ETHNIC & INTERCULTURAL SERVICES

InterCultural Focus

October 2015

October Events

Click on the headings to learn more about events occurring this month.

10.08 Justice Dialogue
6-8 PM, The Hill

10.10 LHM: Latino Americas 500 years of History
1-4 PM, Ahmanson Auditorium

10.13 SPEAC
7-8:15 PM, Malone 112 AB

10.14 LatinoLA
4-6 PM, Ahmanson Auditorium

10.20-10.22
Sustainability Symposium

10.20 Third Tuesday
7-9 PM, Living Room

10.21 Soul Cinema Series
5-8 PM, DejaView Theatre

10.27 Real Talk
6-7 PM, Malone 306

10.28 The Studio
7-8:30 PM, DejaView Theatre

MESSAGE FROM DIRECTOR

"The geographical togetherness of the modern world makes our very existence dependent on co-existence. We must all learn to live together as brothers or we will all perish together as fools. Because of our involvement in humanity we must be concerned about every human being."*—Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.*

It's hard to believe we are into the month of October! As EIS prepares for the second session of the Social Justice Series, I hope you find a moment to peruse the InterCultural Newsletter as a resource for opportunities and entertainment.

On Thursday, September 10, 2015, The EIS Department sponsored the National Dialogue on Race forum. Participants shared thoughts and feelings about race in our communities. Some topics discussed included parallels in the current contexts of racialized interactions, questions of justice, communities, and privilege. Feelings ran from deep sorrow to fear and anger. While some left the conversation with some unanswered and perhaps unanswerable questions, the conversation was relevant and poignant. It was helpful to relieve the community of the weight of the situations endured and share the burden with one another. The dialogue was a wonderful representation of community! Students responded affirmatively to each other and provided physical and emotional support. Thank You!

If you participated in the conversation and have not yet completed the feedback form, it's not too late to do so. If you did not receive a form, please contact us at eis@lmu.edu to request one. Information from the feedback forms from the conversation will be used for future programs.

Social Justice Series: National Dialogue on Race

On Thursday, September 10, Ethnic and Intercultural Services (EIS) and Center for Reconciliation and Justice cosponsored the annual National Dialogue on Race. Facilitated by EIS' very own intercultural facilitators: Janie McManamon, Aliyah Flowers, and Alex Factor. The trio guided the dialogue with thought-provoking questions that led to authentic and painful responses from LMU students. Director of Intercultural Advancement, Mr. Henry Ward shared, "Students are more blunt and honest. The dialogue took a good direction. The conversation was very real and students openly shared their pain and experiences, which were sometimes very hard to listen to because we don't hear these experiences enough. However, this dialogue provided an opportunity for students to articulate how they felt in their hearts about issues of race on our campus."

The National Dialogue on Race was created to commemorate the 1963 March on Washington. Universities across the nation partake in this open and honest conversation about past and present racial issues. The purpose of the dialogue is to improve the quality of life both on and off campuses, while allowing participants to gain a clear understanding of race and its implications. The hope is that by the end of the discussion, the participants will have created a plan for action to be implemented in the near future.

How do you define racism? Racism refers to a structured system of power and privilege founded on discrimination of one's ethnicity. Here on our very own campus, students have cited incidents of racism. One student provided an account in which women clutched their bags when climbing the stairs opposite him. Another student indicated that people pinpoint "suspicious activity" when too many minority individuals are gathered in one group. However, despite these incidents those affected have decided that the best way to overcome these drawbacks is to reestablish confidence in oneself and remain true to one's upbringing rather than assimilating to the majority group on campus. "I think students process and confront issues of race in real ways that draw on their emotions, while adults tend to avoid the situation all together," Mr. Ward commented.

What can we do to begin the fight against racism? "There's always something we can do." "Even just by talking about the issue and spreading awareness, means we're doing something. You can bring the conversation to your friends, your family, and your classes. There were about 50 to 70 people in attendance, so imagine if each person talked to five other people about this kind of dialogue. And by doing that, you're incorporating more voices," commented Intercultural Facilitator, Janie McManamon.

Ultimately, it's up to us, the students, to decide what we want to do with this conversation. For instance, rather than scurrying away immediately after the dialogue, students mingled with one another to not only broaden their social circles, but also talk more intimately about comments made throughout the night. As students on a campus founded on social justice, we can either conjure up and harbor all of our racial experiences and wait for them to boil over until next year or we can continue discussing the issue amongst ourselves and find ways to enlighten others about the importance of this issue.

Written by Victoria Lucien, Newsletter Editor

Social Justice Series presents: Justice Dialogue

Sponsored by Ethnic & Intercultural Services and Center for Reconciliation and Justice, find out what the difference between justice and service and what issues other students most concerned about, while gaining a deeper understanding our social justice mission and its call to action. The event will take place Thursday, October 8 at 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM in The Hill.

2015 SOCIAL JUSTICE SERIES

EIS

LMU LA

LATINO HERITAGE MONTH 2015

"Mi Historia, Nuestra Historia."
(My Story, Our Story.)

EIS
ETHNIC & INTERCULTURAL SERVICES

Misa de Herencia
Sunday, 9/13
Sculpture Garden
12:00-1:00pm (Mass)
1:00-3:00pm (Reception)
*Spanish language mass
Co-sponsored with Campus Ministry

Annual Charles S. Casassa, SJ Lecture-Feminicide: Interrogating the Broken Body of Christ
Thursday, 10/1
Von der Ahe Family Suite
4:30-6:00pm

Faculty Pub Night Featuring Dr. Ernesto Colín
Tuesday, 9/15
Von der Ahe Family Suite
5:30-7:00pm
Presented by William H. Hannon Library

Latino American Screening and Discussion
Saturday, 10/10
Ahmanson Auditorium
1:00-3:00pm
Co-sponsored with Los Angeles Public Library,
William H. Hannon Library
Chicana/o Studies

Collaboration y Comunidad: An author talk with Dr. Eliza Rodriguez y Gibson
Wednesday, 9/30
Von der Ahe Family Suite
6:00-7:30pm
Co-sponsored with William H. Hannon Library
and Chicana/o Studies

Southland: Latino LA
Wednesday, 10/14
Ahmanson Auditorium
4:00-6:00pm
Presented by the Common Book

For more information contact Chicano Latino Student Services at (310) 338-1880 or clss@lmu.edu

LMU COMMON BOOK DESIGN CONTEST

Enter the first ever LMU Common Book design contest for a chance to see your artwork featured at the Willam H. Hannon Gallery.

The winner will receive an Apple Watch Sports Edition and an invitation to join the Common Book luncheon with Southland author, Nina Revoyr.

The contest entry begins:
Monday, September 7
Deadline: Friday, October 16

For more details visit:
http://commonbook.lmu.edu/

LMU's 2015 Common Book, *Southland*, by Nina Revoyr, tells a compelling story involving race, love, murder, and history set in the heart of Los Angeles. *Southland* exposes common misunderstandings that take place when race and culture are involved.

Sponsored by the Academic Resource Center, students are encouraged to submit works of art that represent themes within the novel. Students can submit posters, photographs, sketches, paintings, etc. The deadline to submit works of art is Friday, October 16 at 4 PM. For more information, click here.

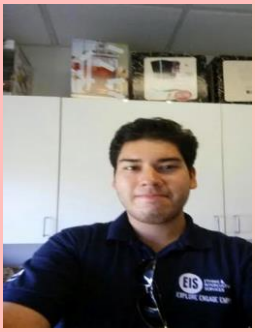
Credit Tips for College Students

Khan Academy has partnered with Bank of America to establish *Better Money Habits* to provide students with resources for smart financial planning. The alliance hopes to cover topics people genuinely care for while utilizing techniques they understand. *Better Money Habits* is a free service that instructs users via online tools and videos. Here are a few things to remember when financially planning:

- **Monitor your bank accounts**. Regularly check your accounts for fraudulent activity and if you notice anything suspicious contact the bank immediately.
- **Pay off those loans**. Paying off your student loans should be your number one priority. You have approximately six months to begin repaying your loans after graduation. Even if you don't have a job, you're expected to repay your loans (Yikes). The sooner you start paying your loans the better.
- **Set a withdrawal/spending limit**. An ATM withdrawal limit not only prevents scammers from tampering with your account, but also helps limit your spending habits.

EIS Student Spotlights

Joshua Ocana



Major: Math

Hometown: Guadalajara, Jalisco, Mexico

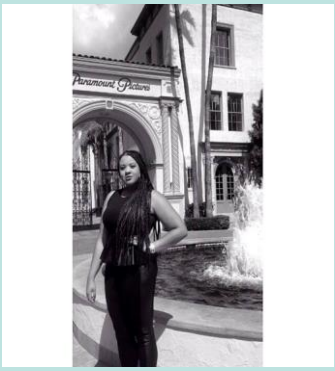
Job: Programing Assistant, Chicano Latino Student Services (CLSS)

How has working for CLSS strengthened your connection with the community? Working at CLSS has allowed me to get more involved with the Latino community and allowed me to meet some new people that I would otherwise have not met through academics alone; especially since I commute.

What has your experience working in the office taught you about interculturalism? Working in the office has shown me the different types of cultural groups that exist on campus, but more importantly it has shown me how, despite how different cultural groups look and act on the outside, we all look for that sense of belonging and being accepted not only to one cultural group but to several. Given the different events, along with the food and activities involved with those events, I can see how we as a department seek to give students a group to belong to but also an opportunity to learn of the struggles and obstacles of other cultural groups.

How do you hope to incorporate what you've learned in the office and apply it to the greater community? I hope to be a high school teacher in the future, so it is definitely important for me to be able to understand the problems certain cultural groups face daily, economically and socially, in order to be able to get the lesson across efficiently. I want to be able to relate to various cultural groups, understand their struggles, and be able to provide solutions to alleviate the possible pains my students might have. Also, being a teacher with intercultural education will allow me to perhaps pass some of that knowledge to my students in order to create a better, more accepting society in the future.

Selena Shannon



Major: Film Production

Hometown: Sacramento

Job: Programming Assistant, Black Student Services (BSS)

How has working for BSS strengthened your connection with the community? Working in EIS has opened my eyes to the broader community especially during the training sessions. I learned a lot about the other departments along with interacting with their staff and the programs and resources available to EIS. We are important to a broader community.

What has your experience working in the office taught you about interculturalism? There is more to your culture than just your race. Culture is more than just your history. It's a combination of the history and its affects on you. I've noticed that some people identify with their backgrounds more than others. For instance, two people from Sacramento of Black descent may not have the same culture just because they're from the same place.

How do you hope to incorporate what you've learned in the office and apply it to the greater community? I was offered an opportunity to spearhead the Soul Cinema series. I'm taking what I've learned about black history and applying it film. I have been inspired to add an AFAM minor and I'm working to combine racial equality into media both on and off the screen.

What to do in the event an emergency happens?

Most of us remember the days in elementary school when we were told to pack Ziploc bags filled with supplies in the event an emergency took place while at school. If you're anything like me, you often snuck into that Ziploc bag and ate the snacks when your mom packed you a terrible lunch that day. Now that we're older, we don't take as much time to think about how we might react if an emergency were to occur. To make it easy on you, here are a few preventative measures to take:

1. **Gather your most important documents.** In the case that an emergency takes place; you will need to store important documents such as your passport, birth certificate, tax and banking information. You never know when you might have to show proof of your existence.
2. **Pack according to your needs.** Pack a small bag filled with non-perishable snacks, a first-aid kit, a flashlight, batteries, and cash. Also, don't forget to pack any prescriptions and medications you may need. You never know how long an emergency may last and you may not have access to a pharmacy any time soon.
3. **Have a conversation.** Talk to your parents, roommates, significant other, or anyone you spend the majority of your time with to inform them of the safest measures to take.

If you have any further questions about what to expect in the event an emergency occurs, contact Public Safety at (310) 338-2893.

Apps Created to Help Before & During an Emergency

- Emergency: **combines over 35 emergency alerts with real-time updates to notice both you and your family what to do before and after an emergency takes place**
- Shelter Finder: **updated every 30 minutes, this app shows when and where shelters within the U.S. have been opened**
- Monster Guard: **an app designed for young children to teach them what to expect in the event an emergency occurs**

Events off the Bluff

Getty Center Family Festival
October 4, 10 AM – 6 PM
Event Information

Annual Polish Film Festival Los Angeles
October 13-22, Times vary
Event Information

Fall/Halloween Events

Autumn Sea Fair
October 18, 10 AM – 3 PM
Event Information

15th Annual Dia de los Muertos Family Festival
October 24, 5 – 8 PM
Event Information

Day of the Dead – Novenario Procession
October 25, 7 – 9 PM
Event Information

Upcoming Plays: Man Covets Bird

From September 26 until November 22, the 24th Street Theatre will host *Man Covets Bird*—a play about a man who befriends a fallen bird and the duo journey to confront life together as told through storytelling, live music, and animation. Conceived by Finegan Kruckmeyer and directed by Debbie Devine, the play will open Saturday, September 26 at 7:30 PM. For more information, click here.

Would you like to contribute to the *Inter*Cultural Focus newsletter?

Please submit your ideas or articles via email at eis@lmu.edu for review by our Newsletter Committee.

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