



Office of
Multicultural Affairs

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<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

Relaxation and Preparation



Tests, papers, and presentations catch up to the students this time of the year with finals just around the corner. The Office of Multicultural Affairs took it upon themselves to devote a night to cater to the students with food, tips, and a few creative ways to relax. The office was kind enough to host a drum circle on November 28th for the students in the Native American Association. The night started with helpful study tips from a devoted mentor named Rita Murphy. She provided folders for all of the students that had everything from test taking tips to mini study session activities.

After that we were greeted by Pam Eby and her dog Sugar Ray. The sweet and energetic boxer is a therapy dog who lit up everyone's face when he walked in. Many of the participants had animals, and talked about how nice it was to see something that reminded them of home. Sugar Ray had not seen too many students so he was excited to play with us and did a few tricks in exchange for a couple of treats.

Another form of relaxation for the night was the drum circle. There was a cultural aspect to the drum circle for the Native American Association with traditional drummer, Pete Hilario, who began the session by playing the four directions songs for us. This song is sung at the beginning of most events to bring everyone together. He told us about his experience being a musician, and gradually learning about his Native way of life and becoming a traditional drummer. There were people that night from all races who came together just to experience something different that still brought us together.

After Pete spoke, Shandra introduced herself, as well as the instruments she brought for us to see. These drums and instruments were from all around the world, and she explained the significance in the different cultures. We were all surprised when she told us that we would be playing the instruments. Regardless, we enjoyed one another's smiles, laughs, and company. It was a great way to relax and spend some time with friends before the stress of finals week set in. Enjoy montage of pictures on the following page.

-Lauren Murphy Moore '15



Fr. John P. Markoe, S.J. Students Spotlight



Being a student at Creighton University is a great honor. Ask anyone on campus, the academic rigor and full, well-rounded education speaks for itself. Then add the prestige of a Markoe Diversity Scholarship and the profound leadership that is gained. Now imagine being a Creighton student, a Markoe Leader, and an athlete on one of Creighton's renowned athletics teams and you've got yourself a triple-threat worth note. Andrew Ribeiro, Madeline Buckner, and Mogboluwaga Oginni, do just that and after interviewing the three of them I'm surprised there isn't some kind of award given out.



They all exhibit true pride for themselves, but also for their school and the Markoe program as a whole and manage to balance academic requirements on top of intense practices. When asked how they balance it all, the general consensus was, "Well, I kind of have to." Ribeiro, a senior Nursing major born and raised in Green Bay, Wisconsin, describes his day, "It starts class all day, practice in the afternoon, study at night, maybe some food in between and start all over. I do it because I have to make sure things are taken care of. If I don't figure out a way to make them happen, they won't." Both sophomores, Oginni and Buckner agreed. Ribeiro added, "I think it makes me a better student, to be honest. If I had more free time I probably wouldn't get very much done."



Buckner, an Exercise Science major with plans for physical therapy, plays center back for Creighton's women's soccer team and is one of three captains. She played soccer since grade school and when asked about her leadership position on the team said, "I'm the most soft-spoken of the three of us. My job, I feel, is to lead by example with my experience and work ethic. We're definitely a family and I just try to keep that together."

Fellow sophomore, Oginni, who traces his family's roots to Lagos, Nigeria, plays as a walk-on for the Men's Basketball team, but doesn't let his technical position affect his goal of being the best play he can be. "Most of the time, I play power forward, but I am still a walk on and as such I try to be there for my team in any way possible. I have their back, they have mine. We're a team, you know?"

Continue on next page...

The Markoe Leadership program was designed to promote diverse leaders that use their talents to be an example of the “gold standard” and these students go above and beyond while maintaining humble and focused attitudes. “A lot of people think that since we’re athletes that we don’t have to work as hard or get off easy, but that’s not the case,” says Buckner. “I don’t think I’m some big shot basketball player,” said Oginni with plans for medical school, “I’m just an ordinary guy with big dreams.”

All three students are proud scholars, accrediting the program with giving them positive leadership skills and honor that only something of such credit could instill and wish to continue the message of the program. Ribeiro stated, “Don’t separate yourself; I’m just like you and everyone else. See everyone as they are and accept that, that’s what makes a good leader.”

- Dawaune Hayes '15

Fr. John P. Markoe, S.J. Meetings

The first Markoe meeting of the year was September 28th. All of the Markoe leaders gathered in Harper and were welcomed back after our nice summer break. Refreshments and snacks were served and we all sat at tables and chatted about how school was going, and plans for fall break. Introductions happened soon after and every Markoe leader went around and said their name. Being the oldest feels a bit strange, but I’m so happy to see all the familiar faces and new freshman stand up and describe themselves.



After introductions, we had Father Anand and Diane Jorgensen, Chaplain for Creighton’s School of Pharmacy and Health Professions, speak about ways to decrease stress and negative thinking in our lives. The speakers were great, and Father had good jokes to tell us all. What I got out of it is sure, we all make mistakes but it’s your attitude that determines your situations and outlook on life. At the end of the presentation the presenters gave us cards that had steps that Jesuits use to help them reflect upon themselves and their day. All in all, it was a great way to jump-start the year.

Our last Markoe meeting of the semester was Friday November 9th. All Markoe leaders gathered again in Harper. We were greeted with food and fall cookies to decorate. The topic of discussion was Leadership. We learned of the different types of leadership and how we are all leaders in our own way. Each table grouped up and we completed “minute to win it” games. Working together had some difficulties but my group ended in a close third! Allison Fees, who is a senior graduating in December, gave a presentation on her travels during her undergraduate career and then was presented with her Markoe Leadership cords.

- Mariah Collins '13



Intercultural Expo

The Intercultural Expo was AMAZING! I give The Office of Multicultural Affairs two thumbs up for this event. I was excited to see a large melting pot of ethnicities in one place, and I was even happier that everyone was willing to participate. The various multicultural organizations on campus did a great job in sharing their culture with the Creighton community.

- Deja Morrison '15



Alumni Spotlight

Parker Produces Award-Winning Documentary on Chief Standing Bear

By Eugene Curtin
Photo by Dave Weaver

The difference between graduating and giving up, between contributing meaningfully to the world or not, sometimes comes down to an encouraging word, a helping hand, a little bit of faith displacing doubt.

Princella Parker knows all about it.

In October, a 56-minute documentary aired across the United States on public television, called “Standing Bear’s Footsteps.” The documentary told the story of the 1877 trial of Standing Bear, a Ponca Indian chief who illegally left his reservation, and by doing so established once and for all that an Indian was a “person” within the meaning of the United States constitution, as free to travel the country as any other American.

“I am a man,” he declared to the trial judge, thrusting out his hand. “That hand is not the color of yours. But if I prick it, the blood will flow, and I shall feel pain. The blood is of the same color as yours. God made me, and I am a man.”

Standing Bear’s dramatic declaration, which secured his liberty at the hands of a judge whose contemporary accounts record was moved to tears, has echoed through the years. It particularly resonated with Parker.

Parker, a member of the Omaha Tribe of Nebraska, graduated from Creighton University in 2008 with a degree in broadcast theater. She is a co-producer of “Standing Bear’s Footsteps,” and hopes that her award-winning documentary will not only maintain the memory of a great man, but will help modern Indian youth embrace their heritage while at the same time encouraging them to join the great river of modern American life.

“A lot of this is new to Native people,” she said, referring to the epic tale of Standing Bear’s court victory. “A lot of our history just isn’t being handed down.



Parker, BA’08 at her video editing bay. Her documentary on Chief Standing Bear aired nationally on PBS

“I think there’s a generational trauma there. You’re not supposed to pass it down. But we’re empowering the new generation through storytelling.”

If Parker does eventually touch her fellow Native Americans, does eventually achieve her dream of bridging the gap between Native Americans and those who came later, her journey will have begun at Creighton, in particular with the professors and student associations that gave her inspiration and encouragement.

In particular, she credits Creighton’s Office of Multicultural Affairs with helping her grasp her own place in the American tapestry.

Parker said she interacted with the Native American Association, the Latino Student Association and the African American Student Association. In particular, she remembers Ricardo Ariza, the executive director of the multicultural office.

Her time at Creighton, she said, prepared her for a career in filmmaking that is already taking shape.

She is finishing up a 30-minute documentary titled “Native Daughters: The Road Home,” and this summer facilitated a Ponca Tribe youth workshop, mentoring youth in storytelling and video production.

“I feel grateful for my undergraduate experience at Creighton, the lifelong skills and professional contacts I still have to this day from my peers and faculty and staff there.”

Creighton University
African American Student Association

Presents...
"Spunk Out"

Soul Food Dinner

February 17, 2013

Harper Ballroom

More details to come...



Native American Association
Office of Multicultural Affairs

9th Annual

All Nations Pow Wow

Saturday April 13, 2013

1:00pm - 10:00pm



The International Student Association
&
Creighton University Latino Student Association

Annual International Banquet

February 16, 2013

Harper Ballroom

Please join us for a taste of international cuisine
and culturally enriching performances.

More details to come...

*Hawai 'O Hawai'i
Lū'au*



Saturday, March 2, 2013

Kiewit Fitness Center

5pm - 9pm

Comunidad Maya Pixan Ixim

Reinforcing Our Roots
Living Our Maya Heritage

Celebrate the Santa Eulalia Festival!

Sunday, February 10, 2013
3:30 pm - 8:00 pm
Skutt Student Center Ballroom

Free Admission



FOOD, FUN, ENTERTAINMENT
African Student Association

Annual Banquet

April 20, 2013

Skutt Ballroom

5pm - 8:30pm



"This is a day of remembrance not just for Japanese Americans, but for all Americans..."

Annual Day of Remembrance

February 21, 2013

Workshop & lecture
More details to be announced



Save the Date...

Indian Cultural Society Banquet

March 23, 2013

Come experience a night of great food & entertainment



April 1, 2013

Harper 3023

6-7:30pm

César E. Chávez Commemoration

Viva La Causa



Spring Break
Service & Justice Trips
Soup & Stories

Wednesday, April 3, 2013

11:30am – 12:30pm

12:30pm – 1:30pm

Lower St. John's

Come hear students from Spring Break Service and Justice Trips share their experiences while enjoying delicious soups. The students are invited to share about their personal experiences, those of the group, the community they visited, or how they plan to bring their experiences back to Omaha.

Dr. Bernice Sandler

Women's History Month Speaker

March 4, 2013

Compass Workshop - hosted by HR

Lecture – Hixson Lied Auditorium in the Harper Building

Dr. Bernice R. Sandler is a Senior Scholar at the Women's Research and Education Institute in Washington, DC, and an Adjunct Associate Professor at Drexel University College of Medicine. She is well known for her expertise in women's educational equity as well as in sexual harassment, the chilly classroom climate, and her knowledge of policies, programs and strategies concerning women on campus. She played a major role in the development and passage of Title IX and other laws prohibiting sex discrimination in education. The New York Times has referred to her as the "godmother of Title IX".

Sponsored by:

Affirmative Action Office, Athletics, Committee on the Status of Women, Diversity Action Team/IDEA, Diversity Coordinating Committee, Office of Equity and Inclusion, Gender & Women's Studies, Human Resources, Lectures, Films & Concerts, The Lieben Center and The Office of Multicultural Affairs.

More details to be announced...

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

Office of Multicultural Affairs

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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