‘Freedom Fighters, Fast Food and Food Justice’ is Title of Feb. 28 Talk

SAN LUIS OBISPO – “Food justice,” a term that refers to producing food in an affordable and sustainable manner and making it available to all people regardless of income, is the focus of a Feb. 28 presentation at Cal Poly.

New York-based author, chef and food-justice activist Bryant Terry will present “Freedom Fighters, Fast Food and Food Justice” at 7 p.m. in Room 286 in the Fisher Science Building. In his talk, Terry will explore “the historical and contemporary intersections between social justice and community food security in urban communities.”

Terry is founding director of b-healthy! (Building Healthy Eating and Lifestyles to Help Youth), an organization dedicated to strengthening the food-justice movement.

According to Terry, “food justice starts from the conviction that access to healthy food is a human rights issue, and that the lack of access to food in a community is an indicator of material deprivation.”

He facilitates workshops across the country about cooking, food politics, and the relationship between diet and health. He is a regular commentator on radio and has been a featured guest on National Public Radio’s “The Tavis Smiley Show.”

Nationally recognized for his efforts to create a more just and sustainable food system, Terry’s work has received notice in such publications as Newsweek, Vibe and Organic Style, which named him one of Tomorrow’s Environmental Power Players. Terry and b-healthy! have received numerous awards, including a Sea Change Residency, a Wave of the Future Award, and an Open Society Institute Community Fellowship.

Terry is a 2002 graduate of the Natural Gourmet Cookery School in New York City. He earned a bachelor’s degree in English from Xavier University of Louisiana and a master’s degree in American history from New York University. He lives in Brooklyn.

The presentation is free and open to the public. It is sponsored by Cal Poly’s Ethnic Studies Department and the College of Liberal Arts. For more information, call 756-1707.