the News

- **“A New Approach To Helping Men of Color Heal After a Violent Incident.”** NPR. To figure out the best ways to help young Black and Latino men heal, a nonprofit will train young men in New York City to conduct interviews with other young men of color. <http://www.npr.org/sections/codeswitch/2017/04/13/523746277/a-new-approach-to-helping-men-of-color-heal-after-a-violent-incident>
- **“What Your Therapist Doesn’t Know.”** The Atlantic. Big Data has transformed everything from sports to politics to education. It could transform mental-health treatment, too—if only psychologists would stop ignoring it. https://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2017/04/what-your-therapist-doesnt-know/517797/?utm_source=nl-atlantic-daily-041217
- **“Can Big Data Make Therapy Work Better.”** The Atlantic. Readers join Tony Rousmaniere in discussing the possibilities and practical questions raised in his story, “What Your Therapist Doesn’t Know,” on how a data-driven approach to therapy could help patients get better results. <https://www.theatlantic.com/notes/2017/04/logistics-of-fit/522729/>
- **“Organizations Step Up to Support Mental Health Services in Concord.”** Wicked Local, Concord. Concord partnered with the WJC INTERFACE Referral Service in 2013 to service 228 families since its launch. <http://concord.wickedlocal.com/news/20170409/organizations-step-up-to-support-mental-health-services-in-concord>
- **“When Hate Leads to Depression.”** NY Times. <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/04/17/opinion/when-hate-leads-to-depression.html?rref=collection%2Ftimestopic%2FMental%20Health%20and%20Disorders>
- **“Franklin Schools Exploring ‘Social-Emotional Learning’ Partnership.”** The Metrowest Daily News. “What we see more and more is that we have to have high-quality, standards-based instruction, but equally important is the kids’ readiness to receive that instruction,” said Franklin Public Schools Assistant Superintendent, Peter Light of the recent partnership with William James College to further students’ social-emotional learning. <http://www.metrowestdailynews.com/news/20170402/franklin-schools-exploring-social-emotional-learning-partnership>
- **“Making Primary Care Trans-Friendly.”** The Atlantic. “Although transgender populations have high rates of HIV, mental illness, smoking, and drug and alcohol abuse, nearly a quarter of transgender people report having avoided seeking health care in the past year due to fear of mistreatment.” https://www.theatlantic.com/health/archive/2017/04/trans-medicine/523731/?utm_source=nl-atlantic-weekly-042117
- **“Donald Trump: Islamophobic incidents at US borders ‘rise by 1,000%’ since president took office.”** The Independent. Based upon preliminary data gathered by The Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR). <http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/americas/donald-trump-islamophobia-us-borders-and-council-on-american-islamic-relations-a7702351.html>

Upcoming Events & Conferences

- April 25-May 30: **Women of Color Interpersonal Group**. Empowering women by affirming identity, asserting voice, and engaging in self care. This group will explore strategies to build resiliency and cope with life's stressors. Group size is limited and pre-registration is required. Contact Dr. Charmain Jackman at (617)-803-2417, charmain.jackman@gmail.com, or visit www.DrCharmainJackman.com
- May 1: Deadline for Call for Proposals: **2018 NAAAP National Leadership Academy and ERG Leadership Symposium**. Contact cyndy.yu-robinson@naaap.org. More information at <https://academy.naaap.org/>
- May 6: **Doors Unhinged: An Exhibition of Untold Native Womens Stories**. The North American Indian Center of Boston. 5pm. <https://doorsunhinged.eventbrite.com>
- May 8-9: **Transformative Opportunities for Solving the Grand Challenges in Global Mental Health**. Bethesda, MD. National Institute of Mental Health and Grand Challenges Canada. <https://www.nimh.nih.gov/research-priorities/scientific-meetings/2017/grand-challenges/index.shtml>
- May 10: **Spinning Threads of Hope: Preventing Suicide in Asian Communities**. Eighth Annual Asian American Mental Health Forum. 9am-3pm. Higgins University Center, Clark University. <http://sampan.org/2017/02/asian-american-mental-health-forum-on-may-10/>
- May 12: **Submission Deadline—2017 NAIS People of Color Conference**, “Voices for Equity and Justice Now and in Every Generation: Lead, Learn, Rededicate, and Deliver”. Nov 30-Dec 12 in Anaheim, CA. https://nais-pocc.secure-platform.com/a?_cldee=bGdyZWZmaXR0QGFuZG92ZXluZWV1&recipientid=contact-77e7382936f9e111892400505683000d-63028d0527634fa4bd76648982654f97&esid=2d4f0fdd-aa02-e711-b7c2-005056bf0011
- May 15: **Deadline for Call for Proposals: 75th Annual Conference of the International Council of Psychologists**. “Psychology’s Contribution to People, the Planet, and the World,” July 28-30, 2017, Dyson College Center for Global Psychology, New York City. Submit proposals at https://pace.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_cJadyfsGY3kO4Wp
- May 16: **Understanding the Mental Health needs of Haitian Immigrants: Culturally-Sensitive Strategies for Health Care Providers**. Workshop, 4pm-7pm at WJC. Sponsored by CMGMH. https://netforum.avectra.com/eWeb/DynamicPage.aspx?Site=MSPP&WebCode=EventDetail&evt_key=8c3af885-352d-45a0-a009-a070609a4a55
- May 20: **Re-Envisioning the Brilliance of Boys of Color: Inspiring Professionals Dedicated to Empowering the Social-Emotional and Academic Development of Our Youth**. 8:30am-4:30pm at WJC. Conference sponsored by CMGMH, the Concentration in Children and Families of Adversity and Resilience, the Department of Community Engagement, and the School Psychology Department at William James College. https://netforum.avectra.com/eWeb/DynamicPage.aspx?Site=MSPP&WebCode=EventDetail&evt_key=faa94f7e-4c8b-4d27-90d3-f2bf945ba1bb
- May 28: **YoFestival**. Youth and Family Enrichment Service’s annual event showcasing Haitian culture is celebrated this year on Haitian Mother's Day. www.yofes.org/yofestival/
- June 7: **The Hispanic Neuropsychological Society’s Cultural Neuropsychology Summit**. 9am-5pm. Boston. <https://hnps.org/the-cultural-neuropsychology-summit-2017/>
- June 10: **Boston Pride Parade**. WJC’s Rainbow Alliance and the Dean of Students Office have organized a group of students, faculty, and staff to march in this year’s parade. <http://www.bostonpride.org/parade/>
- June 22: **Center for Multicultural Training in Psychology (CMTp) 45th Annual Dinner**. 6pm-10pm. The Trustee Ballroom. For more information, contact Sarah McCoy at Sarah.McCoy@bmc.org. <http://www.cmmh-cmtp.org/cmtp.php>
- July 1-25: **The 2017 Summer Encampment Program for youth 15-18 years old** who want to become a part of a national and intergenerational community of social justice activists and leaders from across the country. Hampshire College, Amherst, MA. Application materials are now available online at <http://encampmentforcitizenship.org/what-we-do/how-to-apply.php>
- October 27-Nov 5: **Cuba APA International Learning Partner Program Trip**. <http://www.apa.org/international/outreach/learning-partner.aspx>