

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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LeMoyne-Owen College's Harambee Festival Wraps up African American History Month

The community is invited to come out and enjoy motivational speakers, music and dance.

MEMPHIS, TN (Feb. 21, 2012) LeMoyne-Owen College wraps up a month-long celebration of African American History Month with its 2nd Annual Community Harambee Festival **Saturday, Feb. 25, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.** in the Bruce Hall gymnasium, 807 Walker Ave. Registration begins at 9 a.m.

LeMoyne-Owen College faculty, staff, students and special guests will perform, inspire and educate. The classically trained members of the LeMoyne-Owen College Concert Choir will sing, LOC director of Student Services Ethan Zagore will perform spoken word, and Dr. Katherine Causey, chair of the College's Business and Economic Development Division, will present financial literacy information that focuses on how to identify and avoid predatory lenders.

The festival also will feature dance performances, a marketplace of hand-crafted items and displays on science and health and international issues.

Dr. Femi Ajanaku, director of LeMoyne-Owen's Center for African and African American Studies, says this event is designed with families in mind. "Harambee" means pulling together in Kiswahili and has become a word that connects African and African American history, culture, and hope for a productive future," Dr. Ajanaku said.

"This festival is not only a celebration of African and African American culture, but also a forum for dialogue on current issues and other activities that will become the history of the future," she added.

The Harambee Festival is free and open to the public. For more information, contact Dr. Femi Ajanaku at (901) 435-1427 or Dr. Bobbie Shaw-Hunter at (901) 435-1282.

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The American Missionary Association founded The LeMoyne-Owen College in 1862 to educate freedmen and runaway slaves at the Union Army's Camp Shiloh in Shiloh, Tennessee. The school relocated to Memphis a year later, but was destroyed during race riots in 1866. Lincoln Chapel, as the school was then known, was rebuilt and reopened in 1867 with 150 students and six teachers. Lincoln Chapel was renamed LeMoyne Normal and Commercial School in honor of benefactor, physician and abolitionist Dr. Francis Julian LeMoyne and was relocated to its current site at 807 Walker Ave. in 1914. After more than 50 years of steady growth, LeMoyne merged with Owen College in 1968. Today, The LeMoyne-Owen College has a student body of more than 1,000 students and offers 4-year degrees in five disciplines: Business and Economic Development; Education; Fine Arts and Humanities; Natural and Mathematical Sciences; and, Social and Behavioral and Sciences.

2ND ANNUAL HARAMBEE FESTIVAL

ACTIVITY SCHEDULE

Saturday, February 25, 2012: 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

The following activities are scheduled (subject to change):

Time	Event
9:00am	Registration
10:00am	<u>Opening</u> - Black National Anthem – Lee Johnson, Jr. LOC Student and Mr. United Negro College Fund
	<u>Welcome</u> (Dr. Ajanaku)
10:15am	Dr. Ralph Calhoun (<i>Music</i>) Someday We will Be Free
10:30am	<i>Spoken Word</i> - Mr. Ethan Zagore
10:45am	Cathedral of Hope (Pastor Nehemiah Kennedy – <i>Spoken Word & Praise Dance Team</i>)
11:00am	LOC Concert Choir (<i>Music</i>)
11:15am	
11:30am	Mr. Michael Warren (Senior, Special Education Major) <i>Spoken Word</i>
12:00noon	Praise Team (<i>Dance</i>)
12:15pm	Mr. Urebe Uakara <i>Spoken Word</i> on Umoja
12:30pm	Dr. Katherine Causey - Financial Literacy <i>Spoken Word</i>
12:45pm	
1:00pm	LOC Gold Dance Troop
1:15pm	
1:30pm	Earnest Breedlove (Education Major) – Interpretation (The Creation)
1:45pm	
2:00pm	Closure
10:00am - 2:00pm	Health Screenings Community Health Center Cummings Elementary School African American Exhibit Concessions Stand – LOC Non-Profit Leadership Students