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For Immediate Release

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SUNO's Black History Month Festivities Run Feb. 2-28, 2012

NEW ORLEANS, LA -- Southern University at New Orleans (SUNO) celebrates Black History Month with a wide array of events, lectures, dance, films, poetry, exhibits, musical performances, dramatic presentations and many other exciting and educational events, Thursday, February 2 thru Tuesday, February 28, 2012 at various locations on both the Park and Lake Campuses. Highlights include this coming Thursday's keynote speech by Marjol Rush-Collet, curator for the Langston Hughes Family Museum, and the closing keynote speech by Tuskegee Airman Calvin Moret set for Tuesday, February 28th. All programs are open and free to the general public.

Organized by SUNO's Center for African and African American Studies in collaboration with several units on campus and the community, the celebration provides an opportunity to reflect on a crucial part of American history, culture and heritage. The University plans to use the occasion to examine the collective ingenuity and cultural experience of Africans and peoples of African descent.

"*Black Women in American Culture & History* is the national theme of this year's celebration. The theme represents a look back on the significant contributions African American women have made to our country's formation and the manner in which they continue to build on that," said Dr. Romanus Ejiaga, director of the Center for African and African American Studies. "Black History Month celebrates the diversity of America and brings campus and community groups together."

The schedule of events includes the following:

Thursday, February 2 Kick-Off Celebration
11:00 am - 2:00 pm: Opening performances by Voices of SUNO; Luther Gray/Bamboula 2000; and Chuck Perkins, Spoken Word Artist;

Keynote Speaker: Marjol Rush-Collet, Curator for the Langston Hughes Family Museum. Building 43, SUNO Lake Campus

Monday, February 6
11:00am - Lecture by- LaKisha Chapman, Motivational Speaker.
(Sponsored by Student Activities and Organizations). Student Center Conference Room (inside of SUNO Housing-Lake Campus)

Tuesday, February 7
11:00 am - 12:00 pm: Africana Film Series -"Imitation of Life", 1959, screen adaptation of Fannie Hurst's novel which examined race relations.

Wednesday, February 8
11:00 pm - 12:30 pm: Lecture Series - Dr. Antoinette Harrell "To Understand the Cultural and Historical Contributions of Black Women" (Coordinated by Dr. George Amedee, Building 43, SUNO Lake Campus

12:00 - 4:00pm Encouraging Entrepreneurship amongst HBCU Students: Push for Massive CBA/SUNO students participation in Mardi Gras Invitational Career Fair at Mercedes Benz Superdome. (Convener/Facilitator, Dr. Louis Mancuso, CBA)

Thursday, February 9
11:00am - 12:30pm: Lecture Series- "Distinguished Women of Achievement, Courage, and Pride". Dr. Michael Ralph, Director of Institutional Research and Strategic Planning. Building 43, SUNO Lake Campus

Monday, February 13
2:00 pm - 3:00 pm: Lecture Series -"African Americans in Biological Sciences & Contributions of SUNO Graduates". (Sponsored by Dr. Illya Tietzel) New Science Building Conference Room 306.

Tuesday, February 14
11:00 am - 12:30 pm: Lecture Series - Sheleen Jones-Adenle, "Using Sculpture to Capture Local Historical Figures". (Coordinated by Dr. George Amedee, Building 43 SUNO Lake Campus

Wednesday, February 15
11:00 am - 12:30 pm: Africana Film Series - "Lying Lips", 1939, Written by Osacar Micheaux. A murder mystery, Starring Edna Mae Harris and a host of African-American cast members. Building 43, SUNO Lake Campus

12:00pm: Encouraging Entrepreneurship amongst HBCU Students: Tour of Walmart Distribution Center in Robert, LA by CBA students. (Convener/Facilitator, Dr. Louis Mancuso, CBA)

Thursday, February 16

11:00am - 12:30pm: Africana Film Series - "Chloe", 1935, An early film about race, passing, and voodoo. The story of a young lady named Chloe, who has doubts about being black. Building 43, SUNO Lake Campus

Monday, February 27
11:00am-12:30pm: Panel Discussion- "Black Women Business Owners in New Orleans and Community Responsibility". Panelists: Vera Warren, (Community Book Store), and Zion Trinity, LLC - Queen Emporium. (Coordinated by Dr. George Amedee) Building 43, SUNO Lake Campus

Tuesday, February 28
9:30am - 10:30am: Lecture Series "Undergraduate Voices Speaking Out: Gender and Black History" (Sponsored by Dr. Lora Helvie-Mason). Brown Building, Room 309

11:00am-2:00pm: Closing Program: Performances by Voices of SUNO; African Attire Fashion Show (Coordinated by Mrs. Josephine Okoronkwo, Director, Student Development Center). Building 43, SUNO Lake Campus
Keynote Speaker: Mr. Calvin Moret, Member of the Famed World War II Tuskegee Airmen.

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