We hope your semester was both exciting and productive! Be sure to stay up to date on the many opportunities available through the Office of Multicultural Affairs! Remember to stay focused and keep looking toward your Niagara University graduation. You will succeed!

The Office of Multicultural Affairs focuses on promoting multicultural awareness and academic success for the students of Niagara University. Through a wide variety of events and programs our office provides students with the opportunity to experience various cultures and improve inclusivity on campus.

Meet the NEW MSA Committee

The Multicultural Student Association (MSA) Committee works closely with the Office of Multicultural Affairs to develop and promote all events and programs. MSA Committee members: Alkamilah Alston, Christina Beauvoir, Simone Beckford, Sadia Bibi, Nakya Brewer, Ashley Brown, Renaiyah Cornelius, Anastasha Hayes, Kierr Jackson, Nataisia Johnson, Monique Martin, Jenniffer Mireles, Darius Myles, Eric Rigg, Suheiri Rodriguez, Xadiel Taveras, Jacque-Leen Taylor, Saul Vazquez-Pichardo, Mariah Worthington, & Candyce Young.
A Poetic Moment by
Xadiel Taveras

OPPORTUNITY
We have eyes to seek opportunity,
We have lips to speak opportunity,
We have ears to hear opportunity,
We have mouths to taste opportunity,
But can you feel it?
Can you hold it in the air and embrace,
Transform it to a goal,
Where you start from the bottom to get to
the top of the totem pole
Take care of it,
Don't watch it implode,
because eventually it explodes into success,
& it doesn't it's okay because the cousin of success is progress,
See I want you to read between the lines,
to see the image beneath the blinds,
It's funny how the real became fake,
Beauty became ugly, and losing became great,
& as long as there is a story it justifies the fate,
because it went from acknowledging glory to admiring hate,
See the criticism can't stop you from reaching the top,
With two feet in the pot,
Can't get your feet wet if you're not ready to drop,
Take stepping stones even if you step alone,
because the record is shown,
Is that the difference between thinking dreams and reaching goals?
Is the opportunity and hunger when you're left alone?
So believe in yourself because who else will?
and take the opportunity for yourself because who else will?
Life is like a business, take a gamble, but make sure its your best
deal,
& if the chance is served to you on a plate take it like its your best meal,
I bleed curiosity with risk that fills my IV,
Determination paints a picture on my ID,
I'm a rebel in disguise waiting for my opportunity,
I've got so much immunity against any sort of scrutiny,
Just believe in yourself because who else will
Take the opportunity for yourself or someone else will

Meet Our New
Graduate Assistant
Sabrina Khandai

The Office of Multicultural Affairs Welcomes
SabrinaKhandai! Sabrina is in the Clinical Mental
Health Counseling program. She is a native of
Toronto Canada and attended the University of
Toronto prior to coming to Niagara.

FUTURE EVENTS
(Some dates TBD)
MLK Week (Jan 20-24, 2014)
Italian Cuisine Night
Scholarship Dinner
Movie Night
Jeopardy Night
Panel Discussion
MSA Ball
...and much more!!!
**Latrell Sturdivant**

The decision to attend graduate school came very early for me, as I always knew that my passion for psychology could not lead me to a career with just a BA. After much consideration, the choice to come to Niagara University was an easy one. I was initially attracted to the School Psychology program offered here. Although it is still a fairly young program, it is regarded as one of the best programs offered in Western New York. In life I strive to continue to improve myself; and since starting classes I have grown both academically and personally.

**Derrick Brown**

As I neared the end of my junior year, I believed I would need more than a four-year degree to stand out in the job market. To put it simply, today’s managers need to have a higher level of education in order to excel in leading companies. This is why I decided grad school was the next step after graduation. I decided that a leadership role was what I wanted in a career, and having an MBA is one of the key instruments in reaching that goal. Though I’ve only been in the program for one semester, I’ve gained a multitude of knowledge that’s directly applicable to what employers are looking for to advance their firms. I look forward to learning more and enjoying my journey at Niagara University.

**MSA CULTURAL NIGHTS OUT**

**Tummies Restaurant**

On October 11, 2013, MSA members enjoyed authentic Spanish cuisine, including plantanos and pastelitos while relaxing to popular Spanish music!

**Fuji Grill**

Students indulged in Japanese cuisine, including an interactive Hibachi style meal and a variety of sushi.

**Kohinoor Fine Indian Cuisine**

On September 13, 2013 students experienced the rich and spicy flavors of Indian cuisine. Favorite dishes included: Naan bread, Ladoo sweets, and Chicken Tikka Masala.
Hip Hop Panel Discussion: Bars vs. Beats

I really enjoyed being a part of this event, especially since I got to express my opinion about hip hop openly. It was nice to see different sides of the same subject and take a deeper look within the words of the music.”
- Jacque-Leen Taylor

“I enjoyed myself at the hip hop panel discussion. Public speaking is new to me and I can’t wait to do it again.”
- Nataisia Johnson

“The Hip Hop Panel Discussion: Bars vs. Beats was a very constructive and productive session that was very well held. I enjoyed the criticism and it gave me what I wanted out of it: to enjoy the hip hop I listen to already!. I without a doubt recommend the discussion to any hip hop lover and will definitely be spreading the word around the next time an event comes up like this!”
- Thomas Raleigh

On October 28th MSA hosted another highly anticipated Hip Hop Panel discussion, which focused on the importance of lyrical content vs. instrumentation/rhythm in hip hop music. The panel members and audience interacted with each other via video/audio clips and sharing personal opinions about the topic. This is the eighth panel in a series facilitated by David Blackburn, Multicultural Affairs, Director.

LIVE in the Lab

On Monday October 7, 2013 The Office of Multicultural Affairs brought the recording studio (“The Lab”) to the students with Live In The Lab! Live in the Lab served as a fully functioning studio recording session that allowed students who attended to participate in a live studio recording of their original work and a group track. Those in attendance also learned about the function of various types of equipment used in a professional studio session. Junior, Xadiel Taveras recorded his own original music and contributed to the group track, in the transformed MPR in NU’s Gallagher Center.

“It was amazing to be part of a live studio session on campus! I thoroughly enjoyed it and look forward to the next LIVE in the Lab event!”
- Mariah Worthington
On October 25th, 35 NU students attended a weekend trip to Washington DC and Philadelphia. We started our journey in Washington DC by touring the national museums and monuments in the National Mall area which included the Smithsonian, the Lincoln, Jefferson, and Martin Luther King monuments, and the White House. Several students also attended the Howard University Homecoming and joined in the day’s festivities. Students ended their day by relaxing at the Pentagon City Mall before returning to the hotel for the evening. The next morning, the students departed DC for Philadelphia. In Philadelphia, students toured the Independence Center and saw the Liberty Bell, the Constitution Center, and other historic sites. They also had the opportunity to visit South Street for local cuisine and shopping. Before leaving Philadelphia, the students visited the Museum of Art to reenact the famous scene from Rocky and to take pictures with the Rocky statue. It was truly a trip worth remembering.
Salsa for the Soul featuring Sarah Haykel

This interactive dance performance, featuring Sarah Haykel and Salsa for the Soul, gave students of NU the opportunity to show off their salsa dancing skills! Spanish snacks, including quesadillas and pastiletos, were served to enhance the Latino cultural experience.

“This is one of my favorite days! I love the live music and the dancing always brings the campus to life!”
- Alex Garcia

“I enjoyed the event, it definitely makes for a better day. You can’t not smile!”
- Marco Carr

“Being Cuban, I thoroughly enjoyed the Spanish music, which is a big part of our culture!”
- Jason Rodriguez

“The food was good, the music was good, the dancing was great!”
- Christina Beauvoir

NU REACHES OUT TO THE WORLD

Various multicultural musical and entertainment performers came out to perform at NU reaches out to the world during International Week in November! Students relaxed to the mesmerizing sounds of Caribbean Extravaganza’s steel drums, and Lampi Kerr’s Drum Circle. Shemika Charles, of Caribbean Extravaganza, is a Guinness Book of World Records limbo champion & performed a variety of amazing feats at Niagara.

“The show was amazing! I enjoyed the rhythmic nature of the drums very much! I sure feel bad for anyone who missed this phenomenal musical performance.”
- Mariah Worthington

Need research help?

Visit Natalie, The Traveling Librarian!

Where? Lower Level Gally
When? Every Tuesday/Thursday, 11am – 1pm
Def Poetry Jam & Creative Writing Workshop with Bruce George

NU Alum Bruce George is a co-founder of HBO’s hit series Def Poetry Jam. On Friday September 20th, 2013, students were invited to attend a guest speaker/spoken word poetry performance event, in addition to a creative writing workshop the following day. Students were able to hear Bruce George’s story of attending NU as a NUOP student, his professional career as an entrepreneur, pose questions regarding academics, personal, and professional concerns, perform their own pieces for Mr. George, and receive feedback on their pieces.

During the creative writing workshop, students were given an opportunity to ‘free write’. Mr. George offered his interpretations and tips for writing improvement to each student. Mr. George also spoke freely of his past, and offered insight into various concerns student’s presented to him. Additionally, Mr. George spoke of the power of choice and the law of attraction as it applies to goal attainment, which all attendees related to and embraced.

Native American Presenter Ruchatneet Printup Talks Music By Aaron McCarroll

Guest Native American Speaker, Ruchatneet Priutup, a Turtle Clan member of the Tuscarora tribe in New York, spoke to the students of the America’s Music class recently about the triumphs, hardships, recreational activities of Native Americans. Priutup began by introducing himself and gave a summary of the history of the Tuscarora people since the 1700’s. Priutup explained the rich and unique cultural rituals and values that many Native Americans continue to show today. Some of these rituals include: pot lucks, their native language, and musical ceremonies. Musically, the speaker went into great detail about the different types of Native American music, which included: personal songs to the creator, drum songs, and social songs. The speaker also brought a number of water drums and Native American rattles. This gave the students and listeners a chance to hear and play hand-made Native American percussion instruments and experience the unique cultural significance of the music. Ruchachneet Priutup hopes to revive the popularity of the Mohawk language, and also spread cultural awareness of the Native people and their exciting history and culture.
Celebrity Trivia!
Who Is that kid?

1. Drake
2. Kerry Washington
3. Jennifer Lawrence
4. Kanye West
5. Alicia Keys

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