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Summary: “Diversity and Civility—Will it Happen in Our Generation?” will be the focus of the 34th annual World Touch Cultural Heritage Week (WTCHW), March 19-24, at the University of Minnesota, Morris. A variety of events will be sponsored by the Multi-Ethnic Student Program at UMM. The week promotes awareness and educates the community regarding local and world diversity.

(February 19, 2007)-“Diversity and Civility—Will it Happen in Our Generation?” will be the focus of the 34th annual World Touch Cultural Heritage Week (WTCHW), March 19-24, at the University of Minnesota, Morris. A variety of events will be sponsored by the Multi-Ethnic Student Program at UMM. The week promotes awareness and educates the community regarding local and world diversity.

The film, “Looking for Comedy in the Muslim World,” will kick off the week’s events at 7:30 p.m. Monday, March 19, in Edson Auditorium. This event is co-sponsored by the Campus Activities Council Films Committee, the speech communication discipline, Humanities Division, Mary Elizabeth Bezanson, Campus of Difference and the Speech Club. A discussion in the Alumni Room, with refreshments, will follow the movie.

The keynote address, "Not Everything is Black and White," featuring the cast of the television program, "Black. White." will be given at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 20, in Edson Auditorium. A reception in the Alumni Room will follow the presentation, which is co-sponsored by the Black Student Union.

Lalo Alcaraz will speak at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 21, in Edson Auditorium. Alcaraz is the creator of the nationally syndicated and politically charged Latino comic strip "La Cucaracha," featured daily in the *Los Angeles Times, Denver Post, Houston Chronicle, Chicago Sun-Times* and 62 other major newspapers. Alcaraz’s presentation is co-sponsored by the United Latinos. A reception will follow in the Alumni Room.

The 24th annual Circle of Nations Indian Association (CNIA) 3K Peace Run will be held on Thursday, March 22. All members of the community are welcome to participate and may sign up until the time the run begins at 3 p.m. in front of the Multi-Ethnic Resource Center on the campus Mall. A participation fee of three dollars is requested. Those who finish the course will receive a T-shirt. About 100 people have traditionally participated. The Peace Run will begin with a prayer of peace in front of the Multi-ethnic Resource Center, located on the campus mall.

Also on Thursday, Grammy Award winner, Bill Miller, will perform at 7:30 p.m. in Edson Auditorium. Miller won a Grammy Award in 2005 for Best Native American Music Album. A Mohican Indian from northern Wisconsin, Miller has long been one of the most admired figures in the Native American music arena and beyond. A reception will follow.
this event, which is co-sponsored by CNIA.

The annual Invitational Ethnic Dinner will begin at 5:30 p.m. Friday, March 23, in Oyate Hall. The menu will feature an emphasis on African American food. About 200 guests attend the dinner each year. This year's dinner, which will honor Multi-Ethnic Student Program graduates, is co-sponsored by the Black Student Union.

The dinner will be followed by a dance group performance by Hmong dance from the Haiv Hmoob Dance Studio, hosted by the Asian Student Association. A reception in the Alumni Room will follow the performance, which begins at 7:30 p.m. in Edson Auditorium.

The 23rd annual Pow-Wow on Saturday, March 24, will culminate the week’s events. Wahpeton Vietnam Veterans will lead the Grand Entries at 1 p.m. and 6 p.m. in the Physical Education Center gymnasium. This event is hosted by CNIA.

Photo: Bill Miller

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