

published: Thursday, February 18, 2010

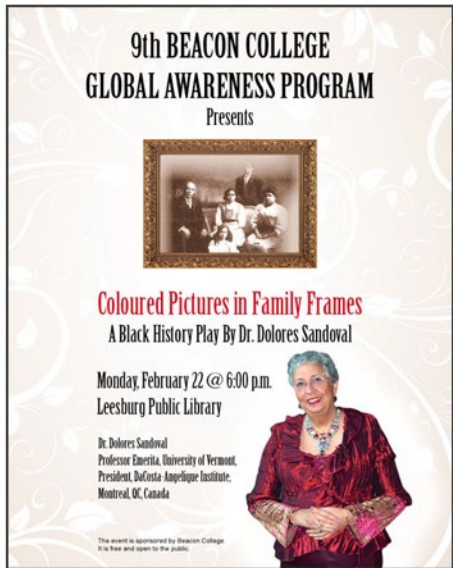
One-woman play to celebrate cultural diversity at Beacon College

LARRY ELL


Staff Writer

LEESBURG—One woman's genealogical exploration across three centuries and multiple cultures will play out on a stage in Leesburg. As part of its Global Awareness Program, Beacon College, along with the Leesburg Public Library, will host Dr. Dolores Sandoval's "Coloured Pictures in Family Frames" Monday, Feb. 22 at 6:00 p.m. at the library.

Sandoval wrote the biographical, one-woman play as a way to discover her ancestry and how it shaped who she is.




9th BEACON COLLEGE
GLOBAL AWARENESS PROGRAM
Presents



Coloured Pictures in Family Frames
A Black History Play By Dr. Dolores Sandoval

Monday, February 22 @ 6:00 p.m.
Leesburg Public Library

Dr. Dolores Sandoval
Professor Emerita, University of Vermont,
President, DuKesa-Angelique Institute,
Montreal, QC, Canada



The event is sponsored by Beacon College
It is free and open to the public.

"By the time I was born, all my grandparents had all died, so as a child I was so curious about their life stories," Sandoval said. "I was always asking questions because we had all kinds of jewelry, artifacts and furniture from them and that made a structure for me to remember these things."

That structure is built upon a wide, multi-racial foundation. Her story begins with a grandmother who was a slave in Virginia and covers a revolution in Mexico, the Pony Express in Missouri, Harlem, post World War II Gary, Indiana and modern day Montreal. Sandoval says her family was colour appreciative, not colour blind and she will use about 70 pictures to illustrate her colorful journey. She narrates the hour-long performance and the 20 or so characters in the play will be portrayed by students and others who will read some of their roles.

While the play is meant to educate, it also promises to entertain with humor and sensitivity. And as she sees her family's legacy played out on the stage, Sandoval is also brought closer to her rich and diverse heritage.

"Oh for sure," Sandoval said. "Each time it's been performed here in Montreal and once in the states, questions arise and so that leads me to be thinking of other aspects of it."

The event is sponsored by Beacon College and is free and open to the public. Leesburg Public Library is located at 100 E. Main St.