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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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BRISTOL COMMUNITY COLLEGE TO HOST FREE BLACK HISTORY MONTH EVENTS BEGINNING FEBRUARY 1

In celebration of the cultures, traditions, and achievements of African Americans throughout history, Bristol Community College will be hosting several Black History Month events throughout February, 2018.

All events are FREE and open to the public.

Opening Ceremony

Thursday, February 1, 12 noon, Commonwealth College Center (G-Building) Lobby, BCC Fall River campus, 777 Elsbree St.

Sidy Maïga's group, AfriManding will perform on stage for attendees. There will also be the raising of the Pan-African flag and a taste of authentic African-American food in the cafeteria.

Poet and Hip Hop Artist Kane Smego

Tuesday, February 6, 11 a.m., Jackson Art Center (H-Building) Auditorium, BCC Fall River campus, 777 Elsbree St.

Kane Smego is an international touring spoken word poet and hip-hop artist as well as a cultural diplomat. His performance and lecture uses poetry, storytelling, acting hip-hop verse to explore issues of race, whiteness, language and hip-hop as a tool for community building. Mr. Smego has traveled throughout the world as well as being a recording artist and an educator at a number of colleges and universities.

Rosalyn Elder, author of African-American Heritage in Massachusetts: Exploring the

Legacy

Thursday, February 15, 11 a.m., New Bedford Whaling Museum

Rosalyn Elder will discuss the many contributions of African-Americans to both the Commonwealth's history as well as that of the country. There are 742 sites in 141 towns that reflect African--American contributions. Ms. Elder will illustrate how some of these sites were involved in the persistent struggle for civil rights Justice, the defiance to slavery, the fight for access to education and the fight for employment fairness as well as exemplary military service.

Jordan Seaberry, Director of Public Policy and Advocacy, Institute for the Study and Practice of Nonviolence, Providence, R.I.

Tuesday, February 27, at 11 a.m., BCC Attleboro campus auditorium, 11 Field Road &

Wednesday, February 28, at 11 a.m., room H209, Jackson Arts Center (H-Building), BCC Fall River campus, 777 Elsbree St.

Jordan Seabury will discuss the importance of the philosophy and practice of nonviolence as practiced by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and others as way of combating discrimination and other social ills. His talk will look at nonviolence and direct action from an historical perspective as well.

About Bristol Community College

Bristol Community College is a leading resource for education and workforce development in Southeastern Massachusetts. BCC has locations in Fall River, Attleboro, New Bedford, and Taunton, along with flexible online offerings that lead to an associate degree, a career-ready certificate, or the ability to seamlessly transfer to baccalaureate colleges throughout the state and country.

The College's Center for Workforce and Community Education provides customized training for businesses and the community including healthcare, workforce and sustainable initiatives, corporate services, and Kids College.

The BCC Foundation, a non-profit organization utilizing community donations and partnerships, supports the College's mission to meet the lifelong educational needs of the community. For more information, visit <http://www.bristolcc.edu/aboutbcc/>.