



March Events

All programs start at 3 p.m. and are free!

Wednesday, March 2

The Air We Breathe

A fun and educational science show about gasses brought to you by the folks at Sci-Enza

Wednesday, March 9

Historically Black Universities and Colleges

An interesting panel discussion about the role of black colleges and universities in the U.S.

Wednesday, March 16

Mae Jemison U.S. Science Reading Room opens late at 3:30: no program.

Friday, March 18

Fossil Casting Exhibit & Program

Brought to you by Ifa Lethu and fossil casters from Wits University

Wednesday, March 23

Hip-Hop Dance class with Heal the Hood

Wednesday, March 30

"Women in Science"

Digital video conference with Paris-based Dr. Monique Wells.

Statistics

January

166 books checked out

741 visitors

February

294 books checked out

1668 visitors

Celebrating Women!

March 8, 2011 marks the 100th anniversary of International Women's Day

"This year's observance of International Women's Day focuses on equal access to education, training and science and technology. Cell phones and the Internet, for example, can enable women to improve the health and well-being of their families, take advantage of income-earning opportunities, and protect themselves from exploitation and vulnerability....Only through women's full and equal participation in all areas of public and private life can we hope to achieve the sustainable, peaceful and just society promised in the United Nations Charter." -- Ban Ki-moon, United Nations Secretary-General.

http://www.un.org/en/events/women/iwd/2011/sq_message_2011.shtml

<http://www.un.org/womenwatch/feature/iwd/index.html>



March is also Women's History Month

2011 Theme: Our History is Our Strength

"The stories of women's achievements are integral to the fabric of our history. Learning about women's tenacity, courage, and creativity throughout the centuries is a tremendous source of strength. Until relatively recently, this sphere of women's history was overlooked and undervalued. Women's achievements were often distorted, disdained, and denied. But, knowing women's stories provides essential role models for everyone. And role models are genuinely needed to face the extraordinary changes and unrelenting challenges of the 21st century." -- National Women's History Project

<http://www.nwhp.org/whm/index.php>

<http://www.womenshistorymonth.gov/>

Join Mae J in celebrating Women's History Month with Dr. Monique Wells on Wednesday March 30. Dr. Wells will speak about her love of science, her pursuit of science as a career, and the self-imposed and external difficulties that she experienced along the way.

The Water We Drink

On Feb. 16, 2011, Prof. Aaron Wolf (*photo, right*) of the Department of Geosciences at Oregon State University discussed the global water crisis with over 100 Mae J students in his talk "Shared Waters: Conflict, Cooperation, and Climate."

Through activities and games, Prof. Wolf showed the students that water conflict resolution is possible if all parties cooperate by focusing on interests and values and, above all, listening to one another. "If we fight," said Prof. Wolf, "both parties get hurt."



Read about Women in Science

M 608.996073 SUL

African American women scientists and inventors / Otha Richard Sullivan ; Jim Haskins, general editor.

M 609.2273 CAM

American women inventors / Carole Ann Camp.

MR 509.2273 WAY

American women of science since 1900 / Tiffany K. Wayne.



The Air We Breathe



Sparks flew and concoctions bubbled on March 2, 2011, when 110 Mae J students attended "The Air We Breathe," an engaging science program developed by Sci-Enza, the University of Pretoria's science learning center.

The students joined the Sci-Enza team -- Kagiso Matshika, Vusani Mathada and Paballo Bapela -- to explore the compelling question, "What is air?" They observed chemical reactions that produce the components of air: ozone, carbon dioxide and nitrogen.

African American Achievements in Science

In 1881 Lewis Howard Latimer received a patent for an improved method for the production of carbon filaments used in lightbulbs. In the first half of the 20th century, George Washington Carver made breakthroughs with peanuts, cosmetics, soybeans, and sweet potatoes. These and other African American scientists were highlighted in a talk on February 11 to 120 members by American Officers Stafford Ward and Paul Pavwoski.

The "Neo-African Americans"

On February 23, 120 Mae J members joined U.S. Embassy Officers Heidi Servin-Baez and Kris Brown to view Kobina Aidoo's documentary "The Neo-African Americans," a look at voluntary immigration from Africa and the Caribbean to the U.S. Afterwards there was a lively discussion on how cultural identity often resists predictable notions about race and how the cultures and contributions of immigrants can enrich a country's culture.