

Cultural Times Bulletin

ALANA STUDENT CENTER EST. 1989

ALANA=African American, Latino/a American, Asian American, Native American & Friends



Celebrating Native American Heritage Month with ASC



Pictured: Geo Hernandez M.S. '19, DesTiny Overton '22, Michelle Calhoun '20, Ursula Magsayo M.S. '20, Hailey Wells-Smith '22, Marcos Tellez '19, Mekhi McShall '20, Kevin Cadme '20, Chandler Hawkins M.S. '20, Takileonia Rutherford '19, and Vincent Samo '22

On November 3, eleven students and I traveled with the ALANA Student Center staff to the Native American Museum in Salamanca, NY, and to say the least, it was very amazing! From driving there and back it was truly an adventure. We were able to bask in the ambiance of the beautiful fall trees, sky, and the weather for hours. And upon our return to Buffalo, we dined at Tokyo II, a Japanese restaurant on Delaware Ave. The presentation of the Japanese food was gorgeous and tasty as well! While at the restaurant, we discussed the trip. I loved the diversity of the entire journey. It was a very unifying event, eating and congregating with diverse students that I would never get a chance to spend time with on a regular basis. My favorite part of the Museum was seeing the innovative floors that aided in the story telling of the Native American oral traditions of the earth, culture, and family. Additionally, there was this crafted makeshift home made out of wood. I marveled at it for at least ten to fifteen minutes. I could not believe how perfectly it was built inside of a museum,



and the paintings on the wall that helped to enhance its beauty were awe-inspiring. A major takeaway from the trip is realizing the importance of the Native American people, and having more respect for them than I have ever had before. All that Native Americans had to endure to be on their God-given lands--tremendously horrific. Being an African American woman, I don't feel too far removed from their struggles at all. There were lots of similarities yet differences that Black people have faced in America. All in all, the cultural excursion was a moment of pure reflection, food and happiness from the moment we left the campus to the moment we returned. I would definitely recommend this experience to students looking for a well needed break when the spring 2019 semester starts to come to an end and things start to seem stressful. We all really did enjoy ourselves. Thank you ASC team for pulling this together!

- Takileonia Rutherford '19

November 16, 2018 Serve & Socialize

"A Tradition of Caring"

ASC provided a service-learning experience to assist the Native American Community Services of Erie and Niagara Counties, Inc. Four students traveled to Niagara Falls to help prepare meals for a Social Dance centered on Native Americans customs, traditions and food. I, DesTiny Overton '22, was among the students that attended. We learned about different foods such as fry bread, which is a tradition among many of the Southwestern territories. In addition, we sampled native corn soup which tasted very delicious. We set up tables and baked food for the families and the surrounding community, so they could relax and have a great time. NACS' giving back by making food for these families was exciting and thoughtful to do. Our involvement as students not only benefited those whom we served, but it also benefitted us by learning about different cultures and their rich histories.

- DesTiny Overton '22



Positives from the Pope

"We all have the duty to do good."— Pope Francis

Unscramble the letters below to enter a raffle to win a REGAL Movie Pass. 3 WINNERS chosen!
Deadline: December 10, 2018

EORFEICLNT



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Canisius College is one of 28 Jesuit Universities in the nation and the premier private university in Western New

Know a student that ASC should highlight in our CTB? Contact Chandler Hawkins '20 at hawkin14@canisius.edu to let us know!

Grad Student Spotlight by Geo Hernandez '17, M.S. '19



Last month, I was recognized as one of the recipients of the Hispanic Women's League Scholarship Award, which goes to Latinx womxn students who are striving to create a better world for themselves and their communities. As a Buffalo community organizer working in impoverished communities on the issues of environmental racism, climate justice, and how to draw down power from those who have it to go into historically disadvantaged communities, I pride myself in coming such a long way in a short time. That is, to a new form of education --- a people-led

education based on lived experiences and knowing what we need in our communities, because we live there. Thus, I was really honored to be recognized for my work as an organizer and a student striving for more. The actual scholarship (aka money!) was super helpful as graduate school is NOT affordable. My partner, Christian Parra, also a community organizer with PUSH Buffalo, received the Hispanic Women's League Community Service Award, so it was cool for both of us to be recognized by the Buffalo Latinx community that has been around for a while.

Food for the Soul!



The annual Soul food dinner, coordinated by the Afro-American Society (AAS), was a huge success! With over 93 people in attendance, and an abundance of traditional soul food options, the soul food dinner went off without a hitch. Members of the AAS general body were able to cook their favorite dishes, thus supplying all of the food for the dinner. Everything was delicious, from Mac & Cheese to Ribs, to multiple desserts. Not one complaint was heard! The first 30 students were able to enjoy a free meal, thanks to ASC sponsoring the 30 meals! After the first 30, students only had to pay \$2 to appreciate a heaping plate of all of the delicious food. So many students gave *thanks* to the AAS E-Board and the volunteers who made a dish and helped served the food, as well. The event was a success because of them! Overall, the Afro-American Society's last event of the semester was a delight to all who attended.

- Olivia Owens '19



ALUMS in Focus! by Heidy Rivera '17



I graduated from Canisius in 2017. I loved my experience at Canisius. There are a lot of good things that came out of my education but honestly, it wouldn't have been the same if it weren't for the people that I got to meet. I am talking about professors, faculty and staff, and my close friends. My positive experiences happened because of all the hard work that others put in to make sure that I had opportunities to grow as a student and as a person.

My advice to current students is to get involved in the e-board of a club. You learn how to order food, plan events, be organized, and you also learn about how to work as an individual, with a team, and with professionals. There are many skills that come attached to running a club on campus. I have come to realize that these skills are what you need to work a real full time job. After obtaining my first job, I found myself revisiting my experience as club president of LASAF and everything that I've learned. I am grateful for the opportunity to have had learned the skills that I did. But, it only happened when I put myself out there and became involved.

ALANA Student Population Fall 2018

ALANA College Student data courtesy of the Office of Institutional Research and Effectiveness

Overall estimated ALANA student total = 592*

ALANA Student Count	Graduate	Undergraduate
Native American or Alaska Native	2	6
Asian American	12	63
Black or African American	83	198
Latino/a or Latinx	33	121
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander		4
Two or More Races	23	47
Grad and Undergrad totals	153	439

*Note: Students are not required to make known their ethnicity.

"Let nothing dim the light that shines from within."

- Maya Angelou