The Guilfordian

## Forum

## Why I still hate Black History Month

Jacob Blom STAFF WRITER

Black History Month is not a joke. I was mistaken to state the opposite. But, Black History Month should not exist. Its spirit merely should.

The founders of Black History Month intended to increase education about black history. The best way to accomplish this is to educate society year-round.

I assure you that if black history were not to be studied yearround, then I would prefer to have Black History Month than nothing at all. But, integrating black history into history texts would be ideal.

Those who wrote letters in response to my initial article would contend that black history is celebrated all year. I believe this is only true for an elite group. Traveling to museums and festivals to learn about black history is not possible for too many individuals.

This can be attributed to the scarcity of places to honor it across the country (one would be hard-pressed to find a black history museum in the Midwest).

tract more interest because, by virtue of its name, it feels exclusive.

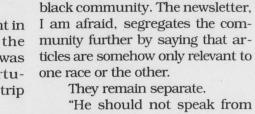
As a public school student in Baltimore City, I went to the Blacks in Wax Museum. This was a grand experience. Unfortunately, my school took the trip once a year, in February.

Education about black history should not be hindered by the month of February. Valentine's Day celebrates love, but it breeds an environment in which people believe it is unnecessary to show appreciation to their love on any other day.

I don't doubt that racism exists. I am not naïve.

But I believe that the best way to quell racism is to teach about black history. People are afraid of what they do not understand. Learning black history's awe-inspiring stories and lessons throughout the year might allow for white people to not feel excluded from black history, and allow blacks to not feel excluded from society.

I agree that Black History Month was not covered sufficiently in The Guilfordian. But I feel the making of a newsletter for black students makes matters worse. The



outside his experience," Miss Weintraub said in her letter to the editor. It makes proceeding difficult

very welcome to help The Guilfordian

cover issues pertaining to Guilford's

Black History Month does not at- writers in this newsletter would be when the black community complains that there is a lack of coverage, but protests that I should not talk about black issues because I am white.

Yes, I am white. But I have experienced Black History Month, so it is within my experience. I believe, as a white person, that it would be beneficial to all races to learn more about black history throughout the year instead of solely during the month of February.



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## LFORDIAN STAFF MEETINGS ARE MONDAYS AT 7:30 P.M. IN THE PASSION PIT. ALL ARE WELCOME.

Statement of Purpose: The Forum exists to facilitate dialogue and expression on matters of importance to Guilford College and its mission. Toward this end, active community participation in these pages is vital

Editorial Policy: Every effort will be made to print appropriate submissions of editorials, cartoons, and letters to the editor. They must be signed, with the phone number of the author or artist included and turned in to the box outside the publications suite by 3:00 on Monday before that Friday's publication date. Editorials must be no longer than 400 words and letters to the editor must be no more than 250 words. The Guilfordian reserves the right to edit submissions for grammatical correctness and brevity.

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Ga-Li, a truly unique duet featuring dynamic vocals and instrumentation ranging from Native American flutes and drums to blues and tenor guitar will be performing at: New Garden Friends School 1128 New Garden Road (edge of Gullford College) Sunday, April 14th at 7PM Tickets: \$4 for students, children and seniors \$8 for adults Proceeds support the Guilford College first year Bonner work trip to the Crow Reservation For ticbets contact: Judy Harvey at 316-2447 Sponsored by Community Learning