



June 2010

Dear Parents,

Niagara University is pleased to inform you of Niagara Reads, an important program to introduce your son or daughter to the intellectual life of college. During the summer, all first-year students will be asked to read ***Escape from Slavery by Francis Bok***. This biography, which recounts Bok's ten years as a child slave in Sudan in the late 1980s-early 1990s, is a story of courage and resilience in the face of a lost childhood. Many faculty, staff, and administrators on campus will also be reading this book.

Students who attend CARE sessions in July will receive **a copy of the book as a gift from the university**. Students unable to attend CARE but who live near campus may pick up their book in Student Affairs, O'Shea Hall, 1st floor, Mondays through Thursdays from 8:30 AM-4:30 PM or Fridays from 8:30 AM-12:00 PM. Students who do not live nearby may borrow a copy from a public library to read and then pick up their copy when they arrive on campus in August. **Students should finish reading the book by August 30, since they'll be discussing it in their NUS 102 class ("First-Year Niagara") early in the semester and writing a two-page response to the book.**

In conjunction with reading this book, we are pleased to announce that author Francis Bok will be speaking to the freshman class on Tuesday, September 28 at 4:00 and again at 7:30 PM. Both talks will be in the Gallagher Center, upper level and are free and open to the public. The 7:30 pm talk will be followed by a book signing. Your son or daughter is also encouraged to enter the Niagara Reads **contest** (see <http://www.niagara.edu/care/nrcontest.htm>). We will be awarding three prizes valued at \$125 each.

We look forward to providing your son or daughter with this important opportunity to engage in reading, thinking, and discussing ideas in an academic setting. If you have any questions, feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,

Sharon Green

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