



CULTURAL TIMES BULLETIN



OFFICE OF MULTICULTURAL PROGRAMS (OMP)

www.canisius.edu/multi_cultural/

008 Frisch Hall
(716) 888-2787

January/February 2010

Welcome Back!
OMP Wishes You
**A HAPPY
NEW YEAR**



Helping Those in Haiti

Campus Ministry is soliciting funds for the people of Haiti. These donations will be directed to the **Jesuit Refugee Service Haiti Earthquake Relief Fund** to provide lifesaving aid, including food and other urgently needed items, to the Haitian people. The donation campaign will end on Wednesday, February 3.

Here is a short list of organizations to which you can also contribute and/or offer support:

- * American Red Cross, 800-733-2767
- * Catholic Relief Services, 800-736-3467
- * Doctors Without Borders, 888-392-0392

Diane Nash

A legend of the Civil Rights Movement

“The Civil Rights Movement”
A Legacy of the 21st Century

Wednesday, January 27, 2010 at 7:00 PM
Student Center, Regis Room

Reception following the talk

Free public lecture sponsors:

Peter Canisius Distinguished Professorship & Canisius All-College Honors program, William H. Fitzpatrick Institute of Public Affairs & Leadership, NAACP (Buffalo Chapter)

For more information, contact Dr. Bruce Dierenfield, 716-888-2683
www.canisius.edu/honors & www.canisius.edu/africana

MLK Quiz Now Available!

Enter OMP's MLK Quiz contest today for your chance to win a \$75 American Express Card or \$25 gift card or a pair of movie passes! Copies of the quiz can be found around campus or you can pick up your copy at OMP, Frisch 008. Don't miss your chance at one of these prizes!

Check out Canisius' New

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Web Site!

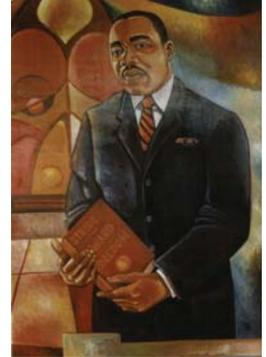
<http://www.canisius.edu/mlk/>

This site provides the campus community with information related to the College's annual MLK Award and past MLK Celebration speakers. It also provides information about the College's program in the African American Experience and links to other web sites where one can learn more about Dr. King.

Canisius College MLK Awards

Canisius College would like to acknowledge a student and/or a non-student (faculty, staff, or administrator) who represent the ideals of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. (MLK).

The College is now soliciting nominations for an award or awards to be presented at the Spring Honors Convocation at 2 PM on May 21, 2010. The nominee(s) must demonstrate that he or she promotes one or more of the following: civil rights, human rights, social justice, non-violence, advocacy for the poor or racial harmony.



This painting is an original work by local artist, William Yancy Cooper, and is located in the lower level of the College's Andrew L. Bouwhuis Library.

The deadline for nominations is
Friday, February 12, 2010.

Nominations can be submitted via an online form:
<http://www.canisius.edu/studentlife/mlkaward.asp>

Hard copies of the nomination form can be found in various areas on campus, including OMP, and can be downloaded from the College's new MLK web site, <http://www.canisius.edu/mlk/>. Completed forms can be submitted to the President's Office, BA-100; Student Affairs Office, OM-102; and the Office of Campus Programming and Leadership Development, SC-LL.

Please nominate someone today!

Soup with Substance Series

*In Celebration of
African American
Heritage Month*



Speaker: Frank Mesiah
President of the local NAACP

Wednesday, February 3, 2010
12:30 PM - 1:15 PM
Student Center, Regis South

Please join us for a discussion on the significance of the NAACP in the "Age of Obama"

Sponsored by OMP and Chartwells Dining Services

Meet Rev. George Restrepo, S.J.



Both my Dad and Mom were born and raised in Bogota, the capital of Colombia, South America. I was born and raised in New York City, Manhattan, entered the Jesuit seminary in 1952, was ordained into the priesthood in 1965, and worked over 40 years doing parish work in Baltimore, Maryland. I arrived at Canisius College, January 12, 2008. In my two years here I have helped in celebrating Mass and heard confessions, socialized with the students and faculty, audited classes on film to grow in knowledge and to get to know the students.

I have a great love of music. I was happy to bring several of the college students to the Regal Cinema to attend the exciting Metropolitan Opera High Definition Simulcasts.

I am the moderator of The Leadership in Film Series at Canisius. We have shown such films as *Into the Wild*, *The Great Debators*, *Dead Poets Society*, *To Kill a Mockingbird* and *The Miracle Worker*. Our next film will be *Mr. Holland's Opus*. It will be shown on Thursday, February 4th, at 7 pm, in Regis North. You are welcome to attend this free event.

Native American Soup & Substance Speaker 2009

By Amanda Allard '10

Barry J. White, a member of the Seneca Turtle Clan, presented at Canisius College on November 18, 2009 as part of the Soup with Substance series sponsored by OMP and Chartwells Dining Services.



Mr. White actively engaged the small, but vibrant audience throughout his presentation as he discussed local indigenous groups and their connection to the Western New York community. Other topics Mr. White addressed included stereotyping of native groups, misrepresentation of indigenous peoples in films, and the preservation of language, tradition, and culture.

Mr. White is a lecturer in American studies at the University at Buffalo, SUNY. He has held seminars and been a guest speaker at many local universities to discuss and raise awareness about the issues and challenges faced by local and national indigenous peoples.

A Personal Journey of Dreams

By Krystle Hsu '10

Vice President

Asian/Asian American Students and Friends



Journey of Dreams, a painting by Lin Xia Jiang and Justin Dahl that is on display in the stairwell of the Andrew Bouwhius Library, is a journey of dreams for Canisius and for me because it announces to everyone that there are Asians here. Since the Asian population is very small at Canisius, this art project made me feel like Canisius recognizes me as an Asian American and will give the rest of the student body the chance to recognize me and my fellow Asians and Asian Americans.

I feel like *Journey of Dreams*, was painted for me, especially with respect to the girl holding the American flag and the man and woman being sworn in. The girl represents me as a part of the new Asian American generation. She speaks to me because I was born in America and my parents were not. Furthermore, she and I are the bridges that connect America with Asia. As for the man and the woman being sworn in, they remind me of my parents when they chose to become part of America. Without their decision, I could not be where I am now. Overall, *Journey of Dreams* depicts the union of two great cultures; yet, for me, it does so much more by telling everyone a little bit of my story.

For more information about this painting, please visit:
http://www.canisius.edu/multi_cultural/asian_art.asp

Dr. Cornel West

As part of the 34th Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Event, Dr. Cornel West will be speaking at the University at Buffalo, SUNY on Friday, February 5, 2010 at 8 PM. OMP will be taking a select group of students to the event. If you wish to be involved in events like this--stay connected to OMP!

Student Winners

The following students were winners in OMP's Native American Cultural Quiz which took place in November of 2009:

1st place--\$40 Galleria Mall Gift Card:

Dylan Menguy '11

2nd place--\$25 Galleria Mall Gift Card:

Magali Briand '13

The following students were door prize winners in OMP's Holiday Celebration which took place in December of 2009:

\$40 American Express Gift Card:

George Arnott '13

\$25 Galleria Mall Gift Card:

Donovan Griffin '11

Regal Movie Passes:

Dorian Dallas '13

Kristin Fodero '12

Congratulations to all!

Bill Davis Scholarship

Award Available:

Two Scholarships: \$500 each
Two winners will be selected from four regions:
Northeast Region, Southeast Region, Midwest
Region and West Region.

Eligibility:

- A) Must be a full time student
- B) Undergraduate students attending Jesuit
Colleges and Universities
- C) Must have a minimum of a 3.0 GPA

Documents Needed to Apply:

- A) An application
- B) A short personal statement
- C) An official transcript
- D) An essay: "What does a Jesuit education
mean to me?" (500 words maximum)

The winner(s) will be announced at the AJCU-CMA
Conference at the College of the Holy Cross in
Worcester, Massachusetts in June 2010.

Applications can be obtained in OMP.

OMP is available to assist you in applying and will
submit the material for you. OMP will cover the cost of
mailing the material.

If you would like assistance, please submit all materials,
including the application, to OMP by Friday, April 16,
2010. OMP will then forward all materials to the AJCU-
CMA.

Sponsored by the AJCU-CMA: Association of Jesuit Colleges
and Universities - Conference on Multicultural Affairs

Canisius College Performance Troupe Auditions

Auditions for the Canisius College Performance
Troupe take place Saturday, January 30, 2010 from
1-2 PM in the Frisch Conference Room (next door to
OMP).

If you are interested
in this exciting and
unique opportunity,
or if you want to
learn more about
the Troupe, please
contact Lindsay
Bender '13 in OMP
at 716-888-2787.



2008-2009 Canisius College
Performance Troupe

Alums in Focus

Journey of a Latino Into Higher Education

By Ariel A. Ortiz '09



It was October of 1994 in the Dominican
Republic when my mother said to us,
"pack your things we are moving to New
York." The events to come did not cross our minds--new
school, new home, new culture, a new future--just the
excitement in knowing that we would rejoin our father who
moved to America when I was three to help provide for the
family. We shared my aunt's one bedroom apartment in
uptown Manhattan with four other people. Most people
would find extreme the idea of a family of five sleeping on
the same bed, but it is the reality of many Latino/a
immigrants coming to the United States for the first time.

I faced the challenges of school and adopting a new
language. People would approach me and say how are you,
but with a look of confusion I would reply my first words,
"no speak English." The diversity of the big city, however,
offered us the opportunity to successfully adjust to a new
language and still preserve our own.

Being the smallest kid in class and not knowing the
language was very difficult. I was often teased by other kids
because of my inability to speak properly resulting in many
fist fights and trips to the principal's office. It was not until
I joined the U.S. Marine's JROTC that I began to shape up,
develop discipline and learn the power of words. I excelled
in every leadership role and academically as well, soon
transitioning from an "English as a Second Language (ESL)
student" to "English Only student."

As an undergrad, I pursued a degree in Network
Administration, obtained great knowledge of computers
and applied it to my everyday life. The interactions and
leadership opportunities I had encouraged me to find the
leader within me and to discover the great things I could
accomplish by getting involved in my campus community.
Leadership became a part of me.

At Canisius I pursued a Master's Degree in College Student
Personnel Administration. I became the first in my family
to achieve a post-graduate education. A graduate education
has transitioned me from a boy struggling with words to
a professional in my field. I am grateful for the hard work
of Student Affairs administrators and faculty who guided
me in the pursuit of new knowledge in my development
into adulthood. I consider myself a fortunate Latino for
the choices I have made and my journey through higher
learning. It is my goal to contribute my knowledge to the
community around me, as I owe it to myself, my family, my
profession, and my ethnicity.

The Cultural Times Bulletin is a publication produced
by the Office of Multicultural Programs (OMP).

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A Skydiving Adventure



On October 8, 2009, Sababu (of OMP), Takashi Tsukamoto '09, and Xin Yuan '09 went sky diving at Frontier Sky Divers, in Newfane, New York. Takashi and Xin share their experience of this non-Canisius event.

Being nudged out of the plane (on a tandem jump), I rolled several times horizontally due to the strong wind. I was free falling at the speed of 200 meters per hour, but I did not feel that I was falling at all. Instead I felt like a bird, with my arms and legs becoming wings. At first, everything became quiet, and then all kinds of



sounds began to play in my ears in a quiet tone. Strange visions appeared in front of my eyes. My life experiences "played" quickly like a slideshow. My heart was peaceful.



Suddenly, the chute was open and I was going up. It was an

amazing time. I landed safely and felt drunk because everything around me began to circle around in my head. I immediately signed up to jump out of an airplane again!
--Xin Yuan



I love sports, but never thought about skydiving—what? fall down from thousands of feet?



That was one sport I was always afraid to try. I am honored to have shared this amazing moment with Xin and Sababu. I believe I would not have had this wonderful and crazy experience without these folks.

Through this experience, I learned that it is great to share the best moments in life with

important people in my life. Sababu, Xin, and I have made a lot of memories over the last two years and this is the most memorable experience that we can talk about forever.

I believe life will become more challenging as I grow older. However, the courage I have learned from experiences like skydiving, the people that have become important to me throughout my Canisius experience, and the many memorable moments in my life will serve to help me meet the challenge. I am ready for the next step!

--Takashi Tsukamoto



Pictures courtesy of Takashi and Xin.

NO WAY! rocks!

A book review by S. C. Norris of OMP
(review appears on barnesandnoble.com and
AMAZON.com in the Customer Review Section)

NO WAY! by Winona Lee Fletcher
ISBN: 978-1-4327-2530-3
Price: \$38.95
Published by: Outskirts Press, Inc.
Publication date: Aug.08.2008

In 1925, the National Bar Association of Black Lawyers was formally created in defense of the prevailing inequities between Caucasians and negroes—the label given African Americans at the time, and without capitalization. King Jim Crow and its accompanying cruelties of violence and lynchings ruled the South. Two years earlier, the subject of NO WAY!: Memoirs of J. Kenneth Lee, Esq., had been born in North Carolina. One can imagine that the events of the day rocked Lee's cradle and his mother's soul. No one could have predicted then the profound effects all of this would have on the man who 68 years later would be inducted into The National Bar Association (NBA) Hall of Fame.

NO WAY! reveals the awe-inspiring story of the experiences that equipped Lee to fight the racist and unjust laws in the South, to evolve into an incredible human being, an uncompromising southern strategist, and a visionary community builder, whose name continues to be omitted from our history books.

Most readers of NO WAY! will probably be impressed by the tough side of the man. However, the book reveals another side; the compassion and generosity demonstrated in Lee's relationship with his mentor and college teacher; wisdom to "let go" shown in his involvement with civil rights "sit-in" students who questioned "the statute of limitations on injustice" when things were moving too slowly in the '60s; by his refusal to internalize all the bitterness and hate experienced from KKK encounters, one of which resulted in an unbelievable bond between Lee and a Klansman; by Lee's love for his mother and his determination to pay her back for her sacrifices. The book is filled with images that reflect all the "memorials" dedicated in her name—and in the name of his wife, Nancy.

NO WAY! becomes an historical account that fascinates and inspires, thanks to the skillful approach of Lee's sister, Winona Lee Fletcher, who assembled, and edited the materials that let her brother tell the story in his own words. The book is enriched by family wit, letters of testimonies, pictures, and her brother's insightful poetry that bring the book to life.

NO WAY! rocks as a microcosm for the broader story of the celebrated Civil Rights Movement. John Kenneth Lee's life history is American history begging to be known – maybe even made into a feature film!