



402-280-2459
<http://oma.creighton.edu>

Creighton University Office of Multicultural Affairs

ACADEMIC SUPPORT & MENTORING

CULTURAL CENTER

INTERCULTURAL EDUCATION

OUTREACH & PROGRAMMING

Through our services and programs to students, staff and faculty we advance the educational, cultural, and social understanding of our diverse human family.

Office Hours:
Mon — Thurs: 8am-8pm
Fri: 8am-4:30pm

Markoe Leadership Retreat



While students on campus cheered for the Bluejay soccer team on Friday, September 14th, the Creighton University Fr. Markoe Leadership Program hosted a retreat in Bellevue, Nebraska for fourteen freshmen who were awarded the Diversity Scholarship this year. From zip lining and rock climbing to a rope challenge course 45 feet up in the air, students dared to step out of their comfort zone to experience the thrill of trying something new. Aside from the physical challenges, students got the chance to know each other better while receiving a blast from the past on the playground on site. Staff from the Office of Multicultural Affairs provided a bountiful dinner and yummy s'mores to accompany the late night bonfire where everyone was asked to share their diverse backgrounds. What did I think about it? I loved the thought of scaring my mom with pictures of me 45 feet in the air. I loved getting to know people who I'd only seen around campus or had never seen at all. Most importantly, I loved creating a bond with people I knew would make a difference in my years here at Creighton.

- Marelly Chavez '16

On Friday, September 14, 2012, students in the Markoe Leadership Program set out on a trip to Gene Eppley Retreat Center in Bellevue, Nebraska. The trip was the true definition of miraculous. From beginning to end, it was filled with fun, laughter and good memories. The students were able to participate in a challenge by choice ropes course, which included a rock climbing section, a zip lining area and a high ropes course. Although the students were not required to do any of the obstacles, many of them chose to take the challenge. After the ropes course, everyone rounded up to eat and circled around the campfire for s'mores, games and story-telling. For me personally, I had a great time on the retreat. I got the chance to overcome my fear of heights by zip lining for the first time. I'm also glad I got to spend my Friday afternoon meeting and bonding with some pretty amazing people and trying new things out of my comfort zone. If I could do it again, I definitely would.

- Deja' Morrison '16

15th Annual Welcome Week Social

Anderson Plaza was filled with hundreds of multicultural students, faculty and staff on September 8th, 2012 supporting the 15th Annual Welcoming Social hosted by the Office of Multicultural Affairs. The event consisted of Big Wade Jazz Trio, various ethnic foods, a little dancing, and students catching up with one another while enjoying the entertainment. Big Wade Jazz Trio was a refreshing blend of jazz, pop and old school R&B music that invited one student to sing.



The food consisted of many dishes all over the world from California sushi rolls to a Sudanese goat and rice dish. Most of the people who attended were slightly surprised by the variety of the foods and enjoyed trying something different. Whether you were inside or outside, there were smiles and laughter between the students, staff and faculty.



Enjoying a meal with friends and our Creighton family is always an event that students look forward to on campus.

If you want to see more pictures of this event "like our fan page" on Facebook. Multicultural Affairs at Creighton University: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Multicultural-Affairs-at-Creighton-University/121341219624>

- Lauren Murphy Moore '15

"MIGRATIONS"



Exhibit in the
Office of Multicultural Affairs
features works by noted Omaha based
African American artist
Neville Murray

Murray is an Impressionist artist, whose work depicts the movement of people searching for better lives, and the ramifications of those migrations.

Multicultural Enrichment Institute

Freshly sharpened pencils and scraps of paper rested at the center of round tables in the fluorescently lit conference room. As the hour grew closer, freshman buzzed in with a mild chatter, introducing themselves to others and asking the typical “Name? Hometown? Major?” Something about the place was inviting as everyone greeted one another with a smile. This was the beginning of the Multicultural Enrichment Institute here at Creighton. “This year’s institute was one of the biggest groups of freshman we have had in a few years and perhaps one of the friendliest. Never have I met a large group of kids that embraced one another and the Office of Multicultural Affairs in such a welcoming way, it’s great,” said Becky Nickerson, an Assistant Director of the OMA.



The Multicultural Enrichment Institute is a program designed to welcome the diverse students of Creighton University in a smaller, more personal setting. The program began with an introduction of the OMA staff but was quickly released to the hands of upperclassmen that are heavily involved in multicultural affairs on the CU campus. Ice breakers, skits, and a charismatic and genuine panel were the basis of the institute and this kind of peer-

to-peer interaction allowed a comfortable atmosphere and bred a truly helpful experience.



Information about personal resources available on campus, such as the Health and Counseling Center and the Academic Success and Retention Center, was given as well. The program concluded with dinner and ice cream, but also with a positive air as students made new acquaintances and gained knowledge of a wonderful resource available on campus. As Pallavi Aurora, a freshman Markoe scholar put it, “I enjoyed it a lot, I thought the speakers were cool and the food was pretty good. But really, I’m glad I came.”

- Dawaune Hayes '16



Coffee and Conversations - What a Remarkable Combination!

Cream or sugar? Regular or Decaf? Or flavored... or tea... or hot chocolate... or spiced cider? This is the question being asked of the freshmen students who have been coming to Coffee and Conversations, a program designed to bring freshmen multicultural students into the Office of Multicultural Affairs within the first semester of classes. The program brings in up to 10 students at a time to the OMA to provide an opportunity for students to learn about the resources the office provides as well as to connect with staff and begin the process of open dialogue.

This freshmen retention program was developed in response to the statistics that show that if students engage on campus and have at least one caring adult to turn to, that they will return to campus their sophomore

year. And if they come back their sophomore year, chances are... we got ya! C'mon Graduation!!

Discussion topics include: What gifts and talents do you bring with you to CU that are going to help you be successful? What obstacles are you concerned that you may face at CU? The information gathered from the obstacles part of the discussion will help determine what workshops and support OMA can provide to further assist our students.

This year the program was successfully marketed at the Multicultural Enrichment Institute where students were given the opportunity to sign up for a date and time that works for them. If you haven't attended and would like to, please get in touch with me. It's a one-time meeting and it only lasts approximately 45 minutes, but the friendships created out of it will hopefully last much longer!

- Becky Nickerson, MS

Funny Girl!

My heart is beating at an uncontrollable rate, my underarms are perspiring miniature waterfalls, and my hands are trembling as I surrender myself to the small torture every actor or actress must endure: the scrutiny of the director, musical director, and choreographer on audition day. After audition day comes the antagonizing wait for the cast list. Walking up the spiral stairs of Lied, I mentally prepared myself for my unfortunate letdown. I told myself "Christina Dano, you are just a freshman, and there is always next year." Thankfully, I didn't have to wait another year because I was cast as an Ensemble member in the musical Funny Girl.

Coming to Creighton from Hawaii, I expected to devote all of my time to studying during the first semester and slowly getting acclimated to the college lifestyle. Instead, I find myself diving head first into an amazing experience of being a showgirl, huge feather headpieces included. With only a month to prepare, we immediately started getting to work. With a total of 19 music, dance, and staging practices combined, it is a miracle that everything came together.

Set in roaring New York 1920's, Funny Girl is a musical following the story of Fanny Brice (Ariel Talacko), an aspiring Broadway performer. Although she begins the show as an struggling actress, with the help of her friend and choreographer, Eddie (Nik Whitcomb), Fanny becomes a star on Broadway. She soon falls in love with a suave entrepreneur and gambler, Nicky Arnstein, but, as their relationship starts to strain, Fanny must choose what is right for her.

A musical filled with glitz and glam, Funny Girl is an exciting extravaganza you do not want to miss! Funny Girl will be playing at the Lied Center at Creighton University on September 27 - 29 at 7:30pm, October 4 - 6 at 7:30pm, and October 7 at 2:00pm. Tickets can be purchased at the Box Office located in the Lied Center.

- Christina Dano '16

Improving Educational Opportunities for Latino Children

The Archdiocese of Omaha and the Latino Catholic Scholarship Fund of Omaha hosted meetings on August 28, 2012 at Creighton University and Assumption Guadalupe Catholic School to address the demographic growth of the Omaha Latino population, the low participation in Catholic schools and high public school dropout rate - a major concern for the future of our community and the growth of Catholic ministry.

Fr. Joe Corpora, C.S.C., Director of University-School Partnerships at the University of Notre Dame, served as the keynote speaker and visiting scholar to lead discussion about best practices to engage Latino families. He met with faculty, staff and students from Creighton University in the early morning.

Approximately 150 community members, friends and supporters of the Archdiocese of Omaha gathered later for lunch and a keynote address from Fr. Corpora, C.S.C. One of the most salient points made in the keynote address according to John Maginn: "Fr. Corpora stated that God is giving the Catholic Church in the US the opportunity and the challenge of serving the largest and most recent wave of immigrants - the Latinos, especially the Mexicans. While Latinos are the fast growing population in the US, they represent only 3% of the children enrolled in Catholic elementary schools. Father provided many practical suggestions for bridging the cultural and financial hurdles and welcoming Latinos to all Catholic schools from pre K through college".

Later that afternoon Fr. Corpora spoke with Principals and Teachers from several Omaha area catholic schools regarding best in recruitment, retention and instruction of Latino students and their families. That evening he met for a wrap up dinner with representatives of the Assumption Parish community, the Urban Regional Board, and the Family Life Office of the Archdiocese of Omaha. Fr. Corpora also met with Most Rev. George Lucas, the Archbishop of Omaha and a number of priests from the Southeastern section of the city on Monday evening for an open discussion and conversation regarding education and ministry to the Latino Community which is a significant portion of Archbishop Lucas' Promise 2020 plan for the archdiocese.

Fr. Bernard Starman, President of Assumption-Guadalupe Catholic School and the Latino Catholic Scholarship Fund said, "We learned a lot from Fr. Corpora's experience and research regarding Latino's and Catholic Education in the 24 hours he was in Omaha. Most importantly perhaps we learned that the challenge of providing affordable, quality catholic education does not have to be impossible, it can be done we just have to do a better job of marketing a product that people are not aware that they need."

Meetings are being planned as a follow-up to these gatherings. For more information, please contact Fr. Bernard Starman at bgstarman@archomaha.org

- Fr. Bernard Starman, C.S.C. and Ricardo Ariza, M.S.W.



SAVE Program Community Partnership

The Students, Athletes, Values, Education (SAVE) Program and the Creighton University Office of Multicultural Affairs (OMA) started its second year of collaboration with both increased participant attendance and increased numbers of Creighton University student volunteers. I was introduced to the program by ex-Creighton basketball star, Anthony Toliver who is in his 4th year with the NBA who recently moved from the Minnesota Timber Wolves to the Atlanta Hawks. He asked if I would stop by a SAVE Program Clinic he was conducting at Omaha South High School gymnasium. What I saw was absolutely amazing as these young boys and girls were intensely engaged in improving their basketball skills. I immediately jumped into the mix of activity providing support.

Kevin Melchor, Director of SAVE Program approached me and asked if I could talk to the youth for 15 minutes. Before you know it I was quickly into conversation with both Anthony and Kevin about joining the Board of Directors of the SAVE Program. I am now a proud member of the board! This led to a conversation with Ricardo Ariza, Director of Multicultural Affairs about starting a tutoring and mentoring project where 4th-8th grade students would come to Creighton to receive academic support.



We recently provided a training workshop on how to mentor and tutor. Creighton students involved in the Multicultural Advisory Council (MAC) and student workers in the OMA have stepped up to the challenge. We are extremely proud of their efforts thus far.

The SAVE Board of Directors is very excited about this project. The educational portion of the program has yielded GPA results showing every student participant maintained or improved their GPA. The success for our Creighton University student volunteers and the student participants can be truly measured in their laughter and smiles on campus.

- Len "Papa G" Gordy

*****ATTENTION! ATTENTION! ATTENTION!*****

New Student Positions Announced!

The **Office of Multicultural Affairs** is thrilled to announce the development of the *Outreach and Programming Specialist Team*! Students selected will plan, promote, implement, and assess various educational and cultural activities at Creighton University. It's an opportunity to learn new skills, give back to your community and to gain so much more at the same time!

Benefits

- ✓ RECEIVE \$50 JAYBUCKS PER SEMESTER
- ✓ Event Planning Experience and Leadership Development
- ✓ Coordinate and provide community tours of Creighton campus

Interested???

Come to OMA for an application! Harper Center, Room 3006

Applications will be accepted until November 1, 2012

Calendar of Events

OCTOBER

- 10/3 Courageous Voices: DREAM Act—Harper 3029 @ 7:00-8:00 pm
- 10/4 OMA Director's Forum—OMA Office Harper 3006 @ 4:00-5:00pm
- 10/23 Solidarity Lecture Series: "Ignatian Reflection and the Law: CU's Law School Dominican Republic Immersion Trip" by Prof. Ron Volkmer
Harper 3028 @ 5:30-6:30 pm
- 10/27 Omaha Asian Teen Summit (High School Students)
Harper Ballroom @ 8-3:30pm

NOVEMBER

- 11/1 Markoe-DePorres Social Justice Lecture: "Racial Justice and the Catholic Church" Harper Center Auditorium @ 7:30-8:30 pm
- 11/5 Presidential Election, GO VOTE!
- 11/6 Native American Heritage Month Documentary: *Trudell*
Harper Room 3023 @ 7:00-8:30pm
- 11/7 OMA Director's Forum—OMA Office Harper 3006 @ 4:00-5:00 pm
- 11/7 Udall Scholarship Info Session – OMA Harper 3006 @ 5:00-6:00pm
- 11/14 Intercultural Expo—
Skutt Student Center Ballroom @ 11:00 am-3:00 pm
- 11/15 Courageous Voices: *The Battle for Whiteclay*
Harper 3029 @ 7:00-8:00 pm
- 11/29 Solidarity Lecture Series: "Emboldening Women in Science: NSF's ADVANCE Project" by Dr. Patricia Soto— Harper 3029 @ 5:30-6:30 pm

DECEMBER

- 12/4 OMA Director's Forum -OMA Office Harper 3006 @ 4:00-5:00 pm
 - 12/10-12/15 FINALS WEEK– GOOD LUCK!
- **TBD- Las Mañanitas**

For more info, check out the Creighton Diversity Calendar at:

<http://oma.creighton.edu/diversitycalendar>

Meet Our Student Workers

The Office of Multicultural Affairs is enjoying the hustle and bustle of the Fall 2012 semester. We have been blessed with an amazing group of Federal Work-Study students who come to us with incredible energy and talents. Our training program, introduced by the OMA staff, provides a strong foundation for student development. We have initiated a new practice of assigning students to project teams to further improve as well as utilize their skill sets. This is an effective way of generating expertise, sharing work responsibility and simply makes for a more effective office. Without further delay, here is our ALL- STAR TEAM

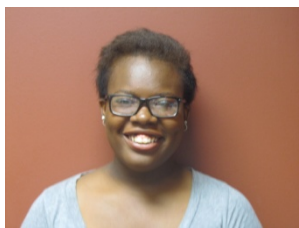
- Ricardo Ariza, M.S.W



My name is Dylan Adams and I'm a freshman. I'm from Aurora, Colorado and I went to Smoky Hill High School. I have a passion for film. Along with completing the International Baccalaureate program, I made seven short films in high school. While Creighton University doesn't have a film school, I learned that there's a commercial production company called Torchwerks only a twenty minute walk from campus. My plan at

Creighton is to get a business/financial degree while at the same time intern and possibly work at Torchwerks during my undergraduate degree. Hopefully with a business degree, a creative writing minor, and some hands-on experience with video production, I can achieve my dream in becoming a filmmaker some day.

-OMA Teams: *Photography, Migrant Journey, Bridges to Success*



Hello, I am Ozioma Aloziem but I prefer to be called Ozy. I am a sophomore here at Creighton. I was born and raised in Omaha. I am the historian for CUASA and a member of the Creighton Speech team and Oratorical Society. I enjoy reading, writing, chicken and meeting new people. I am double majoring in psychology and anthropology and mentoring in public health. I am currently pre-med track. I plan on going into psycho anthropology which is a new field that essentially consists of

me studying what it means to be a human being. I assure you I'm much more exciting in person, it's nearly impossible for me to convey who I am in just a few lines of words.

-OMA Teams: *Rosary Team, Bridges to Success, SAVE, Women's Journey*



My name is Marelly Chavez, I am a graduate from Glenwood High School and am now a freshman here at CU. I was born in Omaha but was raised in beautiful, small-town Glenwood in southwest Iowa for eighteen years. I also have four siblings and we are all bilingual. Some of my hobbies include baking, dancing, traveling, and spending time with my family and friends. I am currently majoring in Spanish and pre-med in hopes of becoming a pediatrician. I am honored to be a part of the Creighton

family and eager to continue my journey as a future graduate of the class of 2016.

-OMA Teams: *Newsletter, Flyers and Advertising, Rosary Team, Women's Journey*



My name is David Araki and I'm a freshman. I am a graduate of Roosevelt High School in Honolulu, Hawaii. I came to Creighton for its pre-medicine program. When I am not in the classroom, I enjoy playing basketball in the KFC, watching movies and hanging out with friends. I also enjoy cooking. I have become somewhat skillful and I can make a variety of dishes.

-OMA Teams: Creighton Website, Facebook, Moving Committee



My name is Lela Coleman and I am a senior in the school Arts and Science. I was born and raised in Des Moines, Iowa accompanied by an older and younger sister. I love to read (books of my choice), sleep, and workout. My major is Psychology. My plans after college are to head to graduate school for child psychology or maybe abnormal psychology focusing on children; I have not yet decided. I am grateful for the many people I have met working here at the office. I also am appreciative of all the support

and love. This office is a great resource for any and everyone. I have worked in the office of OMA since my freshman year here and I have loved it from day one!

-OMA Teams: Front Desk, SAVE



Hi, I'm Mariah Collins and I'm a senior here at Creighton. I was born and raised in Omaha and I am a big fan of the Midwest. I have worked at the Office of Multicultural Affairs for four years and have loved every second of it. The staff at the office have been my mentors and have guided me throughout my college journey. My passions are family, nursing, diversity, music/films and staying active. I really love the healthcare field and I am a nursing major. I am excited for the adventures to come after

graduation and will always have the OMA in my heart!

-OMA Teams: SAVE, Women's Journey



Aloha, my name is Christina-Marie Dano, and I'm a freshman. I have lived on Oahu my entire life and graduated from Kamehameha School. I love going to the beach, spending time with my family and friends, and traveling. In high school, I was a part of the drama club, Concert Glee Club, and Ku'i Kalo Club. My official major is undecided with an emphasis on pre-med. I'm really excited to start my new journey as a Creighton Jay. GO BLUEJAYS!

-OMA Teams: Facebook, Rosary Team, Bridges to Success, Migrant Journey



Hi, my name is Nathan Goo and I'm a freshman. Being from Hawaii, I find the colder weather to be a wonderful novelty. I'm sure it'll wear off in time, but I've only played in snow twice before coming to Creighton. I loved swimming back in Hawaii, so since the pool at the KFC is out of commission, I'll have to try out the one at the YMCA. I am in the Hawaii Club, Mock Trial and Honors. Even though I enjoy learning about mathematics, my aim is to work in the medical field, so my major will be

biology oriented. Right now collegiate life is looking up.

-OMA Teams: CU Sunday's, Bridges to Success, SAVE



My name is Ashley Guanzon and I'm a freshman. I come from San Diego and I am of Filipino heritage. I love music and I have been playing the piano since first grade and the guitar since eighth grade. I am also interested in sports. I love volleyball, basketball, and badminton and I am excited to participate in intramurals at Creighton. I plan to major in bio/pre-med or exercise science/pre-med with a minor in music. Making the move from the west coast to the Midwest was a large change but I am excited to experience life at Creighton and begin a new chapter of my life.

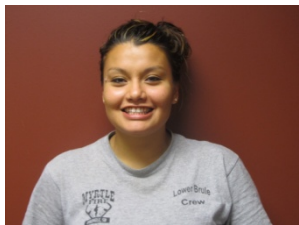
-OMA Teams: Newsletter, Photography, Women's Journey



Howdy there! The name is Dawaune Hayes and I'm a freshman. I was born and raised here in Omaha and have had dreams of coming to Creighton since I was a child. I enjoy theatre and music as hobbies, but I also love just meeting new people and learning from/about others. It makes life all the more interesting, I'd say. I am currently undecided in my major, but have interests in the social sciences and humanities and perhaps a minor in Spanish. The year has started pretty darn well and I

am definitely looking forward to the next four years here at Creighton.

-OMA Teams: Newsletter, Creighton Website, Bridges to Success



Hello, my name is Shaylene High Elk. This is my second year attending Creighton University. I am from a small town reservation in South Dakota, the Lower Brule Sioux Reservation. I am a very sociable person and I always like to meet new people. I love listening to country music. I was a wildland firefighter this past summer and enjoyed every minute of it. I have not decided what I want to major in as of now. I am leaning towards either pre-law or natural resources and land management.

-OMA Teams: CU Sunday's, Bridges to Success, Markoe Assistant



Hey, my name is Deja' Morrison, or DJ if you'd like, and I'm a freshman. I am from Suitland, Maryland—over a thousand miles away from Omaha. I like long walks on the beaches, sand between my toes, and finding my “perfect soul mate.” Ha-ha. Not really, but I do like to draw, sing, make weird sound effects and randomly break out in dance moves. I am addicted to Sour Patch Kids. I'm pretty shy when it comes to meeting new people but so far, I'm honestly enjoying Creighton. The people are

great and I've made some good friends already. I am majoring in biology/pre-med, and I hope to become a pediatrician. I'm pumped to spend my next four years here!

-OMA Teams: Facebook, Rosary Team, Bridges to Success



My name is Audel Salazar and I am a freshman. I was born in Toppenish, Washington on the Yakima Indian Reservation but my parents moved to Nebraska to give me a better life and education. I grew up in Decatur, Nebraska which is a small town an hour north of Omaha. I am half Native-American, half Mexican. I am majoring in international business and I like to write poetry and short stories. I plan to travel the world, visiting as many countries as possible and learning their languages and traditions.

-OMA Teams: Migrant Journey, SAVE, Markoe Assistant

Division of Student Life: We Develop, Create, Partner, & Encourage Office of Multicultural Affairs

Ricardo Ariza 402.280.2469

Becky Nickerson 402.280.3118

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Creighton University | 2500 California Plaza, Harper 3006, Omaha, NE 68178 | website: <http://oma.creighton.edu> Join us on [Facebook!](#)

INITIATIVES and INVOLVEMENT

Outreach and Programming

Admitted Student Days
AJCU Conference on Multicultural Affairs (Archivist)
Annual All Nations Pow Wow
Association of Latino Professionals in Finance and Accounting (ALPFA)
Catholic Migrant Farmworker Network (CMFN) Board Member
Central Park Elementary Outreach
CU Sunday
Directors Forum with Ricardo
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Planning Committee
Diversity Coordinating Committee
Diversity Service Providers in Higher Education Committee
Division of Student Life Programming Committee
Family Calling Initiative
Fr. Ray Bucko, S.J. Native American Potluck Dinner's
Hawaiian Student/Parent Welcome for Freshman
Heritage Month Programming Events
Kellom Elementary Outreach
Latino Catholic Schools Initiative
Lectures, Films and Concerts Committee
Omaha Asian Teen Summit in partnership with ConAgra
OPS Affinity Councils
OPS Elementary School Student Tours
SAVE Board of Directors
SAVE Program: Leadership, Mentoring & Tutoring for students ages 8-14

Academic Support & Mentoring

Annual Welcoming Social
Coffee & Conversations
Community Mentoring Project in partnership with
St. Augustine of Canterbury, Elkhorn
Diversity Scholarship Selection Team
Emerging Leaders Program Facilitation
Fr. John P. Markoe, S.J. Leadership Program
Gates Millennium Reader: Hispanic Scholarship Fund
General retention activities and referral
Individual Student Advising
Invisible Safety Net Member
Letters of recommendation for students
Markoe Leadership Program
Multicultural Enrichment Institute
Multicultural Student Organization Support
Native American Book Fund Coordination
Native American Retention Committee
OPS Bridges to Success
RSP Pre-major Advising
Women's Journey

Cultural Center

Archbishop Leo Arkfeld permanent exhibit
Community Art Exhibits
Computer Lab & Printing
Kitchenette with refrigerator and microwave
Media Space: large screen television & blue ray dvd
Meeting space for faculty and student organizations
Popcorn Wednesday's (10am-2pm)
Safe Space
Student development for Federal Work Study Students
Study and Social space
Support to commuter students
Support to students who remain on campus during break

Intercultural Education

Courageous Voices
Division of Student Life IDEA / Diversity Action Team
Migrant Journey Service Learning in partnership with
OMA Newsletter
Photography
Solidarity Lecture Series
The Catholic Migrant Farmworker Network