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# 10th annual Francophone Film Festival to take place on Armstrong Campus Feb. 22-23

JANUARY 23, 2018



The community is encouraged to attend the 10th annual Francophone Film Festival Feb. 22-23 on the Georgia Southern University Armstrong Campus in Savannah.

The Armstrong French Club started this event in the spring of 2008 thanks to a grant provided by the French Embassy and the [Tournées Festival](#), which aims to bring French cinema to American institutions.

“We read about the Tournées Festival grant over 10 years ago and wanted to spread our love for the French-speaking world: the different cultures, the different countries, the different accents,” said Director for the Office of International Programs and Services for the Armstrong Campus Dorothee Mertz-Weigel, Ph.D. “We wanted to make sure that people knew French was spoken outside of France, and that French speakers are on all five continents. We also wanted anyone who wanted to watch a more current French-speaking film to be able to do so, for free, because culture and the wish to travel to another country for the time of a film should be available to anyone, especially on a university campus.”

The festival will feature five films in French with English subtitles. This year, the films will be shown over the course of two days and include two matinees so students from local schools can attend.

"The festival has grown in the last 10 years and is an event that is now expected in the Savannah community," said Mertz-Weigel. "It has been attended by past Armstrong presidents, by the Honorary Consul for France and Germany (Denis Blackburne), the French community of Savannah, as well as local French teachers and their students, among many others."

The following films will be shown at the Ogeechee Theatre on the Armstrong Campus:

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#### Thursday, Feb. 22

- **"Ma Vie de Courgette" / "My Life as a Zucchini" | 1 p.m. (70 minutes)**

Directed by Claude Barras, "Ma Vie de Courgette" swept last year's European film festivals and was nominated for an Oscar for Best Animated Film. The poignant 2016 Swiss-French adult animated comedy-drama follows a police officer and a group of friends, as they help an orphan adjust to life at a foster home. *The New York Times* calls it "a bittersweet celebration of friendship and empathy."

- **"Frontières" / "Borders" by Fabio Meira | 6 p.m. (90 minutes)**

In this 2017 film, four women from different regions develop friendships during a bus journey across West Africa and face the universal challenge of being independent women.

#### Friday, Feb. 23

- **"Un monstre à Paris" / "A Monster in Paris" | 10 a.m. (85 minutes)**

This 3-D animated fantasy set in 1910 in Paris chronicles the adventures of Raoul and Emile after they accidentally let a monster loose from a scientist's garden. This charming period comedy is directed by veteran animator Bibo Bergeron, who co-directed the DreamWorks features "Shark Tale" and "The Road to El Dorado," and stars French actress Vanessa Paradis.

- **"The Banane" / "The Big Banana" | 6 p.m. (85 minutes)**

An expose on the poor working conditions on banana plantations amid corporate profits in Cameroon, "The Big Banana" was banned in the Central African nation following its release in 2011.

- **"Louise en Hiver" / "Louise by the Shore" | 8 p.m. (75 minutes)**

In this 2016 French animated drama, an elderly woman must find a way to survive at a seaside resort alone during a bad storm, confronting her memories and the harsh elements surrounding her. Nominated for Best Animated Feature Film at the European Film Awards, *The Hollywood Reporter* calls it "endearing" and "directed with hand-drawn affection" by Jean-François Laguionie.

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The Armstrong French Club, the Department of Languages, Literature and Philosophy, the Office of International Education and the College of Liberal Arts are sponsoring the event. The event is free and open to the public.

*Georgia Southern University, a public Carnegie Doctoral/Research institution founded in 1906, offers 142 degree programs serving more than 27,000 students through nine colleges on three campuses in Savannah, Statesboro, Hinesville and online instruction. A leader in higher education in southeast Georgia, the University provides a diverse student population with expert faculty, world-class scholarship and hands-on learning opportunities. Georgia Southern creates lifelong learners who serve as responsible scholars, leaders and stewards in their communities. Visit [GeorgiaSouthern.edu](http://GeorgiaSouthern.edu)*

# Georgia Southern University hosts 47th annual High School Model United Nations Conference

JANUARY 23, 2018



## Model United Nations

## High School

January 22, 2018 – Georgia Southern University’s Department of Political Science and Division of Continuing Education will host the 47th annual High School Model United Nations (UN) Conference in the Nessmith-Lane Center in Statesboro on Feb. 1-3.

This year’s conference will bring more than 450 high school students from 21 schools throughout Georgia, South Carolina and Florida to the Statesboro Campus. The student delegates will feature simulations of the UN General Assembly, the UN Security Council, the African Union, the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and the Human Rights Council. The delegates will caucus, debate world issues and write resolutions during the program.

“As director of Georgia Southern’s Model UN program for more than 20 years, I have yet to find a better conduit for teaching students the skills of writing, research and public speaking,” said Political Science Professor Barry J. Balleck, Ph.D. “In addition, Model UN builds leadership skills in students and sharpens their awareness of the global issues that will be part of their lives for many years to come.”

Georgia Southern’s Model UN program was designated as one of the 2015-16 World’s Best International University Model UN Teams by the Model UN Institute and has been awarded with outstanding distinction for nine of the last 10 years at the National Model UN Conference in New York City.

Founded in 1972, the Georgia Southern Model UN program is one of the oldest and most continuous programs of its kind in the United States.

To learn more about the 47th annual High School Model UN Conference, visit <http://academics.georgiasouthern.edu/ce/programs/mun/hs/>

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# Georgia Southern University celebrates Black Heritage Month

JANUARY 23, 2018



Georgia Southern University's Office of Multicultural Affairs is pleased to announce the schedule for the 2018 Black Heritage Month celebration, featuring a series of lectures, panel discussions, performances and more.

Most events will take place on the Statesboro, Armstrong and Liberty campuses and are free and open to the public. Highlighted events include:

**Wednesday, Jan. 24, 7 p.m.**

**Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration featuring speaker Bakari Sellers**

**Statesboro Campus: Performing Arts Center**

**\*There will be a live simulcast at the Ogeechee Theatre on the Armstrong Campus in Savannah**

Celebrated civil rights activist, attorney and political commentator Bakari Sellers will serve as the speaker for this year's Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration. In 2006, he became the youngest African-American elected official in the country and went on to win the 2014 Democratic nomination for Lt. Governor in South Carolina. A regular contributor to CNN, Sellers was named to *TIME* magazine's "40 Under 40" list in 2010 and ranked in "The Root 100" list of the nation's most influential African-Americans in 2014.

**Tuesday, Jan. 30, 6 p.m.**

**Film Showing: "Selma"**

**Armstrong Campus: Ogeechee Theatre**

"Selma" chronicles the tumultuous three-month period in 1965 when Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. led a dangerous campaign to secure equal voting rights in the face of violent opposition. The epic march from Selma to Montgomery culminated in President Lyndon Johnson signing the Voting Rights Act of 1965, one of the most significant victories

for the civil rights movement. This film tells the real story of how the revered leader and visionary, along with his brothers and sisters in the movement, prompted change that forever altered history.

**Wednesday, Jan. 31, 6:30 p.m.**

**Political Action Town Hall: Two Teams, One Anthem**

**Armstrong Campus: University Hall 158**

In correlation to Colin Kaepernick's issues, engage in a panel discussion on how athletic teams are affected by kneeling during the National Anthem.

**Tuesday, Feb. 6, 7 p.m.**

**Hip-Hop Lecture**

**Armstrong Campus: Fine Arts 206**

Facilitated by Assistant Professor of Music Russell Brown, Ph.D., this lecture will dive into understanding the history and influences of urban music in American culture.

**Thursday, Feb. 15, 2 p.m.**

**Poets Respond to Race**

**Statesboro Campus: Russell Union 2080**

Following the string of shootings of unarmed black men, the Charleston 9 and the removal of the confederate flag from the South Carolina State House, poets and authors Al Black and Len Lawson united in an effort to address race in America. Together, they hold poetry readings and open forums on race and diversity to engage audiences in tough conversations that can change communities in the South.

**Thursday, Feb. 15, 7 p.m.**

**Golden Age of Harlem**

**Armstrong Campus: Student Union – Savannah Ballroom**

Join Georgia Southern for a night of music, food and fun as the Black Heritage Month celebration continues with a revival of the "Golden Age of Harlem" and its lasting influence of jazz music and culture.

**Tuesday, Feb. 20, 12:15 p.m.**

**Brown Bag Series Lecture: Post-Racial America**

**Liberty Campus: Room 108**

The United States has had a qualified black man leading the nation as president. This proves that race doesn't matter and that we live in a post-racial America—or does it? Is the status of a post-racial America a fact or a myth? Join Criminal Justice Professor Maxine Bryant, Ph.D., in a humorous, yet thought-provoking discussion on this controversial phenomena.

**Thursday, Feb. 22, 7 p.m.**

**Martin Luther King Jr. Awards Dinner**

**Armstrong Campus: Student Union – Savannah Ballroom**

The Martin Luther King Jr. Awards Dinner celebrates students, faculty, staff and community leaders who have contributed efforts and resources to advancing the University's Pan African-American student population.

**Tuesday, Feb. 27, 6 p.m.**

**Step Afrika! Performance**

**Statesboro Campus: Performing Arts Center**

Step Afrika! was founded in 1994 as the first professional company dedicated to the tradition of stepping and now ranks as one of the top 10 African-American dance companies in the U.S. The company blends percussive dance styles practiced by historically African-American fraternities and sororities, African traditional dance and influences from a variety of other dance and art forms, integrating songs, storytelling, humor and audience participation.

For more information on the 2018 Black Heritage Month celebration, please contact the Office of Multicultural Affairs at [msc@georgiasouthern.edu](mailto:msc@georgiasouthern.edu) or 912-478-5409.

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