



METROPOLITAN
Community College



8th annual Diversity Matters Film and Lecture Series 2013-2014

Lecture:

One Man's Journey to Africa, the Middle East and Caribbean

D'Andra Orey, Ph.D. professor of political science at Jackson State University, Jackson, Miss.

Orey shares his research and teaching experience in global education, having led students to Ghana, West Africa, and Haiti and served as a Palestinian American Research Fellow. Prior to coming to Jackson State, he taught at the University of Mississippi (1999–2001) and the University of Nebraska–Lincoln (2001–2008). In 2011, Orey was recognized as Jackson State University's Teacher of the Year and was nominated for the statewide honor of Teacher of the Year. He also is the recipient of the 2011 Jewel Limar Prestage Mentorship Award and the 2008 Julia Cooper Teaching Award, both presented by the National Conference of Black Political Scientists. He has conducted lectures at St. Anne's College at Oxford University (Oxford, England); Emory University; Winneba University in Ghana, Africa; Yale University; and Spelman College. He has published more than 20 scholarly articles and book chapters.

Thursday, Sept. 12
6:15–7:30 p.m.

Fort Omaha Campus, 30th and Fort streets
Building 22, Swanson Conference Center, Room 201B

Lecture:

Enrique's Journey: The Face of Americas Newest Immigrants

Sonia Nazario, author of "Enrique's Journey"

Migrants used to go primarily to just six states in the U.S., but in recent years, they have fanned out to all parts of the country, and Nebraska has become a prime destination. Today, as Congress debates what to do about illegal immigration, 3 percent of all Nebraskans are undocumented immigrants. So who are these new neighbors? In many instances, they are women — single mothers — who have come from Mexico and Central America and left their children behind. Nazario discusses why these women migrate and the dangerous modern-day odyssey their children go on in search of them after not seeing their mothers for many years. Many children travel through Mexico on top of freight trains, braving gangsters, bandits and corrupt cops. Nazario describes the journey of these children and her own travels with children for three months in Mexico that informed her book and changed her view of immigrants. She discusses the immigration issue and why current solutions proposed by both the left and right will not work. During her talk, see photos of children making the journey on what's called the Train of Death.

Thursday, Sept. 19
7–8:15 p.m.

South Omaha Campus, 27th and Q streets
Industrial Training Center, Room 120

Lecture:

A Native American Experience

Garan Coons, Oglala Lakota and Navajo



NEBRASKA ARTS COUNCIL

Coons, a professional Native American dancer, singer, flute player and storyteller, demonstrates authentic traditional Native American culture using exquisite regalia and defined dance moves. Founder of the The Many Moccasins Dance Troupe, Coons tours extensively throughout the region, offering an educational experience appropriate for all ages. He specializes in the art of Fancy Feather dancing and Traditional Prairie Chicken dancing, both allowing him to bring history and tradition to life. His presentation includes traditional Native American dancing, narration of dances, storytelling and flute playing.

Friday, Sept. 27
10:30–11:30 a.m.

South Omaha Campus, 27th and Q streets
Industrial Training Center, Room 120

Video:

"When We Stop Counting"

It is in our best interest to educate all children. But what happens when a small town's school system suddenly becomes 50 percent minority? Crete Public Schools in Crete, Neb., has an answer. Administration, faculty and scholars examine how schools serve both students and the community, while students themselves record their own footage of experiences at school, home, work and play. "When We Stop Counting" humanizes the issues of education, immigration and, most important, our future. Follow six Hispanic high school students in Crete, living their personal struggles and triumphs while bearing the pressure of their parents' backbreaking sacrifice in hopes of achieving the American dream. Representatives from Crete Public Schools will introduce the video and lead a post-film discussion.

Wednesday, Oct. 9
10:30–11:50 a.m.

Elkhorn Valley Campus, 204th and W. Dodge Road
Room 114

For more information:

bvelazquez@mccneb.edu or 402-457-2253
mccneb.edu/intercultural

Performance:

"The Story of the Orphan Train"

Pippa White, One's Company

White's part theatre, part storytelling, part history performance recounts ambitious and controversial efforts to rescue 200,000+ orphans in New York from 1854 to 1929. Fending for themselves on the streets, homeless children were given a chance for a new life in America's heartland by riding the orphan train. White's performance makes the orphans come to life as she shares a heartrending and forgotten part of U.S. history.

Tuesday, Dec. 17
12:10–1:45 p.m.

Elkhorn Valley Campus, 204th and W. Dodge Road
Room 114

Video:

"The Quilts of Gee's Bend"

Over two centuries, a distinctively bold and sophisticated patchwork quilting style was developed by the women of Gee's Bend — a small, rural community southwest of Selma, Ala. Set in the quiltmakers' homes and yards and told through the women's voices, this music-filled documentary takes viewers inside the art and fascinating living history of a uniquely American community and art form. Each quiltmaker brings her unique personality to the community tradition, an innovative approach to a quintessentially American art form — the quilt — made possible by three heritages — African, Native American and European. The women of Gee's Bend have passed their skills and style down through at least six generations, from the 19th century to the present. "The Quilts of Gee's Bend" documentary accompanies the major exhibitions of Gee's Bend quilts.

Thursday, March 20
6:30–8 p.m.

Fort Omaha Campus, 30th and Fort streets
Building 22, Swanson Conference Center, Room 201

Video:

"Desert Flower"

"Desert Flower" is the autobiography of a Somalian nomad who was circumcised at 3, sold into marriage at 13 and who fled from Africa later to become an American supermodel. Now at the age of 38, she is the UN spokeswoman against female genital mutilation. Her story has touched the hearts of millions. Waris Dirie's book "Desert Flower," which recounts her incredible journey from an African nomad to an international top model, became a worldwide best seller with more than 11 million copies sold. This is the inspiring story of an extraordinary, proud and brave woman. Director and screenwriter Sherry Hormann and producer and Oscar-winner Peter Herrmann have adapted Dirie's autobiography for the screen: a modern fairy tale of dazzling glamour and archaic rituals full of vitality, emotional depth and enormous compassion. *Caution: The film is rated R.*

Thursday, March 27
10:15–11:45 a.m.

Elkhorn Valley Campus, 204th and W. Dodge Road
Room 114

Lecture:

Immigration Information Session

Charles Pratt, community relations officer, United States Citizenship and Immigration Service

After the 2012 elections, it seemed there was one issue that could unite Republicans and Democrats: reforming our nation's broken immigration system so that more people, like many of our ancestors, could live the American Dream. Pratt shares information on the latest stages of immigration reform or lack thereof. Join him for an open Q&A meeting and discussion on immigration with an immigration specialist. Learn about work opportunities, getting a green card, citizenship, deferred action for young adults and other important issues related to U.S. immigration services.

Friday, March 28
11 a.m.–noon

South Omaha Campus, 27th and Q streets
Industrial Training Center, Room 120

Video:

"Sick Around the World"

In the film version of the book "The Healing of America," first broadcast on PBS Frontline, correspondent T.R. Reid travels to Britain, Germany, Switzerland, Japan and Taiwan to study the different models of health care delivery. The film shows that universal coverage does not have to mean socialized medicine. Three of the countries in the movie — Germany, Switzerland and Japan — provide health care for everybody at reasonable cost using private doctors, hospitals and insurance.

Wednesday, April 2
2:30–3:45 p.m.

Elkhorn Valley Campus, 204th and W. Dodge Road
Room 114

Free and open to the public.



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