This fall the Equity and Campus Diversity Office programming initiative experienced a breadth of passion and enthusiasm by the attendees of the scheduled events. The Diversity Dialogue speaker series, Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration, and Beyond Boundaries: Dare to be Diverse film series sparked the interests of students, staff and faculty just as expected.

Graduate students from Dr. Michael Fox’s Art of Facilitation course developed fun and engaging discussions for both the Comparing Generations and the Don’t Hate: Exploring Hate Crimes and First Amendment Rights Diversity Dialogue sessions. One participant expressed that enjoying “being able to discuss the new information with people I wouldn’t normally be engaged with.” Another participant stated the dialogues “weren’t restrictive to one side or group of people.”

The Equity and Campus Diversity Office gives much credit for our success to the partnership of our program sponsors. Special thanks to the Communication Department, Women and Gender Studies, the Burchfield Penney Art Center, POV (Documentaries with a Point of View), the Student Life Office, the Residence Life Office, the Volunteer and Service-Learning Center, the Grant Allocation Committee, the International Center for Creative Studies, Weigel Health Promotions, the Small Business Development Center, the Office of Judicial Affairs, the Dean of Students Office, and Tha Ink Club.
In collaboration with Residence Life, the Equity and Campus Diversity Office hosted an assortment of programs in celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month. We were very fortunate to have the opportunity to host talented speakers who have made a significant impact on the Hispanic/Latino culture. Our opening speaker, Angélica Keen proudly led a conversation entitled, “Culturas Sin Banderas” (Cultures Without Borders). During her discussion Keen defined terms relevant to the Hispanic/Latino culture. She also expounded upon concepts, original origins and cultural significance. Keen stated that “individuals do not have to limit themselves to ‘titles’ because Hispanic/Latinos come from all over the world”.

Our second speaker provided an artistic impact on the Buffalo State community. During her Celebrating and Uniting Voices: SOMOS LATINOS! program, Caridad De La Luz led a poetry session where she taught students and faculty members how to develop poetry using their five senses. Later in the evening Caridad performed and hosted the Hispanic Heritage Month Open Mic Night in collaboration with Tha Ink Club. Caridad shared poems entitled, “La Bruja” and “Lola;” pieces featured on Russell Simmons’s HBO Def Poetry Jam. The Open Mic event was such a success, student participants eagerly waited to share their work well after the scheduled program.

Graduate student Monét Lewis shares poetry selection, created during Caridad De La Luz’s poetry workshop.

Monét!
M-O-N-E-T
Is the name that defines me
Please don’t forget the pronunciation over the é
Yes there is a T
But is pronounced MO-NAY
Emphasis on the A sound
Please do not try to correct me
Or
Degraded me of the name my
Mother blessed thee
For it is the epitome of my personality
The center of my beauty
Regardless if you cannot understand the spelling it is who I am and will always be
M-O-N-E-T
M for motivation to be better
O for optimism about better days
N for novelty, I embrace my creativity
E for elegance
And
T for the tasteful lady!!
-Monét Lewis

Hispanic Heritage Month celebration came to a close with Mr. José Galvez’s keynote address entitled, “Aquí Estamos, Here We Are”. When entering the presentation participants were welcomed by Mr. Galvez’s traveling exhibit, which were a culmination of black and white photos taken throughout the course of Mr. Galvez forty years in photography. Many of Mr. Galvez’s photos featured people of the Hispanic/Latino culture. Mr. Galvez stated that he primarily took photos in black and white in order for his audience to identify with the characters featured in each photo. Mr. Galvez was kind enough to share some photography tips on how to capture the perfect picture. See the “ussie” (group selfie) our graduate students took with José Galvez.

Celebrating and Uniting Voices; SOMOS LATINOS

-Aquí Estamos, Here We Are

Caridad De La Luz
Equity and Campus Diversity Student Ambassadors - Sabreah Headley

Major: Psychology
Minor/Concentration: Health and Wellness
Career Goals: “I am currently a sophomore at Buffalo State College. When I receive my Bachelor’s degree in the spring of 2018 I plan to attend graduate school. After completing my Master’s degree, I’m looking forward to becoming a motivational speaker, as well as a counselor for young teenage women.”

Experience I hope to gain as a Student Ambassador: “As a student ambassador, I hope to gain social skills, gain knowledge on others’ life experiences and how they overcame obstacles. I feel like I would be able to take the knowledge and apply it to my field of study as well as my pursuit to becoming a motivational speaker for young women.”

Equity and Campus Diversity Student Ambassadors - Malcolm Benn

Major: I’ll receive a degree in Business Administration. My goal is to obtain an MBA degree with a concentration in accounting.
Career Goals: “I am a transfer student to Buffalo State College and my anticipated graduation is May 2018. After graduation I hope to take on and improve my grandfather’s accounting business by helping customers get their tax refunds as quickly as possible.”
Experience I hope to gain as a Student Ambassador: “As a Student Ambassador I hope to become more socially involved and open-minded regarding diversity issues. I also hope to learn more about the diverse student cultures here at Buffalo State and be involved in creating a more welcoming and diverse campus.”

Equity and Campus Diversity Student Intern – Jenn Finan

Major: Bachelor of Science in Psychology
Career Goals: Working in Human Resources or Equity and Diversity
How Equity and Campus Diversity is helping you to achieve your goals: “My internship with Equity and Campus Diversity is assisting me by giving me exposure to how educational institutions promote and support diversity.”
As part of the I LOVE Consent sexual assault awareness campaign Kylie Angell, sexual assault survivor turned activist, shared her story with the Buffalo State community. One of the highlights of Kylie’s visit was when she spoke to a class of Social Work students. During her discussion, Kylie expressed how much her social worker had a significant impact on her healing and decision to empower other students.

As part of her healing process Kylie became an activist and works with several campuses to change “rape culture”. An assumption of rape culture is that all men are rapists. Kylie shared that only three percent of men are rapists. Another assumption is that sexual assault victims are women. The truth is that men as well can be insulted. Statistics show that 1 in 5 women and about 1 in 10 men are sexually assaulted or raped while they are in college.

Spreading the word about Sexual Assault Awareness is as important to the Equity and Campus Diversity Office as it is to Kylie. Stay tuned for our upcoming I Love Consent programs in the spring in collaboration with Weigel Health Promotions.

Equity and Campus Diversity Program Calendar November

Beyond Boundaries: Dare to be Diverse Film Series

Thursday, November 12, 2015 7:00pm-9:30pm
Burchfield Penny Art Center
Featured Film – Out In the Night
Event co-sponsors- Buffalo State Communication Department and the Burchfield Penney Art Center

Diversity Dialogue Speaker Series—Socialism, Capitalism and the American Way

Tuesday, November 17, 2015 6:00pm-7:30pm
Negativity is the enemy of creativity.
- David Lynch
Congratulations to the October 2015 Minigrant Awardees

“A Celebration of a Century of Ethnic History: Contributions of Ethnic Communities to Buffalo and Western New York”
Fordham Center Ethnic History Conference, October 16,17,2015
Grant submitted by: Chris Root

“Peaceful Warriors: Higher Education, Heroes and Russia’s War on Ukraine”
Buffalo State College student interaction with global peers trying to create change within a post-soviet country—elevation of awareness regarding global issues of social justice & educational oppression in many post-soviet countries in 2015 (scheduled: 11/16/2015)
Grant submitted by: Kimberly Kline, Ph.D., HESAA

“Please Excuse My Self Expression 6”
Groups and individuals expressing themselves through performance, 9/18/2015
Grant submitted by: Cory Fletcher, President, Iota Phi Theta

“The Uses of Anger: Wanda Coleman and the Poetry of Black Rage and #blacklivesmatter”
A Visit with Dr. Shanna Benjamin, Associate Professor of English at Grinnell College, 11/9/2016
Grant submitted by: Jennifer Ryan-Bryant, Ph.D., English Dept.

Celebrating Women’s History Month (March) and Asia-Pacific Heritage Month (May) by exploring the inter-related issues of immigration, assimilation, gender, and family structures in Europe and Indochina.
(scheduled: 3/7/2016)
Grant submitted by: Ken Orosz, Ph.D., History and SSE

“Don’t compromise your voice or your integrity.”
- La Bruja
Michael J. Littman

**Position Title:** Chair and Associate Professor of Business

**Marital/Family Status:** “Single: 2 children.”

**Favorite Music:** “Doobie Brothers, Seals and Croft, Steely Dan, War.”

**Favorite Food:** “Pasta, vegetables, dessert.”

**Favorite Restaurants:** “Prefer to eat at home.”

**Always wanted to try:** “Cannot think of anything.”

**What I fear most:** “Major surgery.”

**Hobbies, talents, special interests:** “Nutrition and health, gardening, travel, Israel.”

**Favorite sports or pastimes:** “Exercise, working outside, travel.”

**Before I die, I would like to:** “Live each day to its fullest, help others succeed.”

**The top 3 highlights of my life:** “Having children, surviving an aortic dissection, many travels/friends around the world.”

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**What is your favorite quote?** “The most valuable asset this country has is not gold or oil, but the minds of our young people.” Dr. Irving Fradkin of Scholarship America.

**If you could have dinner with anyone, (fictional, alive, dead famous, non-famous) who would it be?**

“My parents, of blessed memory, who are deceased, to thank them for the values they instilled in me as well as their focus on having well educated children.”

**Ability I wish I had:** “To have all people united to follow the Golden Rule.”

**I'm happiest when:** “I am outside walking or hiking in the woods, or when I am in the classroom.”

**Something few know about me:** “I have completed 10 marathons and 5 Olympic-Distance Triathlons. I hitchhiked across the United States and Canada after graduating from college in the summer of 1976.”

**Would you do anything different given the opportunity? (Personally or professionally)** “No.”

**If I won the lottery:** “I would be very surprised as I do not play the lottery.”

**Tell me about someone who has influenced your decision to work in higher education?** “High School Students. When I was a high school teacher, I discovered the best way to improve education was not from national or state mandates but through improving instruction one classroom at a time. When I came to Buffalo State, I taught half in Business and half in Business/Marketing Education.”

**What might (someone) be surprised to know about you?**

“I am a member of Buffalo State’s West African Drum Group and I have visited 30 countries.”

**What I like best about working for Buffalo State:** “The diversity of students at a public university.”

**I'm proudest of:** “The accomplishments of my students and of my children.”

**Previous work experience:** “High school teacher and coach for 7 years, taught at Ohio State University, positions in manufacturing, retail, and entrepreneurship.”